ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
PINJARRA

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Joy Ketteringham
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 Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Pinjarra is a dynamic co-educational primary school catering for 230 students from Kindergarten to Year Seven. St Joseph's School was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph's and the work of these Sisters and St Mary MacKillop of the Cross is still the foundation of our school. St Joseph's is more than just a school providing for the academic needs of students. We seek to create a God centred educational environment where each school community member is nurtured spiritually, academically, socially and physically. Our school holds a vision that all community members will be seen as God sees them, very precious and abundant in potential. We believe that in a nurturing, Christian, professional environment, individuals will be more likely to recognise their potential and find the incentive and encouragement needed to unleash it. We hold this hope for all community members in our school, the staff, students, parents and parish. Our Motto is Faith and Trust: Together we are developing our faith and trust in God. We are learning to share this with one another.

Under the National Partnership Program St Joseph's is committed to raising outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy. Various strategies and priorities are in place such as Reading Recovery, Literacy and Numeracy support, which is provided across all years to ensure that every opportunity is given for successful learning. Children from Kindergarten to Year Seven are offered a comprehensive, stimulating and challenging curriculum, with specialist areas in LOTE: Italian, Music, Library, IT and Physical Education which incorporates a Perceptual Motor Skills Program for the Junior classes and Dance Sport for Years One to Seven. Science: Primary Connections, Extension Programs, Blueearth and Active After School programs are also provided at St Joseph's. We have a strong emphasis on the use of Information Technology in all classes, with all classes from Pre-Primary to Year Seven having an Interactive Whiteboard and access to class sets of lap tops for all classes including Kindergarten. In second semester of 2011 we purchased a class set of Apple Mac laptops so that students are able to gain a strong knowledge of both programs.

Our innovative and dedicated staff work to provide the best possible educational opportunities for students and pride themselves on the quality of education offered. Under the direction of the Coordinator of Professional Learning and with the assistance of Key Teacher Roles in Literacy and Maths, our Professional Learning Communities provide a rich environment of collegial discussion and collaboration. Our dedicated staff is equipped with excellent models of best practice to make certain that every opportunity is given to raise student achievement.

Involvement and Support in Specific Low SES Projects

Extension of Blueearth Program
The Blueearth Program has a proven record in developing social, emotional; interpersonal, personal and physical attributes of students. This typically leads to students who are healthier, more engaged and exhibiting increased attendance rates. This project provides financial and other support to participating schools. The financial support allows for visits to the school by accredited Blueearth trainers as well as support to train other staff members.

The specific outcomes of this project relate to enhanced interpersonal, personal, health and engagement outcomes which are recognised as being essential for improved learning.

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 Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, their project is titled Raising Outcomes in Literacy and Numeracy. The focus of this project is on:

- Early learning years intervention through speech therapy services provided by Curtin University
- Enhance the engagement of the parent community
- Intervention for middle and upper primary school students, involving the creation of a continuum of learning for teaching comprehension strategies in the area of inferring and making connections.
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><strong>Australian Government Funding Allocated</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>School Co-Investment</strong></td>
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