



Australian Government



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
OFFICE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



***ST VINCENT'S SCHOOL
PARMELIA***

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN

LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2011

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Toni Kalat

PURPOSE OF NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP IN LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Funding provided through the Commonwealth Government Smarter Schools National Partnership Program, along with co-investment from the Western Australian education sectors and schools, is designed to build the capacity of Western Australian schools to contribute to the achievement of the following five higher level outcomes;

- All children are engaged in and benefitting from schooling
- Young people are meeting basic literacy and numeracy standards, and overall levels of literacy and numeracy achievement are improving
- Schooling promotes the social inclusion and reduces the educational disadvantage of children, especially Indigenous children
- Australian students excel by international standards
- Young people make a successful transition from school to work and further study

The Catholic Education Office National Partnership for Low SES School Communities;

- Aims to improve literacy and numeracy achievement across all years of schooling
- Provides a focus on strategies which will raise attendance and allow students who move between schools to be tracked and supported
- Supports schools to raise the resilience and engagement of students
- Aims to assist in up skilling staff, particularly Aboriginal Teacher Assistants
- Is contextualised in whole school improvement initiatives
- Links closely to initiatives in other National Partnership Programs
- Where involving schools with Aboriginal students, especially in the Kimberley, aligns to key policy strategies such as the 'Closing the Gap' strategy and the 'Indigenous Education Action Plan Draft'.

Reporting in this National Partnership will occur against key reforms and milestones and will include qualitative and quantitative data which describe the degree of participation, the key processes and important outcomes, especially those that relate to improved student achievement and attendance.

School Profile

St Vincent's is a co-educational K-6 Catholic Primary School nestled in natural bushland around 20km south of the Perth CBD. The School was established in 1956 in Medina by the Sisters of the Order of St Joseph of the Apparition. In 2004, the School relocated to its current site in Parmelia. St Vincent's achieves its mission by providing a welcoming and supportive environment that enhances learning, nurtures young people and empowers them to live the Catholic faith in the Spirit of Jesus Christ. We believe that students learn better, and staff are more effective, when there is a positive, caring culture where relationships and learning are both important. St Vincent's is highly regarded within the Town of Kwinana due to its enthusiastic, competent and dedicated staff; supportive and active parent community, as well as our remarkably talented students. Together, all this helps to create a vibrant and family centred school. The School enjoys a strong relationship with the Parish Community and both work together to provide a 'Family First, Parish Based and School Supported' Sacramental program for Reconciliation (Year 3), Holy Communion (Year 4) and Confirmation (Year 6). The main emphasis of the School Curriculum is Literacy and Numeracy with the staff being involved in Leading and Aligning Numeracy Development (LAND) and the National Partnership Programs.

We offer a variety of programs and opportunities to our students to enhance their learning – BLUEARTH, Choir, IT, Italian, Library, Music, Physical Education, Reading Recovery, Social Worker, Support Staff and an Active After Schools program. The School Information Technology Plan has facilitated the placement of computers, Smartboards and the application of interactive technology throughout the whole School. We also have a portable lab and a bank of 32 computers in the multi-purpose room. Our new Library is very well resourced and with the BER Grant we have been able to build a Multi Purpose Hall that will provide an important asset to the community for future programs. Due to the School's high standing within the community and new areas being established, St Vincent's began its second stream year levels. 2010 saw two Kindergarten classes commence. In 2011, Kindergarten hours will increase from 12 to 15 hours of class time per week. In 2012 and 2013 future building programs will enhance St Vincent's as a complete double stream school.

Involvement and Support in Specific Low SES Projects

Extension of Bluearth Program

The Bluearth program has a proven record in developing social, emotional; interpersonal, personal and physical attributes of students. This typically leads to students who are healthier, more engaged and exhibiting increased attendance rates. This project provides financial and other support to participating schools. The financial support allows for more visits to the school by accredited Bluearth trainers as well as support to train other staff members and community representatives. In the case of non-Kimberley schools, direct financial support allows participating schools to implement and extend the program.

The specific outcomes of this project relate to enhanced interpersonal, personal, health and engagement outcomes which are recognised as being essential for improved learning.

Targeted Initiatives: Non-Kimberley Schools

To further expand the Extending the School Day model, this project will enable an extension of the type of services available for students and parents alike. These 'wrap-around' services can include, but not limited to:

- speech and occupational therapy services
- early learning years intervention
- enhance the engagement of the parent community
- employ additional staff that can target specific cohort of students

The specific outcomes of this project relate to raising student achievement and reducing educational disadvantages, through the use of additional 'wrap-around' services in the school and local communities.

Funding

Specific National Partnership Project	Extension of Bluearth Program
Australian Government Funding Allocated	\$37,000.00
Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA	\$17,000.00
School Co-Investment	\$20,000.00