XAVIER CATHOLIC SCHOOL
HILBERT

SCHOOL LEVEL PLAN
LOW SES SCHOOL COMMUNITIES NP

2013

KEY CONTACT AT SCHOOL: Cathie Bauer
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

Xavier Catholic School is a developing co-educational primary school currently catering for around 280 students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 6 and situated in the rapidly growing South Eastern suburb of Hilbert. Founded by the Sisters of Mercy in 1938 and managed by the Loreto Order in the 1970's, the school relocated from central Armadale in 2005 to its present site in Hilbert. In 2013 Xavier will begin double stream with two classes each of 4 Year Old Kindergarten, Pre-primary and Year 1. Xavier Catholic School offers a 3 year old Pre-Kindergarten program that may include one or two sessions per week of two and a half hour each. We also run a family friendly 'Mums & Bubs PlayGroup' held in the school each Thursday of term from 9am - 11am. The sessions cater for children 0-3 years and their parents/s or guardians including dads, grandparents or other family carers and include fun activities and support for families. Xavier also offers an Outside School Hours Care service on the school site. Our Kindergarten is supported by Speech and Language intervention from Curtin University through a National Partnership Program. In addition to providing a balanced academic curriculum with a strong emphasis on literacy and numeracy, all students take part in a Religious Education program that fosters an understanding and belief in the Catholic faith. Xavier offers an inclusive education program catering for students from all backgrounds and learning abilities.

Specialist support is provided across the school and includes the Reading Recovery and Enriching Mathematic Understanding (EMU) programs. Aboriginal student enrolments are growing and welcomed at Xavier Catholic School. Xavier was the winner of the 2011 PALS Education Award for our support of Aboriginal cultural understanding and inclusion. All classes are taught by specialist teachers in Music, Italian, Library/Research Skills and Physical Education. Extra-curricular options are available in Dance, Band and Instrumental Music tuition (guitar, keyboard, piano, violin, flute, vocals, clarinet and drums). There are opportunities to perform in the school choir, dance troupe, the rock and folk bands. Free Active after School Sports program and netball training operate during school terms. Xavier is committed to developing independent learning skills and strongly encourages the use of learning technologies across the curriculum. Interactive Whiteboards are utilised across the school, along with computers in each classroom and a mobile lab comprising 15 laptops. Specific programs enhancing personal health and fitness also operate across the school including: PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) and Bluearth (the integration of body and mind through physical activity) that are enhanced by strong pastoral care and a supportive environment from compassionate and committed staff members. Xavier Catholic Primary School is a family - friendly community operating as a cohesive unit to support all students, families and staff. A very strong relationship exists between the school and the parish of Saint Francis Xavier with an emphasis on our family-focused, parish-based and school-supported Sacramental program. Annual nominations to the School Board and Parents and Friends Committee ensure all members of the community are able to contribute by providing social and fundraising support. The school philosophy is based upon the beliefs of the Catholic Church and reflects the values, vision, policies and motto of Xavier Catholic School - "Growing in Wisdom".

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 Xavier Catholic School, their project is titled *Early Intervention to Support Early Years Learning*. The focus of this project is on:

- Speech Pathology Placement Program that is conducted in partnership with Curtin University, provide professional learning in areas of speech and language to teaching, teaching assistant and administration staff and parents.

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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific National Partnership Project</th>
<th>Low SES School Communities NP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Government Funding Allocated</td>
<td>$45,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Australian Co-investment – CEOWA</td>
<td>$21,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Co-Investment</td>
<td>$24,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>