ST GERARD’S PRIMARY SCHOOL
WESTMINSTER

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Mark Miloro
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

St Gerard's Primary School is a Catholic co-educational primary school comprised of students from Kindy to Year Six serving the families within the neighbouring north eastern suburbs of Perth. Members of St Gerard's Primary School, as a faith community, aim to live out the School Motto of Truth, Love and Mercy where each person is encouraged to develop their full potential as living witnesses to Christ. The educational emphasis at St Gerard's is on the whole child where spiritual, religious, intellectual, physical, social and emotional development of all students is paramount. St Gerard's aims to meet the learning needs of a diverse socio-economic, multicultural group of students and are reflected in the teaching programs in place which strengthen and enhance learning opportunities across all Curriculum Areas with a focus on literacy and numeracy development. Current resources and excellent facilities are a feature of the school environment. As well, the students are offered opportunities of studies in Languages other than English, Information & Communications Technology, Physical Education, Library Studies and The Arts. The Staff aim to work with each family, as valued partners in their child's education, in meeting their needs whilst at St Gerard's Primary School.

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 St Gerard’s Primary School, their project is titled Foundations to Learning. The focus of this project is on:

- A Playgroup Program, which is run by the school's social worker, provides an opportunity to engage with current and prospective parents whilst providing a stimulating environment for 0 to 3 year old children.
- Speech Pathology Placement Program that is conducted in partnership with Curtin University, which significantly helps their students who are English as a Second Language learners.
- Improving student literacy and numeracy by targeting the needs of students through their participation in the Mathletics and Reading Eggs programs.
- Conducting Three Year Old Kindergarten sessions to two days per week.

The specific outcomes of this project relate to raising student achievement and reducing educational disadvantages, 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>Australian Government Funding Allocated</td>
<td>$38,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA</td>
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<td>School Co-Investment</td>
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