

Gin Gin State School

Queensland State School Reporting

2013 School Annual Report



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Principal's foreword Introduction

I am pleased to present the Gin Gin State School Annual Report for 2013 to parents of our school and the wider community. It provides an overview of the highlights and successes of Gin Gin State School during 2013. A dedicated and skilled workforce ensures that all children have the opportunity to reach their potential. Gin Gin State School has a supportive parent community and strong partnerships between carers and the school is encouraged.

We are very proud of our school's successes and are pleased to have the opportunity to share them through this report.

The report outlines the following significant achievements during 2013.

- ❖ Description of school's progress towards its goals.
- ❖ Our schools aims and directives.
- ❖ Curriculum offerings.
- ❖ Positive social climate of the school.
- ❖ Staff profiles.
- ❖ Expenditure on professional development for staff.
- ❖ Student outcomes and achievement.

School progress towards its goals in 2013

Gin State School was a National Partnership School with a 4 year strategic plan (ending Term 3 - 2013) which was developed with community consultation. Whilst the plan relied on National Partnership funding over the 4 years, it was expected most programs would be sustainable in the future. The plan focused on:

Improving Literacy and numeracy outcomes – extra teacher aide time was purchased to support student learning needs. This has allowed extra teacher aide time across the school to support our '*relentless focus on reading*' with the continuation of our "Fly-in" teams, where teacher aides together with classroom teachers complete guided reading sessions in small groups daily for 20-30 minutes. Gains in reading improvement have been significant. School and systemic data has been continually analysed and shared with staff to inform future planning and student needs. Further evidence of Literacy and Numeracy improvement can be gleaned from our NAPLAN results.

Development of quality teaching and learning – Professional development was provided for up-skilling of staff in the areas of literacy, numeracy and ICT's. Our Deputy Principal, trained as a classroom profiling facilitator, has trained all school staff in profiling. This classroom profiling allows for teachers to observe their peers, focusing on behaviours, management practices, and reflecting on their practices.

Improving social and emotional well-being – A variety of programs have been implemented, including Unlimited Program, School Wide Positive Behaviour Support, Breakfast Club, Garden of Learning to support disengaged students. Our students and families are very strongly supported by a school Chaplain.

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Increasing attendance rates: We have had continued success and enthusiasm develop around our Robotics Club which is offered at school and well supported by a number of teaching staff. Robotics is just one of the extra curricula programs used to assist in engaging students and increasing motivation. Another extracurricular activity we have been able to participate in include entering a team in the ARL Development Cup competition in Bundaberg.

These activities involve teachers and students in 'after school' activities to develop student skills and help maintain their enthusiasm. The results are clear. "Students participating in extra-curricular activities have a higher attendance rate than our whole school percentage and are also enjoying improved academic results. Importantly, school opinion surveys show these extra-curricular activities have been influential in improving student, parent and staff satisfaction and increasing attendance."

Need for regular attendance is promoted on parade each week through the motto 'Everyday Counts', through student awards for regular attendance, and parent contact re absenteeism.

Increasing aspirations of students- A number of incentive schemes have been introduced such as promotion of 'academic excellence', students of the week awards, lunch time and after school clubs in Robotics, Kids Club, The Arts and Sports.

Developing partnerships with parents and community – Parents are involved with 3 way reporting with teacher and child in Term 1 and 3. Parents support '*before school*' reading programs and trained 'Ready Readers' assist students requiring extra reading support during the day.

Regular meetings held with Cluster Schools with a common focus and alignment of practices as all schools feed to the same high school, that is Gin Gin State High School.

Future outlook

Gin Gin State School continues to strive towards 'Being the Best that we can Be'. This is reflected across all areas of the school. The future plan for the school, as reflected in the AIP (Annual Improvement Plan) includes:

Strengthening of school's curriculum policy by developing and enacting a whole school Pedagogical Framework to improve learning outcomes for all students.

Planning and discussions with local cluster and secondary school, P&C and wider community, around the Flying Start for 2015, in readiness for Year 7 students entering High School in 2015.

Continuing 'Relentless Focus on Reading' across the school.

Continuing analysis of school and systemic data to direct future teacher and learning with a strong focus on higher expectations for all.

Ensuring learning is engaging and inclusive, whilst maintaining a strong focus on meeting the needs of the diverse range of students, and embedding differentiation strategies into classroom programs, accessing external specialist personnel when required.

Focusing on 'Closing the Gap' for Indigenous students through the purchase of additional human and physical resources to support our students.

Continuing the employment of a School Chaplain in supporting families, with a major focus on student 'well being' through a program such as 'Unlimited' and general care and support.

