

# TEACHING AND LEARNING AUDIT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – NOBBY SS

DATE OF AUDIT: 12 SEPTEMBER 2012



### Background:

Nobby SS is located on the Darling Downs approximately 45 kilometres south of Toowoomba. The school has an enrolment of 45 students drawn mainly from the local community and nearby farming area.

### Commendations:

- In conjunction with other schools in the local cluster, the school has developed a comprehensive suite of resources, which clearly outlines the curriculum implementation requirements for the school and cluster, in all key learning areas (KLAs). These resources include whole school overviews, unit plans and supporting assessment and teaching guidelines. They are stored online in a location accessible to all schools in the cluster and provide a response to recommendations of the previous audit.
- Significant work is being done within the cluster to provide a consistent implementation of strategies across all schools. The cluster meets regularly to progress the professional agenda.
- The school is using regional benchmarks to develop a consistent set of school wide targets for student improvement in specific areas.
- Students have individual goal and achievement books. They develop and review individual goals and review their achievements.

### Affirmations:

- Teachers routinely use data on student performance to inform planning for teaching and learning to meet the needs of students.
- Respectful and caring relationships are reflected in the ways in which staff members, students and parents interact.
- The school has implemented the systematic use of assessment instruments (standardised assessment tasks and teacher developed assessment tools) to establish where individuals are up to in their learning and to identify skill gaps and misunderstandings.
- The school grounds and facilities provide a safe, supportive and effective learning environment for the students. Students express pride in their school and in their achievements. Parents speak highly of the work undertaken at the school and of the culture of care that is a hallmark of school operations.
- Staff morale at the school is high and there is a strong collegial culture evident.

### Recommendations:

- Review the school improvement agenda and include specific improvements sought in student performance with clear and explicit targets and timelines. Communicate this regularly to staff members and the community through a variety of media.
- Develop a school wide pedagogical framework which makes clear and well known the school's position on the kinds of teaching that they wish to see occurring. Implement the practices identified across the school.
- Develop a coaching/mentoring model aligned with the pedagogical framework and the school's improvement agenda.
- Implement the Performance Development Framework with all staff members.
- Invite colleagues from the cluster to visit the school to observe teaching in the classroom and provide feedback. Arrange for teaching staff to visit cluster schools to observe practices in other classrooms.

