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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

In 2008 Coombabah SHS solidified itself as one of the most progressive schools on the Gold Coast. We labelled ourselves the "school on the move" and worked hard to live up to this bold statement. Curriculum, facilities, behaviour and teaching all came under review as we built a plan to drive continual improvement.

### Future outlook

In 2008 the school undertook a Triennial School Review. The outcomes and strategies of this extensive program form the Coombabah SHS Strategic Plan which can be found on our website. Significant areas of focus include:

- Literacy and Numeracy
- Environmental Education
- Leadership
- Mental Health
- Excellence Program development
- Computers and ICT integration and facility development
- Building developments and upgrades
- Grounds improvement plans
- Gifted and Talented Education
- Meaningful partnerships with our feeder Primary schools
- Academic Honours Program

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: 1270

Year levels offered: 8 - 12

Coeducational

### Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings.

- Orchestra
- Rugby League Excellence
- Sports Excellence
- Certificate III in Allied Health Services
- Certificate III Children's Services
- Performing Arts
- Academic Rich Curriculum

Numerous specialised programs and excursions occur during the year that students may chose to participate in i.e. driver education program. Coombabah students regularly extend their talents to competitions in the wider community for sport, languages, and specialised skills i.e. at the Gold Coast Show.

#### Extra curricula activities

- School Musical
- Leadership support program
- Interact club
- Student Council
- Debating

#### How computers are used to assist learning

Computers are used to assist learning across year levels and across the school. This is achieved through:

A well resourced Information Services Building, which has an emphasis on learning technologies in its facilities. An extensive local area computer network that links all buildings. The school is connected to the Internet. Coombabah exceeds the State benchmark by providing one computer for every three students. Introduction of appropriate software and programs to assist learning. Staff gaining Professional Development in computer and software usage.

### Social climate

Coombabah has a comprehensive pastoral care program and follows the proactive mental health program, Mind Matters. This program is woven into all aspects of school life to ensure not only the academic but the mental and social needs of the student are met.

The air-conditioned Information Services Building houses the school Student Support Centre. The Guidance Counsellor, Industry Liaison Officer, School Nurse, Youth Support Coordinator, Youth Project Officer and Indigenous Student Support Aide are readily accessible to assist students and parents. On-line support is made available to students.

The Year Co-ordinators play an integral role in the day to day support of students. They are usually the first point of contact for parents who would like to discuss any aspects of school life. E-mail addresses and direct phone numbers

## Our school at a glance

are provided for ease of communication.

Coombabah follows the Responsible Thinking Classroom approach to Behaviour Management. This approach encourages students to think about the choices they make and the consequences of those choices. A Planning Centre is provided to support students. This ensures that the right of students to learn and teachers to teach is upheld.

Further services involve a co-ordinated approach to vocational education, including the adoption of practices leading to students accepting work experience, school based traineeships and apprenticeships.

### Involving parents in their child's education.

Two formal Parent / Teacher / Student interview evenings (March & July). Numerous Parent Information evenings that begin with Year 7 transition and information evenings and progress through the year levels to include subject selection evenings, QCS Test and QCE evenings.

Opportunities to celebrate with the community i.e. school assemblies (one per week), awards evenings (both academic and sporting), scholarship recipient evenings.

International Program – opportunity for families to host a student from Japan for 10 days and be involved in associated functions held at school.

ARC (Academic Rich Curriculum) presentation evenings, for parents to view and participate in their child's learning.

The comprehensive nature of our pastoral care, behaviour management and attendance programs facilitates communication with parents.

Our "Reward Scheme" provides both students and parents with positive feedback on their child's involvement in school life. Sporting, cultural and extra-curricula activities provide opportunities for students to excel.

Year 12 students receive written feedback regarding performance in QCS practice sessions.

Student performances including sport, music, dance and art occur throughout the year and provide numerous opportunities for parents to be involved in their child's education.

The Coombabah Parents & Citizens Association exists and functions for parents within the school community.

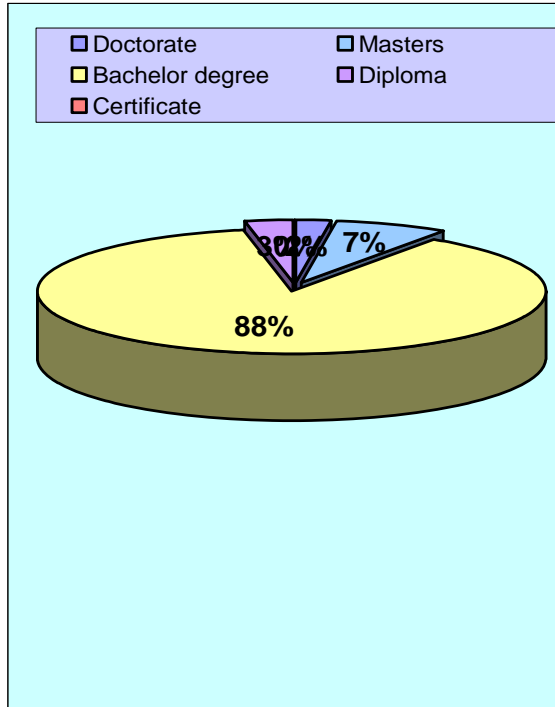
The Quality Partnership Week, held in July, when Year 7 students have the opportunity with their parents to attend the school and try out for the various specialist programs i.e. rugby league, music, ARC and Sports Excellence.

In 2009 the introduction of ID Attend will also include an SMS system to alert parents of student absence and any urgent information.

## Our staff profile

**Qualifications of all teachers.** (Double click anywhere in the first two columns below. A spreadsheet appears. Enter the percentages for your school then click outside the spreadsheet to return to the word template.)

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	2
Masters	7
Bachelor degree	83
Diploma	3
Certificate	0



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$37 822

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- ICT licence and certificates
- Syllabus and work program implementation
- Mind Matters
- Junior curriculum teaching strategies

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 92 %.

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 95% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 84 %.

### Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	550
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 90 %
Writing	Average score for the school	540
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 82 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	555
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 81 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	547
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 82 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	556
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 92 %

### Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.

69 %

### Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.

134

## Performance of our students

Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	92
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	108
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	26
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	55
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	60 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	94 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	84 %

### Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

### Value added

Coombah is undergoing a period of growth in the lower levels of the school. This is seen as a positive as the increased number of students creates greater opportunities and wider subject choice. It also presents staffing opportunities, timetabling structure review, facility development and curriculum changes.

Improvements in the qualifications of exiting Year 12's are planned for.

To meet the demands upon the school the timetable was redesigned. A lesson has been created for all students in which all extra activities that are placed upon the school can be met i.e. QSA, QTAC, Pastoral Care, health & fitness, driver education, guest speakers etc. This will reduce interruption to teaching of the curriculum and improve planning and preparation for these events.

The introduction of a formalised academic review process along with computer based improved attendance monitoring systems and communication regarding behaviour management all contribute to a better informed school community.

The introduction of the weekly Community, Health and Environment (CHE) lesson provides students with an opportunity to be involved and give back to the school and local community. Successful activities include a link with correspondence to a Nursing Home for elderly patients.

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parents, teachers and students are satisfied with the learning climate at the school. This is demonstrated by the strong enrolment in a very competitive education District.

Staff morale is high and this is evident in their passion for teaching and the interest they show in their students.

The school continues to meet the demands of a changing social and educational climate providing a quality learning environment for all students.