


## Our school at a glance

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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

The following document lists the achievement and progress of Alpha State School in 2010. This data comes from a variety of sources. This data when used effectively allows us to:

Evaluate the progress and effectiveness of current programs

Be responsive to the needs of our students, by considering data, in the planning process.

Our goal is simple - that students at this school are working to the best of their ability and in one of three ways:

- 1) At or above the national minimum standard.
- 2) In the event that a student's performance is *less* than national minimum standard, that student is making real progress in meeting this standard.
- 3) In the event that students are *well above* national average, that student is supported to ensure that development continues.

Further Celebrations and Challenges are detailed in the 2011 Annual Operational Plan which is available at the school office. A copy of this School Annual Report is also available on request from the office.

### School progress towards its goals in 2010

Alpha State School developed 6 key priorities in 2010:

- Maintain Strong focus on improving overall literacy outcomes
- Continue to work hard on achieving positive numeracy results
- Develop personal values and Social Skills that prepare our students for the future
- Work hard to maintain positive school community relationships and strong links with our community
- Improve Staff Morale
- Develop workforce capacity to deliver on our goals.

During 2010, staff worked towards embedding the 6 key priorities with some success. Much success was achieved in the areas of maintaining a strong focus on Literacy & Numeracy with improved NAPLAN results. There are, however, significant opportunities to improve results further.

### Future outlook

The Staff at Alpha State School will continue to focus and develop learning programs that cater for individuals focusing strongly on Literacy, Numeracy and Information, Communication & Technologies (ICTs). As a result of the Triennial School Review our future focus will be strongly centred on developing quality, consistent curriculum plans, integrating ICTs and developing high performing teams. Staff development opportunities for the future will focus on developing strong professional networks that promote the sharing of skills and knowledge between staff and amongst cluster schools and that align with school priorities and personal performance plans.

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered: Prep- Year 10

Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2010 – Nov 2010)
62	29	33	97%

Characteristics of the student body:

The student body could be described as predominantly rural

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2010

Phase	Average Class Size	Percentage of classes in the school			
		On or under target	Under Target	On Target	Over Target
Prep – Year 3	13	100%	100%	0%	0%
Year 4 – Year 10	3	100%	100%	0%	0%
All Classes	3	100%	100%	0%	0%

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	1
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0
Exclusions	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0

## Our school at a glance

### Curriculum offerings

#### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Alpha State School offers the following curriculum to its students:

PREP Program

Primary Years 1-7 focusing on Literacy & Numeracy

Integrated Curriculum (Including Key Learning Areas: Science, SOSE, The Arts, Technology, Health & Physical Education)

Secondary Department teaching focussed KLA based programs, as well as offering elective variations such as:

- INTAD - Manual Arts
- Cert II - Info Tech
- Rural Vocational Pathways Program (off-Campus Study conducted at Longreach Agricultural College)
- Business Education
- Home Economics

Access is also available for students to study through various Schools of Distance Education, any subject not offered on campus. For these students, timetables are adjusted accordingly. Our Secondary Department also focuses on providing alternative educational programs for our students. With assistance from external training and vocational support agencies, apprenticeships and school-based traineeships are also available to secondary students.

Alpha State School places a strong emphasis on the integration of ICTs into everyday learning experiences and the skilling of students with specific technology skills.

#### Extra curricula activities

Extra curricula activities include:

- Junior Judging
- Milo In2 Cricket
- Chess Club
- Student Council
- After School Care
- Chappy's Kids' Club
- School Choir
- Mini Choir
- School teams trained to participate in District Sports carnivals

#### How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Alpha State School has a strong focus on the integration of Computer and Information Communication & Technologies equipment into daily learning experiences. Children are encouraged, exposed and explicitly taught how to use digital equipment such as computers and specific computer software, digital cameras and video cameras and various other ICT peripherals. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard. Computer use includes but is not limited to software applications, word processing, research, design, pod casts, email, data bases, internet use, web quests, learning objects and other educational and learning activities.

### Social climate

The school community has set the school values of; respect, responsibility, honesty and learning. The students at Alpha State school feel safe and satisfied to be at school. A strong focus on student wellbeing ensures that students are able to manage their own behaviour relatively effectively, and feel comfortable accessing mechanisms of support when required. Our Social Skills Program orientates the student at the commencement of each term with explicit lessons that:

- Promote (and model) appropriate behaviours
- Remind students about expectations of conduct and behaviour.
- The school's Chaplaincy Program has had many positive impacts on the students and parent community.