Continuing strengthening of our school/community relationships through involvement in programs such as the 'Garden of Learning' and community events, namely ANZAC days and school excursions.

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: **Coeducational**

Year levels offered in 2013: **Prep Year - Year 7**

Total student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2011	373	182	191	95%
2012	372	187	185	91%
2013	335	180	155	89%

Student counts are based on the Census (August) enrolment collection.

Characteristics of the student body:

Gin Gin State School encompasses a regional rural community west of Bundaberg. It is a low-socio economic area with many families living on small acreages in the country, often with limited resources. We have a relatively small indigenous population (approx.10%) in the school.

Our school is recognised for excellent special education programs which support students from all year levels, as well as other smaller cluster schools within the Hub.

Average Class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2011	2012	2013
Prep – Year 3	21	22	22
Year 4 – Year 7 Primary	26	23	26

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2011	2012	2013
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	22	18	13
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	0
Exclusions	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- ❖ Continued development of literacy and numeracy skills in line with National Curriculum.
- ❖ ICT skills are integral to all lesson planning.
- ❖ Robotics in upper school to support English, Science, Mathematics and Technology, Beebots, Probots and Constructabots introduced in lower school.
- ❖ Gifted and Talented Program to acknowledge, support and provide for students who have been identified in specific areas within an inclusive model.
- ❖ Curriculum support is offered across all year levels by Specialist teachers in Music, Health and Physical Education.
- ❖ Japanese language and cultural activities for students in Year 6 and 7.
- ❖ Specialist Learning Support teacher provides support to all year levels across the school.
- ❖ Special Needs teachers provide extra support for students with a disability to ensure they are meeting educational outcomes.

Extra curricula activities

Gin Gin State School provides a range of extra curricula activities which allows students an opportunity to pursue their individual interests and/or further develop their own skills and abilities by participation in these activities. These opportunities are provided through the commitment of various staff members and includes:

- ❖ Robotics
- ❖ After school sports programs teaching skills in Rugby League, Cricket, Soccer, Netball, Golf and Athletics.
- ❖ Chess Club and Kids Club.
- ❖ Instrumental Music Program, Brass/Woodwind Program and Recorder Band.
- ❖ Student Council
- ❖ Breakfast Club each morning.
- ❖ Cross Country, Interhouse and Interschool Sports, Swimming Carnival
- ❖ School Concerts, Drama Groups, Choir.
- ❖ Excursions/Camps across all year levels.
- ❖ Leadership Camp

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and communication technology skills are an integral part of all KLA's from Prep to Year 7. Students have access to computers within each classroom plus computer lab. The school currently has electronic whiteboards in all classrooms.

All teachers have a laptop computer for their own use as part of the Laptop for Teachers Program.

A computer lab, housing 28 computers is encompassed in the Technology Centre which extends on from the Resource Centre. This allows full access to a whole class at any given time.

A majority of staff members have either an ICT Pedagogical Licence or Certificate.

Social climate

Once again, throughout 2013 we saw a continued improvement within the learning Environment at our school. Staff, students and parents all work together to maintain this environment.

An experienced Guidance Officer works at the school two days a week and is also an integral member of the school special needs committee.

Breakfast Club continued each morning to support students in getting a good nutritional start to the day. This is well co-ordinated by Teacher Aides, Student Leaders and School Chaplain.

Our school at a glance

The school is well supported by a Chaplain who is always there for the needs of the students or parents. Again in 2013 the school Chaplain conducted an 'Unlimited Program' with boys and girls from Year 7 which has been very valuable and well supported. Student leaders attended the Mayoral Chaplaincy breakfast in Bundaberg with the Chaplain during 'Chappy Week'.

The school continues to develop and monitor The School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Plan as part of our Responsible Behaviour Plan, which models expectations – Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be respectful. Our Anti-bullying Policy is also encompassed within our Responsible Behaviour Plan. Set rules are modelled and taught across the school each week to reinforce positive behaviours. School behaviour in the playground is also monitored and recorded by staff on duty in all areas, providing valuable information to track both positive and negative student interactions over time. This information is used to counsel and support students. Data has shown a great improvement in all areas.

The Opinion Survey showed the majority of parents were pleased with the School Climate and School Community relations, showing improvement in all areas, with data well above state average, We believe this is due to the strong teamwork of our staff and parent involvement. We always maintain an 'Open Door policy' at our school.

The Opinion Survey showed the majority of students were happy to go to this school and 100% of students believe they are getting a good education.

A number of extra curricula programs have been introduced in to the school fostering student motivation and aspirations, which have all led to improved learning outcomes and attendance.

