MAJELLA CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
BALGA

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Lina Bertolini
PURPOSE OF NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP IN LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

Funding provided through the Commonwealth Government Smarter Schools National Partnership Program, along with co-investment from the Western Australian education sectors and schools, is designed to build the capacity of Western Australian schools to contribute to the achievement of the following five higher level outcomes;

- All children are engaged in and benefitting from schooling
- Young people are meeting basic literacy and numeracy standards, and overall levels of literacy and numeracy achievement are improving
- Schooling promotes the social inclusion and reduces the educational disadvantage of children, especially Indigenous children
- Australian students excel by international standards
- Young people make a successful transition from school to work and further study

The Catholic Education Office National Partnership for Low SES School Communities;

- Aims to improve literacy and numeracy achievement across all years of schooling
- Provides a focus on strategies which will raise attendance and allow students who move between schools to be tracked and supported
- Supports schools to raise the resilience and engagement of students
- Aims to assist in up skilling staff, particularly Aboriginal Teacher Assistants
- Is contextualised in whole school improvement initiatives
- Links closely to initiatives in other National Partnership Programs
- Where involving schools with Aboriginal students, especially in the Kimberley, aligns to key policy strategies such as the ‘Closing the Gap’ strategy and the ‘Indigenous Education Action Plan Draft’.

Reporting in this National Partnership will occur against key reforms and milestones and will include qualitative and quantitative data which describe the degree of participation, the key processes and important outcomes, especially those that relate to improved student achievement and attendance.
School Profile

Majella Catholic Primary School (Majella) is a single stream co-educational school catering for 190 children from Kindergarten to Year Six. The school is part of the Catholic Parish of Mirrabooka. The school's mission statement reads, “United in Christ, Majella Catholic Primary School seeks to be a just and inclusive community where the dignity and goodness of each person is respected. Inspired by our patron, St Gerard Majella, we come together in a spirit of compassion and service to meet the diverse needs of those who belong to the school community. Through what we do, all at Majella are strengthened to be people of integrity, optimism and justice”. The school's motto, ‘United in Christ’ reflects the belief that, through the Word of God, we are one family united in faith and purpose. Majella is well resourced in literacy and numeracy and our program is enhanced through support from an English as a Second Language teacher, Reading Recovery teacher and EMU (Extending Mathematical Understanding) teachers. The RAINBOWS and CAPS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and Primary Schools) programs are offered to assist with the emotional well-being and mental health of all students. Majella has a specialist 'Arts' program which includes music, visual arts, media, dance and drama. A Speech Pathology Placement Program assists in the early identification of students with speech concerns, the development of programs to meet specific needs and the implementation of such programs. The school enjoys many ICT facilities including an ICT Lab which caters for whole class one-to-one computer lessons. Each classroom is equipped with an interactive whiteboard and bank of computers. This year saw the introduction of an interactive whiteboard to the Kindergarten class. The school is proud of the links it has made within the local community. This partnership was acknowledged in 2009 when the school won the National Award for “Excellence by a school and its community”. Through its partnership with Foodbank WA, Majella proudly runs a breakfast program every morning before school, enabling children to start the day with a healthy and nutritious breakfast. Inspired by our patron saint, Saint Gerard Majella, staff, students and the entire community strive to live by the school's motto, "United in Christ".

Involvement and Support in Specific Low SES Projects

Targeted Initiatives: Non-Kimberley Schools

To further expand the Extending the School Day model, this project will enable an extension of the type of services available for students and parents alike.

At Majella Catholic Primary School, their project is titled Majella Head Start. The focus of this project is on:

- Supporting students’ early language acquisition through the provision of quality literature
- Speech Pathology Placement Program that is conducted in partnership with Curtin University.
- Complete Advantage Screening – this screens all students in Kindergarten and Pre-Primary for speech and language skills, which assists teachers to monitor and develop specific language plans for students at risk.
- Providing increased reading support to students most at risk, through the Reading Extra (REx) Program that is based on Hickey Multisensory Learning Approach.

The specific outcomes of this project relate to raising student achievement and reducing educational disadvantage through the use of additional ‘wrap-around’ services in the school and local communities.
### Funding

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific National Partnership Project</th>
<th>Low SES School Communities NP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Australian Government Funding Allocated</strong></td>
<td>$38,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>School Co-Investment</strong></td>
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