


Our staff profile

	address	Nottingham Road CALAMVALE Q 4116
	Phone	37125555
	Fax	37125500
	Website	www.calamvalespecs.eq.edu.au

To Learn, to Live, to Grow

Introduction

Please find the 2005 School Report for Calamvale Special School. The report briefly highlights achievements that occurred in 2005 and also summarises key areas of anticipated direction in 2006.

Highlights- key outcomes achieved

Curriculum The major development in "Curriculum" was a draft curriculum document produced in collaboration with Sunnybank and Kuraby Special Schools. This document will guide the staff in the three special schools in developing their class programs. The individual education plan processes were reviewed and an updated guide for staff was produced. This again was in cooperation with the other two Coopers Plains Special Schools. Lastly, staff agreed to be part of the trial of a Head of Curriculum (HOC) position at the school. This position assisted the school in further developing the school curriculum in 2005.

Maths- Purchase of suitable resources. Ongoing monitoring.

English- New referral system for SLP services implemented. On-going development of resources for in-class and in library use. Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) further enhanced and expanded..

Science. The integration of foundation level science in class programs occurred were appropriate. Schools Green-up Clean- up Day.

Health & Physical Education Mr O'Neill the physical education teacher increased his time from 4 days a week to five. A high priority was the continued implementation and on-going review of the H & PE curriculum into the school. A number of camps were held including, Bribie Island Fishing Camp, and a "Schoolies Camp" for the transition class at Colundra. A number of classes had overnight camps at the school. The junior 1 class had their first camp at the Gold Coast. The "Learn to Swim" program continued with refinements.

The Arts-. The music specialist continued again this year and the school choir and drumming group was continued. A highlight was a the first ever school musical "What About Me?" written by staff from the school and performed twice at the Community College Performing Arts Centre. A CD of the concert was produced and the parents were able to purchase a copy.

Technology-. The ICT plan was put into practice. More computers purchased. ICT plan for 2005 submitted late 2004. 13 Classrooms out of 14 are now networked. Development of curriculum hub started. Computer lab in H block further developed.

SOSE- Implementation of foundation levels in classes.

Senior Schooling- Continued emphasis on work experience for the older, senior students occurred. A key component was to access courses available to students off campus. The school will continue to work closely with Eagleby Training Centre who provides many practical and appropriate courses for students enrolled in the transition class. Students also accessed Yeronga TAFE for literacy and numeracy studies. Students had access through the school of obtaining Certificate Level I in Work Readiness. A number of Calamvale Community College students accessed programs at the Special School and students from the Special School did a Hospitality and Catering course at the Community College.

Student Welfare-. Continuous monitoring of the school's behaviour management plan was undertaken. Regular meetings were held to discuss strategies for minimising individual students' acting out behaviour. An "On-TARGET" reward system continued to be used with success.

Facilities-. In 2005 improvements occurred. They were:

Erection of a room divider (operable walls) in "1 block". This divided the former Calamvale State School library into two classrooms. Headwork also took place to accommodate the operable wall as well as moving fans and lights. Cost from school funds. (Cost \$9,000)

Fencing of the car park occurred. This provides a more secure playground area for the students as well as preventing balls and play

equipment moving down the slope and into the car park. (\$6000.00)

The Vacation Care program continues to use the junior school facilities in the highly successful vacation care program operated by the P & C. Four junior classrooms are now being used, along with the undercover area; the library and the playground area. The P & C in December 2005, air conditioned the two additional junior classrooms. (\$10500.00)

The final stage of the junior playground area was developed. Gambling Community Benefit Funds along with P & C funds were used to install a new playground, shade structure and softfall. It has been a big success for the students and for the vacation care program. (\$36000.00)

An application was submitted to the Smart Schools Subsidy scheme for assistance in the building of a multi purpose play court. Approval was received in December 2005. Funds should be available in July of 2006.

Future outlook

Curriculum- Continue to develop and refine the school curriculum. Focus on assessment and reporting along with a student tracking document for student outcomes

Senior Schooling- SET plans in place for all students. Students registered with QSA for certification. Audit of Cert 1 Work Readiness/Business. Expand work experience sites for students with high support needs. Continue to implement TAFE subjects (Horticulture) and access Yeronga TAFE for relevant classes. Eagleby Learning Centre for specific skill development.