Students in the upper school presented their Robotics demonstrations in Brisbane at Robocup once again. They also performed at the Tech Challenge in Maryborough, winning the Junior Dance section. Students also experienced a lot of fun when they entered two teams entered in the 'Smilie Cart' section at the Tech Challenge. These activities have been a wonderful experience plus motivational tool for our students.

Thirty three students from the school choir, trained by Mr Arnold the school music teacher, performed at Creative Generation in Brisbane in July for the first time. After two full days of rehearsal the choir then performed in the mass choir in four shows to a packed audience at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre. This was a most spectacular event and an outstanding achievement for all.

Children were involved in a number of sporting events where they travelled to Bundaberg to compete in selected sports against other schools. We also held, besides Active After School Sports, training afternoons for Rugby League culminating in entering the ARL Development Cup. Following the conclusion of the ARL Cup, the boys then entered in the AFL Competition, winning the Bundaberg competition, which was a great achievement. This football has been highly popular and motivational for the older boys.

A number of clubs operate during the lunch hours providing for the different interests of students. These range from gardening, the Arts and Kids Club.

Students exhibited a display of work in the local Gin Gin Show. This display was then arranged in the school hall for the American students to view during their visit.

A Prep Orientation Day was held at the end of the year, for student enrolling in rep in 2014. This day is held each year for beginning students.

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Our surveys have continued to show marked increase in satisfaction ratings across the school in both parent and student satisfaction regarding their child's education at this school, as has staff satisfaction as evidenced by data below.

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of parents/caregivers who agree that:	2012	2013
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	96%	93%
this is a good school (S2035)	93%	89%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	93%	93%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	89%	97%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	96%	93%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	96%	97%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	96%	100%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	96%	93%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	96%	97%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	89%	93%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	96%	97%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	89%	93%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	88%	97%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	81%	69%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	96%	97%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	96%	100%

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of students who agree that:	2012	2013
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	98%	100%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	85%	97%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	92%	93%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	99%	99%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	99%	100%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	100%	96%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	94%	86%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	82%	85%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	87%	87%

Our school at a glance

student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	78%	92%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	96%	97%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	99%	99%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	95%	100%

Performance measure

Percentage of school staff who agree that:		2013
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)		100%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)		100%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)		77%
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)		100%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)		100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)		100%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)		93%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)		90%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)		100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)		100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)		94%

* Nationally agreed student and parent/caregiver items were incorporated in the School Opinion Survey in 2012.

Percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement. Due to a major redevelopment of the surveys (parent/caregiver and student in 2012; staff in 2013), comparisons with results from previous years are not recommended.

Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education

Gin Gin State School takes very seriously the idea that it is a team educating a child and as such strongly encourages parent/guardian involvement by:

Implementing a 3-way reporting process at the end Term 1 and Term 3, which provides student progress to parents. These interviews are conducted between students, teachers and parents, discussing progress and setting goals. Formal reports for all students from Year 1 to 7 are sent home at the end of each Semester. Students in Year 3, 5 and 7 received National Assessment Reporting (NAPLAN) results in Literacy and Numeracy late in the year.

Parents regularly volunteer reading support in classrooms, plus become involved in all school activities. Many parents volunteer time to maintain a school tuck shop on Mondays and Fridays each week, plus provide lunch for approximately 50 'People to People' buses of school students from America who visit during their summer holidays. This catering is the major fundraising for the school, with profits going towards school resources and excursions.

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Data is sourced from school's annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Solar Panels have been installed on the roof of the school to capture energy which can be stored. Light bulbs have been changed to the energy saving style. Rain water tanks have been installed and connected to new buildings and the garden shed, and students are regularly educated in water usage awareness, highlighting the need to save water.

	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2010-2011	82,774	1,112
2011-2012	93,633	1,883
2012-2013	89,326	5,397

The consumption data is sourced from the validated utilities expenditure return which the school submits at the end of each financial year. The data provides an indication of the consumption trend in each of the utility categories which impact on the schools environmental footprint.

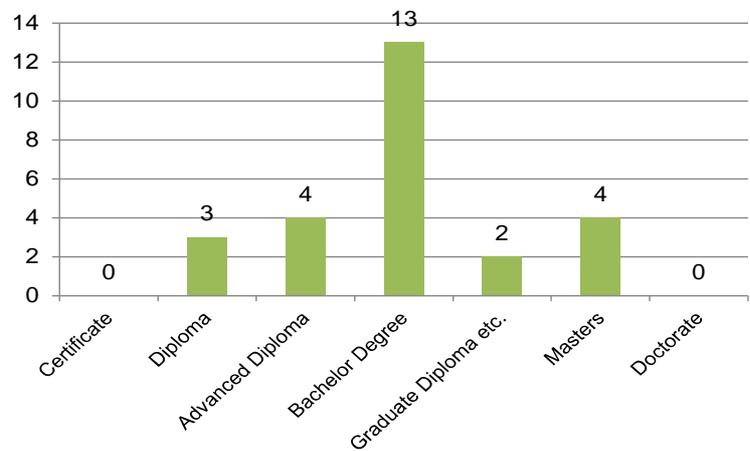
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2013 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff *	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	26	18	0
Full-time equivalents	24	11	0

