



Australian Government



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
OFFICE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



ST VINCENT'S SCHOOL
PARMELIA

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LITERACY AND NUMERACY

2011

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Toni Kalat

REGIONAL CONSULTANT: Louise Cimetta

PURPOSE OF NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY

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 Literacy and Numeracy has two key objectives. Through a systematic and co-ordinated approach, ensure that all students reach their God-given potential by:

- optimising literacy and numeracy learning and whole of life outcomes for students and members of Catholic school communities; and
- building the capacity of staff to meet the diverse range of learners in our schools.

Specific outcomes that are anticipated are:

- Models of effective instruction that embed explicit literacy and numeracy teaching and learning within the broader curriculum will be evident in every school
- Schools ensure a whole school approach to literacy and numeracy teaching and learning
- Schools involve the parent and business community in the development and enhancement of curriculum and teaching and learning programs
- Strengthened connections between classrooms, between schools and with the broader educational community
- Processes and structures to support the literacy and numeracy learning of our diverse range of students embedded at the school and system level
- Processes and structures for ongoing data-informed pedagogical enhancement and professional capacity building embedded at the school and system level.

Improvement targets have been set for all schools involved in the Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership. These relate to improvements in NAPLAN results for Years 3 and 5 as well as some local measures relating to improvement over time 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 (NPP). 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 and 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.

Name of specific National Partnership Project(s):

Literacy & Numeracy K-7 NP

Literacy and Numeracy Strategies

To facilitate the literacy and numeracy development of our students, the following structures were implemented:

- *Enabling shoulder to shoulder learning:*
 - Appointment of two Coordinators of Professional Learning who are provided with two days of professional learning in 2011 and regular onsite support from our school support consultant.
 - Provision of relief funds to release teachers from the classroom to work collaboratively.
- *Developing models of effective practice:*
 - Appointment of two key teachers in numeracy, each attending two days of professional development in 2011 with follow-up onsite visits from the specialist area consultant.
 - Appointment of two key teachers in literacy, each attending two days of professional development in 2011 with follow-up onsite visits from the specialist area consultant.
- *Distributing Leadership:*
 - Data analysis & decision regarding focus to be undertaken by all staff.
 - Ownership of decisions regarding implementation of our investigation to rest with the Professional Learning Community.

- *Engaging in Action Learning:*
 - Use of evidence to identify a singular focus for investigation.
 - Commitment to Collaborative Professional Learning in Action model process.
- *Professional Learning Community:*
 - Regular gatherings held to investigate and discuss implementation of focus.
- *Professional Learning:*
 - Ongoing commitment to professional reading from a wide range of sources.
 - Provision of professional development as required in focus area.
 - Relief provision for teachers to visit other schools to view a variety of models of practice in our focus area.

Focus Area Investigation & Implementation

We are investigating:

'How do we develop a deep understanding of mental math strategies within our students?'

To assist with this investigation we have decided to implement the following initiatives:

- To target the area of mental mathematics strategies.
- To target the language of mathematics and develop a mathematical vocabulary associated with mental mathematics.
- To target teacher knowledge by developing a learning continuum of mental mathematics.
- Use the CPLiA Model in order to carry out our investigation.
- Continue to ensure that our investigation is led by an appointed Coordinator of Professional Learning and two key teachers in collaboration with the Administrative Team.

Maintain & Monitor

We will ensure previous gains made in Numeracy and Literacy are maintained by:

- Monitoring our school data to ensure previous initiatives remain effective
- Working with new staff to build understanding and effectiveness in school determined initiatives for literacy and numeracy

Funding

Specific National Partnership Project	Literacy and Numeracy K – 7
Australian Government Funding Allocated	\$15,000.00
Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA	\$5,000.00
School Co-Investment	\$10,000.00