Inclusive practices- Continue links with Calamvale Community College, other ed intuitions, and work sites.

Supportive School Environment- Implementation of Code of School Behaviour. Participation in the program School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, Review of morning tea and lunch playground times and behaviour.

Technology- Increased budget allocation to ensure all students and staff have access to appropriate relevant technology. Web page completed and operational. Budget \$23,000.

Community Links- Continue to foster the adopt a friend scheme, and promote the school through the newsletter and local media. P & C.

Home Links- Strength home links through review of the communication books, school newsletter, parent handbook.

Professional Development- PECS, behaviour (PSWBS), technology, curriculum, assessment, literacy.

Staff networking- Enhanced networking of staff through the use of CCT/NCT, team building (teaching blocks) and PD activities. All staff to take a more active role in pursuing p.d. activities. IDP. Convert .2 staff into TRS.

Facilities- Complete construction of multi purpose room (library courtyard), covered walkway to H Block, Accordion door to separate home economics classroom, multipurpose play court (subsidy made available through the Smart Schools Subsidy Scheme. Investigate and prioritise further building/grounds enhancements through the Investing in Our Schools Scheme.

Summary: The school enrolment continues to grow. Expansion of existing facilities should occur in 2006 with a double classroom scheduled to be erected in semester 2, 2006.

School Profile

Calamvale Special School is located on the Southern side of Brisbane. It is an Education Queensland school and offers programs to students who have a significant intellectual impairment. There are a number of students who have been diagnosed as having Autism Spectrum Disorder and a few students have multiple impairments. Students attending the school have diverse educational needs. And abilities. Currently, the enrolment is 95 students. There are 15 class groups and they are supported by a teacher and a teacher aide. Enrolment trends continue to indicate an increasing student population of students with the dual disability of an intellectual impairment & autism spectrum disorder. Coupled with the enrolment of students with severe acting out behaviour, providing a safe, tolerant and disciplined learning environment while improving student learning outcomes is the major challenge for the school community. Over 45% of the student population present with significant language delays. 25% of students enrolled are diagnosed with ASD/II.

Curriculum

The curriculum is centred on 5 key organisers: Investigating Our World, Communication, Personal Skills, Social Living and Creativity & Leisure. Each organiser has a set of outcomes. The curriculum document is one component of the organisational framework used to develop and implement the learning programs at Calamvale Special School. The other components of the framework are:

individual education programs,
assessment and parent reporting documents,
student progress tracking system and the
student portfolios.

Teachers use the curriculum framework to develop classroom and individual student programs. While teachers will not address all outcomes every year it is expected that every student will be given numerous opportunities to develop in every area before completing their Senior Phase of Learning.

In addition to regular classroom programs, our school offers a music therapy program, specialised physical education lessons, and a distinct life skills program. The school has links to Calamvale Community College, Yeronga TAFE and the local community for work experience programs.

Social climate

According to the 2005 School Survey, parents view the special school in a very positive light. The five specific questions regarding school climate are:

- | | | |
|---|---------------|----------------------|
| • Is your child happy to go this school? | Response=3.69 | above the state mean |
| • About the behaviour of students? | Response=2.90 | above the state mean |
| • With student discipline at the school? | Response=3.17 | above the state mean |
| • That you child is safe at the school ? | Response=3.31 | above the state mean |
| • Child is treated fairly at the school ? | Response=3.34 | above the state mean |

Parents and the community

the relationship between the school and themselves very highly. Questions specific to School-community relations:

- | | | |
|--|---------------|----------------------|
| • School staff approachable? | Response 3.72 | above the state mean |
| • Opportunities to participate? | Response 3.31 | above the state mean |
| • Opportunities to participate in decision making? | Response3.31 | above the state mean |
| • School makes you feel welcome? | Response 3.55 | above the state mean |
| • School communicates well with you? | Response 3.48 | above the state mean |

Professional engagement in 2005

Priorities in 2005 centred on curriculum and student behaviour. \$17,000 was allocated for professional development activities. \$13086 was expended. This represents approximately a 25% under the anticipated expenditure.

In 2006 priorities for staff development include, School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, first aid, English syllabus introduction, especially Picture Exchange Communication Systems, technology and lastly, supporting staff in further developing the school curriculum.