ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL
WAROONA

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Karmela Messineo
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 upskilling 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 School is a co-educational Catholic primary school compromising of 147 students, Kindergarten-Year 7 serving the Parish community of St Patrick’s Waroona. The school is an integral party of the Waroona Catholic community. The School endeavours to nurture all children to grow as confident, independent, life-long learners who are enabled to contribute to society with dignity, respect and a spirit of service. The school promotes excellence in all of its activities, including a comprehensive literacy program with thorough support mechanisms, a thorough and methodical mathematics program that includes the Extending Mathematical Understanding (EMU) program. All classrooms are equipped with Smartboard technology and computers to support dynamic teaching and learning environments. Students throughout the school are involved in the Bluearth program, Dancesport, physical education activities, music and chess club. The Student Council is an active group, assisting in fund-raising events and the Safety Club. Students represent the school in athletics and swimming carnivals in the Bunbury area. The enthusiastic parent body is represented by the Parents and Friends’ Association with strong support from the School Board.

Involvement and Support in Specific Low SES Projects

Extension of Bluearth Program
The Bluearth 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 Bluearth 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 Primary School, their project is titled Student Support Services. The focus of this project is on:
- Supporting families whose children were identified as requiring assistance to further enhance their educational outcomes, through Social Work students from Edith Cowan University visiting the school.
- School – parent partnership has been further established, which has assisted in the identification of students who need additional support in areas such as social skills

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>$45,000.00</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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