



Postal address	Cnr Walkers Road & Minimbah Drive Morayfield 4506
Phone	(07) 5431 7333
Fax	(07) 5431 7300
Email	the.principal@minimbahss.eq.edu.au
Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the <a href="#">My School</a> website and the Department's <a href="#">Right to Information site</a> .
Contact Person	Sean Bennett

### Principal's foreword

#### Introduction

Minimbah State School is part of a vibrant local community. We have a proud history of outstanding academic, cultural and sporting success with a culture based on traditional values including respect, responsibility and pride in appearance. We value and actively build productive relationships between students, teachers and parents to ensure a quality learning environment.

Our school motto, **Place of Learning**, demonstrates our commitment for all students and staff to engage in learning with a focus on ensuring that students have the knowledge and skills to build future success.

Our purpose is to provide quality learning in a safe and caring environment that encourages all students to fulfil their potential and to be able to face the opportunities and the challenges that they will meet in a changing world.

The intent of this report is to provide an overview of the school's recent achievements and future directions for parents and the community.

#### School progress towards its goals in 2011

The school continues to improve the quality of learning for students through setting focused targets for student learning and implementing best teaching practice. Areas identified in the school operational plan for 2011 which were a significant focus for the school include:

- High expectations for all students with a focus on individual student goal setting and feedback to achieve personal targets.
- Aligning resources to target literacy and numeracy teaching including a 'supported reading program' for every student every day
- Collaborative teacher professional learning through areas such as the moderation of student work with other schools to establish consistent application of standards and the planning of quality teaching programs
- Consistent 'School Wide Positive Behaviour' processes to ensure a quality learning environment
- A significant increase in access to *e-learning* tools for teacher use in the classroom including interactive whiteboards

Other priority areas which extend the learning of students at Minimbah include a strong focus on environmental science which is studied as part of the science teaching program from prep to Year 7. A range of lunch-time clubs and activities are available for students including gardening and environmental initiatives. Students participate in field excursions and camps, often in partnership with the Stanley River Environmental Education Centre. Year 7 students spend one week camping on Moreton Island whilst carrying out a range of science activities including rock pool observations and data collection.

At Minimbah we believe a child's learning is enriched when they can meaningfully apply academic knowledge through engaging practical activities such as scientific field work and arts experiences. We encourage students to become active citizens and well-rounded individuals through local community involvement. We provide a range of co-curricula activities such as: - an instrumental music program in woodwind, brass, strings and percussion - participation in the Brisbane Writers' Festival - academic competitions - interschool sport - including Soccer, Netball, Rugby League - Minimbah Inter-house Swimming and Athletics programs and carnivals - Arts Council performances - Ten Pin Bowling.



#### Future outlook

For the 2012 school year, Minimbah State School is focussing on:

- Effective implementation of the National Curriculum
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Targeted programs for Reading, using Soundwaves and First Steps in Reading
- 'Supported Reading Program': Provided for all students, every day which aligns instruction to individual student reading needs
- Quality Curriculum Planning and Teaching focusing on English, Mathematics and Science, with support of school based Coaches and a Science Spark
- Support for teachers to include differentiation in planning and teaching, with a focus on upper two bands
- Coaches to work with HOC, YLC's in order to design, trial, review and implement effective G&T strategies
- Early Years Literacy with Phonics based teaching strategies
- Effective TA use based around teacher and student support during Priority Learning Hours
- Introduction of the Brigance Screener for Preps and Pre-Prep students
- Improved attendance for all students.

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: **Coeducational**

Year levels offered: **Prep - Year 7**

Total student enrolments for this school:

Total Enrolment	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb 2011 – Nov 2011)
737	372	365	92%

Characteristics of the student body:

At Minimbah high expectations are placed on students with regard to their learning, behaviour and appearance. Students are consistently respectful towards each other, teachers and other adults. They wear their school uniform with pride and strive to be good learners.

Minimbah has a special education unit which caters for approximately 40 students with disabilities. These students participate fully in regular classroom learning with support.

The enrolment pattern at Minimbah is very stable with all families living in the local area, some on small acreage properties. There is no significant representation of ethnic or cultural groups from outside of Australia at the school.

Class sizes – Proportion of school classes achieving class size targets in 2011

Phase	Average Class Size
Prep – Year 3	23.3
Year 4 – Year 10	26.1
All Classes	24.5

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	47
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	8
Exclusions	1
Cancellations of Enrolment	0

## Curriculum offerings

### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

At Minimbah State School the Curriculum planning process is supported by a Head of Curriculum and guided by the systemic requirements of the Education Queensland P – 12 Curriculum Framework and the relevant National Curriculum.

