

DISCIPLINE AUDIT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – NORTHGATE SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 30 OCTOBER 2014



Background

Northgate SS is located in the Brisbane suburb of Nundah, within the Metropolitan education region. The school has a current enrolment of approximately 230 students from Prep – Year 7. The Principal, Carol Scriven, was appointed to the position in 2013.

Commendations:

- The social and learning cultures at the school are very impressive. Students, families and staff members all comment that the school has developed a very strong community ethos, evidenced by high levels of participation in all aspects of school life by all stakeholders.
- Classrooms are well-presented, well-organised and effective learning environments.
- School leaders have placed a high priority on ensuring teaching staff are trained effectively in the school's pedagogical framework, specifically the principles of Explicit Instruction.
- Staff members are very confident and optimistic about the future of the school. They show a great deal of responsibility to ensure they play their role in delivering the explicit improvement agenda.
- A very strong sense of teamwork and trust is apparent across the school. All staff members work closely with each other to understand the needs of all students at the school.
- The school enjoys a very strong reputation within the community. This reputation has developed due to the staff members providing appropriate education in a very nurturing setting.
- The school values: *High Expectations, Effort, Attitude, Respect, Responsibility, Resilience and Teamwork* (HEART) provides a strong reference point for the community.
- A significant partnership has been developed with the Australian Ballet called the *Out There Program*.
- The school welcomes students from a diverse range of cultural backgrounds. This is a strong sense of embracing and welcoming cultural diversity.

Affirmations:

- A current and endorsed Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (RBPS) is in place. This articulates the four school rules: *Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be a Responsible Learner and Be Friendly*.
- Data concerning positive and inappropriate behaviour has been entered in OneSchool.
- Significant improvements in school attendance have been achieved through a sharper focus at assembly and in classrooms.

Recommendations:

- Continue to emphasise the HEART values framework as the main reference point for everyone when creating a learning environment that is grounded in high expectations for learning and behaviour. Review the role and profile of the four school rules when educating students about expectations at the school.
- Consider how data entered in OneSchool can be used to stimulate regular discussion and reflection around any emerging themes or patterns concerning positive and inappropriate behaviour.
- Review the rewards systems in the upper school and the place of the *Northgate Stars* so that all students report a high level of engagement with appropriate methods.
- Continue the dialogue around how behaviour incidents are referred and reported, specifically the role of the *Orange/Red Card* system.
- Review the systems and protocols around how information concerning inappropriate behaviour is entered in OneSchool and emphasise the RBPS as the key reference when making decisions around data entry.
- Endeavour to engage a very broad range of parents in any reviews of the RBPS.