ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
CARNARVON

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Darren McDonald
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 and Torres Strait Islanders Education Action Plan’.

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 Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School is a co-educational school that provides the best educational opportunities for students from Kindy-Year 10. St Mary's has a proud academic history and has been serving the community of Carnarvon for over one hundred years. This successful tradition has been built around preparing all students for a meaningful and rewarding future through the pursuit of personal excellence and the provision of a full and broad education based on strong academic and gospel principles. The programs at the school are designed to cater for the intellectual, physical, emotional, social and spiritual aspects of an individual's development, with an emphasis on the whole person. In conjunction with our strong commitment to developing every child to his/her academic potential the school places great emphasis on pastoral care and the development of strong Christian values. Through the ‘You Can Do It’ and PATHs (Promoting Alternative Thinking Skills) programs, the school consolidates the social development of our students. St Mary's has strong links to the Parish and wider communities. Parents are an integral part of the school and it is thought this partnership that the school is able to provide students with the best possible education.

Involvement and Support in Specific Low SES Projects

Intensified Literacy Support
This project provides additional support to Low SES schools to improve levels of literacy and numeracy. A Geraldton Regional Office consultant visit Geraldton schools on a planned cycle to provide in situ support and training. The specific outcomes of this support will be to increase levels of literacy and numeracy across all years, but with a specific focus on those students at or below benchmarks and in early years of schooling.

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 Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School, their project is titled Primary Teacher Mentor Programme. The focus of this project is on:

- Creating appropriate conditions for successful learning through beginning primary teachers being mentored frequently by a quality educator.
- Short term goals are set, planned and strategized for with the mentor and evaluated together against the criteria set in the action plan.
- Creating better teachers enabling quality delivery.

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.

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.
## 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>$54,000.00</td>
</tr>
<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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