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	3
Advanced Diploma	4
Bachelor Degree	13
Graduate Diploma etc.	2
Masters	4
Doctorate	0
Total	26



* Teaching Staff includes School Leaders

** Graduate Diploma etc. includes Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Honours Degree, and Graduate Certificate

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2013 was 100%. The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2013 were \$ 35 453 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- ❖ Classroom Profiling,
- ❖ Art of Science and Teaching (ASOT)
- ❖ Dyslexia Workshop
- ❖ One School Training
- ❖ Sports Coaching
- ❖ Health – CPR and HPE
- ❖ Chaplaincy/social health courses.

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

	2011	2012	2013
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	96%	97%	96%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 87% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2013 school year.

School income broken down by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the *My School* website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our income details, click on the *My School* link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following 'Find a school' text box.

Find a school

Search by school name

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government
 Non-government

Where it says 'Search by school name', type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select <GO>. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's *My School* entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting 'School finances' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of income by funding source.

Performance of our students

Key student outcomes

Student attendance	2011	2012	2013
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	91%	92%	92%
The overall attendance rate in 2013 for all Queensland state Primary schools was 92%.			

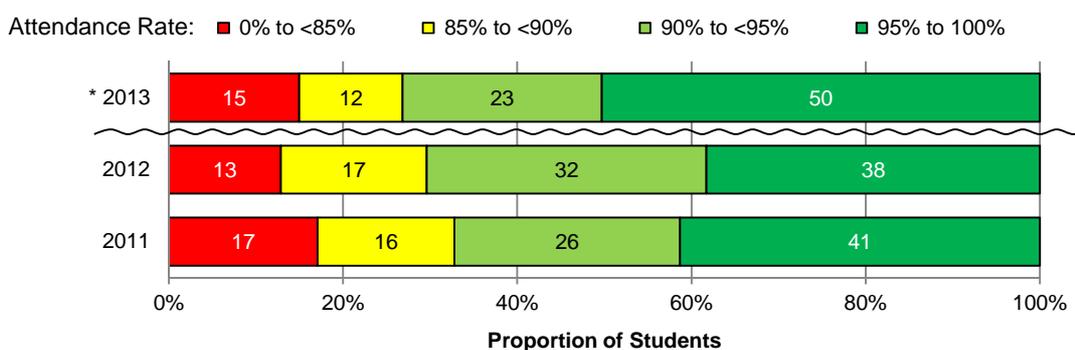
Student attendance rate for each year level (shown as a percentage)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
2011	86%	93%	91%	91%	91%	93%	91%					
2012	93%	91%	92%	94%	88%	91%	93%					
2013	92%	94%	91%	93%	92%	91%	94%					

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



* The method for calculating attendance changed in 2013 – care should be taken when comparing data from 2013 to that of previous years.

Performance of our students

Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.

The school manages attendance rates on three levels:

1. At the classroom level, rolls are marked twice daily. Teachers note unexplained absences and attempt to contact parents, particularly if the student is absent on consecutive days. Parents have been made aware that they are to contact by telephone or send a note with the student upon return to school, explaining the reason for absence/s. The school has a special absentee line where messages on absenteeism can be recorded.
2. Teachers report absenteeism to administration. Administration monitors and attempts to contact parents.
3. Administration sends relevant letter/s to parents, outlining DET Policies and

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.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our NAPLAN results, click on the *My School* link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following 'Find a school' text box.

Find a school

Search by school name

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government Non-government

SEARCH

Where it says 'Search by school name', type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results you wish to view, and select <GO>.

Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and Privacy Policy before being able to access NAPLAN data.

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

Achievement – Closing the Gap

All schools are being challenged to 'Close the Gap' between indigenous and non-indigenous student outcomes. At Gin Gin State school we have approximately 10% of students who identify as indigenous.

In 2013 we were able to significantly 'Close the Gap' in attendance rates for our indigenous students Prep to Year 7, and in most cases not much below the non-indigenous count.

Students not achieving system targets are monitored and supported with extra 'in class' support utilising Teacher Aides and Learning Support Specialists.

A strong emphasis on student attendance, as part of the EATSIPS Framework has been put in place across the school, which should continue to help further 'Close the Gap'.