#### Prep - 7

Units of work are developed from the National Curriculum, Essential Learnings and are based on the Key Learning Areas (KLAs) of English, Mathematics, Science, Studies of Society & Environment, Technology, The Arts, Health and Physical Education and Japanese. Units may be integrated across more than one KLA but are usually KLA specific.

Teachers work collaboratively in year level teams to plan, deliver and assess units of work in all key learning areas.

English, Maths and Science are our priority KLAs as *“literacy and numeracy are at the heart of each student’s ability to learn and succeed in school and beyond”* (P-12 Curriculum Framework, page 12). In the KLAs of English and Maths, students develop the skills they need in order to become ‘literate’ and ‘numerate’. English is much more than basic literacy skills however, and as such students engage in a range of literature studies from a wide range of books, other literary texts and authors.

Minimbah has an Environmental Education program which forms a fundamental and distinct part of our Science and Social Science programs from years P – 7. Students are often involved in excursions and camps to extend and compliment their school studies in this area and we have a strong band of around 45 Eco Warriors.

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### Extra curricula activities

Minimbah provides students with many opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom interact socially with others and participate in community activities. Some of these activities include:

- An Instrumental Music Program in woodwind, brass and percussion for Year 5, 6 and 7 students – entry is by audition

- An introductory Instrumental Strings program starting in year 3

- A “Minimbah’s Got Talent” night where student talents are showcased

- Participation in the Brisbane Writer’s Festival

- Lunch time activities programs including Gardening, Robotics, Square Dancing and Choir

- Library and computer access at break times

- Interschool sport – soccer, netball, rugby league

- Inter-house sports carnivals including swimming and athletics – selection from these for District representation

- Sporting opportunities including AFL ‘Auskick’ program

- Queensland Arts Council Performances

- Ten Pin Bowling

- School camps to complement our environmental science program: Year 5 three day camp at the Stanley River Environmental Centre, Year 7 five day camp to Moreton Island and year 6 one day canoeing

- P & C run two School Discos a year

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### How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

The development of students’ ICT knowledge and skill is integrated through all KLAs. ICTs are used to engage students in their learning, to assist them in understanding concepts and processes and to extend the reach of the classroom across space and time.

During the planning process teachers identify opportunities for using ICTs to develop KLA knowledge and skills as well as those specific to ICT.

A current priority at Minimbah is ensuring that students have the best available learning technology in their classrooms so that teachers can make the most of up-to-date resources for learning, especially in literacy and numeracy. With the help of the P&C we are installing ‘Interactive Whiteboards’ and data projectors across all classrooms along with wireless connectivity across the school.

### Social climate

Minimbah State School provides a safe, disciplined and challenging environment that provides the opportunities for all students to achieve to their potential.

We believe that a safe and supportive environment protects the rights of all students to learn, the rights of all teachers to teach and the rights of all to be safe.

We believe all students need to belong to our school community and this belonging is underpinned by appropriate and respectful relationships. Developing a student's sense of belonging is based on building caring, respectful relationships through proactive approaches to recognising and meeting students' basic needs, explicit teaching of rules and expected behaviours, and social skill building and problem solving practices.

We value the positive and productive relationship between the school, parents and local community at Minimbah and believe that these relationships are central in enabling children to achieve to their potential. We encourage parent involvement across many aspects of school life at Minimbah. There are opportunities for parents to assist directly in class activities, provide input into school decision-making and become involved with the Parents and Citizens Association.

Our student leaders are actively engaged in activities and support of peers within the school through playground buddy, library monitors, equipment lending, class buddy and other programs.

Our school Chaplain runs a variety of lunchtime activities for students, as well as providing specialised support programs for student personal development with individuals and groups of students. A games room, Resource Centre and several supported play areas provide opportunities for more structured play environments for children.

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Every state school in Queensland participates in a formal 'school opinion survey' annually. This survey is conducted by Education Queensland. All staff are surveyed, 120 students are selected randomly for the surveyed and a random sample of 40 parents are surveyed.

In 2011 Minimbah staff and student satisfaction levels, improved in three of the five areas below..

In 2011 Minimbah had 22 of the 40 parent surveys returned. Minimbah parents recorded responses either similar to or above the satisfaction levels for the state in 38 of the 40 surveyed areas.

Performance measure	Result 2011
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school	82%
Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school	83%
Percentage of parents/caregivers satisfied with their child's school	73%
Percentage of school workforce satisfied with access to professional development opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives	87%
Percentage of staff members satisfied with morale in the school	92%

### Involving parents in their child's education

Parent involvement with the school is one of the strengths of the Minimbah school community. Parents play a critical role in supporting and extending student learning.

A volunteer program supports classroom activities and through this process parents offer Quality Time, Support-a-Reader, Support-a-Writer, Tuckshop and general help in classrooms and on excursions.