## Our school at a glance

While there has been some improvement in satisfaction levels of parents and students in 2010, there is still room for improvement

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

School opinion survey data generally increased considerably in most areas in 2010. Satisfaction of Parents that their child is getting a good education increased by 14% and staff morale increased by 16%. While there was some progress in 2010 there is still room for continued improvement

Performance measure	Result 2010
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school	70%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	76%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	81%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	75%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	88%

### Involving parents in their child's education.

Alpha State School has a strong parent and community involvement with parents and community members giving up their time to help with school activities. These include working bees, fundraising, tuckshop and sporting events. Parents are also encouraged to be an active part of their child's learning by involving themselves in classroom activities and reading groups and invited to celebrate their child's learning at the end of the unit of work. At Alpha we see parents as an integral part in the development of the school and its students. We promote opportunities for parents to take part in the school by becoming a member of the P&C Association, and by supporting school events. Weekly newsletters, regular parent-teacher interviews and parental contact enable the partnership between the community and parents to productively contribute to student learning. Parents, staff and students are proud of their school and have a strong sense of ownership and belonging. School morale is a strong characteristic with students and staff proud to represent the school and be a part of the decision making processes of the school.

### Reducing the school's environmental footprint

2010 saw the installation of Solar Panels. This has help create new attitude towards the school's environmental footprint. Student Council are actively apart of driving school initiatives that reduce the school's environmental footprint and promote positive environmental practices.

Year	Total	Electricity	Sewerage	Waste	Water	Gas	Other	lectricity KwH	WaterKL	GasMJ
2010	\$13,064	\$8,340	\$0	\$1,260	\$3,464	\$0	\$0	44,563	28	0
2009	\$19,565	\$15,081	\$0	\$0	\$2,837	\$0	\$1,647	90,027	61	0
% change 2009 - 2010	-33%	-45%	N/A	N/A	22%	N/A	-100%	-51%	-54%	N/A

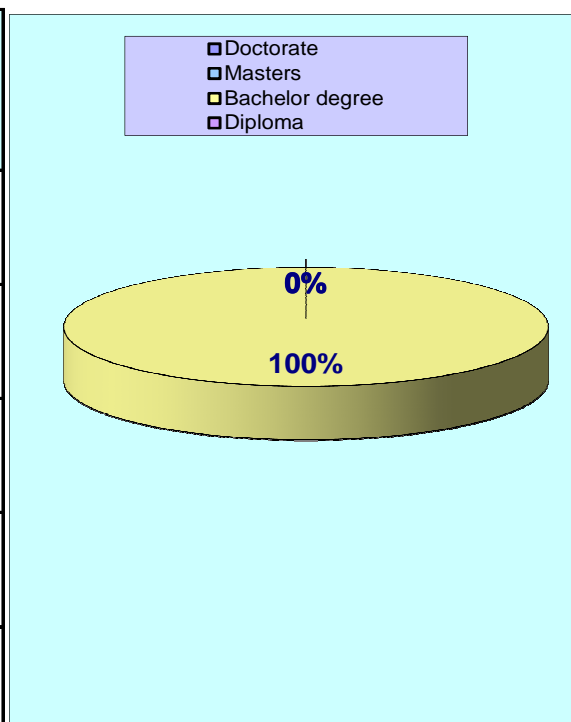
## Our staff profile

### Staff composition, including Indigenous Staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	8	10	<5
Full-time equivalents	8	6	<5

### Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	8
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2010 was \$16888.80

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Secondary Literacy Training
- Up skilling of Manual Arts Teacher (Welding Course)
- Moderation
- Fierce Conversations

## Our staff profile

- OneSchool Timetabling
- Principal Business Meetings
- Longreach Educators' Conference
- District and Regional PD - Literacy, Numeracy and Yr 2 Net

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2010 was 100% as per school records.

### Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 98% in 2010.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the previous school year, 87% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2010 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Key student outcomes

#### Attendance

##### Student attendance - 2010

The average attendance rate for the whole school as a percentage in 2010 was 90%.

##### Student attendance for each year level

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
93%	86%	91%	94%	94%	92%	85%	91%	81%	79%		

##### Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.

Class rolls are marked twice a day, once in the morning and once of an afternoon. Administration will contact parents when frequent absences affect student progress. This is dealt with on an individual basis and may result in written correspondence outlining parent responsibility around compulsory attendance.

When a student is absent for an extended period without contact from parents, administration will phone parents.

## Performance of our students

### Achievement – Years 3, 5, 7, and 9

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the MySchool website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the MySchool link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following '**Find a school**' text box.

The screenshot shows a search interface titled "Find a school". It contains two main search sections. The first section is "Search by school name", which includes a text input field and a yellow "GO" button. The second section is "Search by suburb, town or postcode", which includes a text input field, two radio button options for "Sector" (Government and Non-government), and a yellow "SEARCH" button.

Where it says '**Search by school name**', type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select **<GO>**.

Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and **Privacy Policy** before being able to access NAPLAN data.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

## Performance of our students

### Achievement – Closing the Gap

At Alpha State School all of our indigenous students are working at a comparable standard to non-indigenous students.

#### Vocational Educational Training qualification (VET)

Number of students awarded certificates under the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF).

Certificate I	Certificate II	Certificate III or above
2	0	0

Students in Year 9 & 10 are offered opportunities to enrol in Certificate courses either through Longreach Pastoral College or through School of Distance Ed as well as given opportunities to enrol in School Based Traineeships and Apprenticeships.