

# DISCIPLINE AUDIT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – THANGOOL SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 12 JUNE 2014



### Background:

Thangool SS is a small primary school located in the Central Queensland education region with a current enrolment of approximately 114 students from Prep – Year 7. The Principal, Michael Nielsen, was appointed to the position in 2013.

### Commendations:

- Students at the school enjoy a safe, supportive and challenging learning environment which is characterised by respectful and caring relationships.
- The school values: *We care; We learn; We are safe*, are universally known and are evident in the behaviour of students throughout the school. Particular benefit is drawn from teaching students to show care for one another and their work.
- The school has made use of the support of staff members and strong relationships with community organisations to develop a responsive social and emotional skilling program for older students entitled *Solving the Jigsaw Program*. The program was organised by the Chaplain and has resulted in the transformational changes in behaviour of some students.
- The school has class based and whole school systems to reward desired behaviour. *Gotcha*, *Student of the Week*, and *Merit Awards* provide differentiated access to a range of desired reward activities.
- The learning environment is very well resourced, maintained, attractive and welcoming.
- The school has been an early adopter of the use of Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) to ensure students working at significantly different levels to their class cohort are able to experience learning success every day at school.
- Several advanced learning students have been working with a local high school to extend their skills. Online extension and enrichment are also accessed to challenge the most advanced learners.
- Older students enjoy the chance to contribute to younger students' schooling experiences through the *Prep Buddy Learning* program.

### Affirmations:

- A number of active learning programs including the *Lego Club* and *Project Club* provide students with access to hands on experiential learning.
- Teaching staff display a passion for ensuring that students have the best opportunity to experience and celebrate success.
- The school enjoys support from its community especially through the input and resources provided by the Parents and Citizens' Association (P&C).
- Student attendance has improved and is directly linked to high levels of individual achievement of students throughout the school.
- The school participates in a wide variety of community and extra curricula activities which enrich the opportunities for students to learn and grow in a rich community context.

### Recommendations:

- Develop staff members' use of OneSchool to record behaviour data to complement the range of achievement and testing information collected to profile student learning growth.
- Ensure classroom rewards system complement and add to the consistency experienced by students as they move from class to class.
- Explore the role a consistent school wide pedagogical framework plays in developing an outstanding school.