Many parents also attend weekly assemblies and our fortnightly newsletter provides our community with updates on events and activities within the school. Minimbah State School has an active and supportive Parents and Citizens' Committee.

We are committed to regular and effective reporting to parents in both written and face-to-face interview forms (four times per year), and through other formal and informal processes as opportunities and needs arise.

### Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Minimbah State School is an 'Earth Smart Science' school which is part of the Queensland Environmentally Sustainable Schools Initiative (QESSI). As an ESS we are working to reduce our ecological footprint through the development and implementation of a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP).

The design and implementation of the SEMP encourages a whole of school approach to wisely managing school resources. The SEMP focuses on waste minimisation, water conservation, energy efficiency and biodiversity improvements.

The key to the ESS program is to foster knowledge of and commitment to environmental sustainability through integration of the SEMP process into the curriculum with a particular focus on science and mathematics.

Minimbah has an 'Eco Warriors' program where students lead and participate in a range of environmental initiatives around the school including re-cycling, composting, gardening and waste management etc.

The school also works in partnership with the Moreton Bay Regional Council in a waste minimisation program.

Data is sourced from school's annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Environmental footprint indicators, 2010-2011

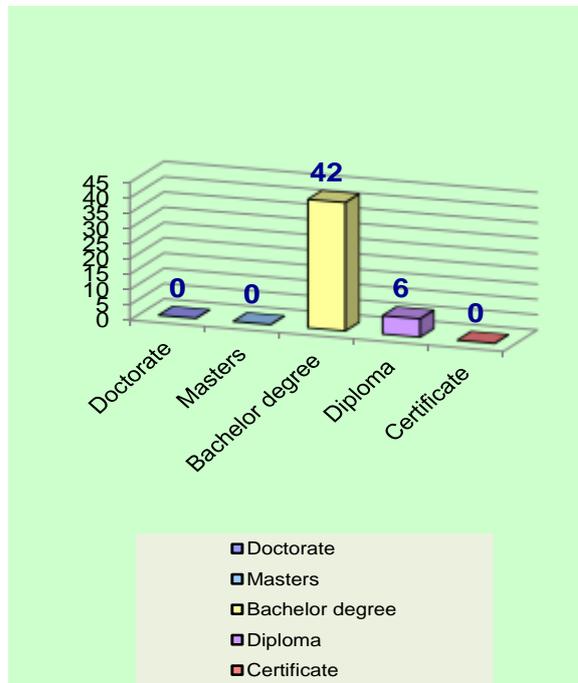
	Electricity KwH	Water KL
2011	202,096	1,441
2010	221,904	1,481
% change 10 - 11	-9%	-3%

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	48	28	<5
Full-time equivalents	45	17	<5

Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	42
Diploma	6
Certificate	0



#### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2011 was \$43229.07

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Curriculum planning and teaching strategies using 'Dimensions of Learning'
- Teaching of English
- Teaching of Mathematics
- Teaching of Science
- Classroom management strategies including 'Essential Skills'
- Information Communication Technologies in the classroom
- Health and safety including first aid and resuscitation

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2010 was 100 %.

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2011 was 100%.

#### Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2011.

#### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 96% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2011 school year.

#### School income broken down by funding source

School income broken down by funding source is available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

To access our income details, click on the *My School* link above. You will then be taken to the *My School* website with the following **'Find a school' text box**.

**Find a school**

Search by school name

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector  Government  Non-government

SEARCH

Where it says **'Search by school name'**, type in the name of the school you wish to view, and select **<GO>**'. Read and follow the instructions on the next screen; you will be asked to accept the **Terms of Use** and Privacy Policy before being given access to the school's My School entry web page.

School financial information is available by selecting **'School finances'** in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of income by funding source

Key student outcomes

Student attendance - 2011

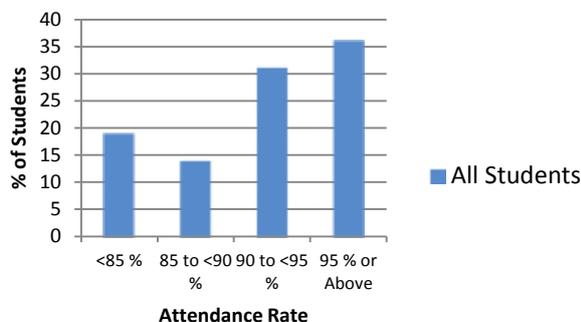
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage) in 2011 was 91%.  
 The overall attendance rate for all Queensland state Primary schools over the same period was 92%.

Student attendance rate for each year level

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7
91%	90%	91%	90%	92%	91%	91%

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DET policies, SMS-PR-029: Managing Student Absences and SMS-PR-036: Roll Marking in State Schools, which outline processes for managing and recording student attendance and absenteeism.

At Minimbah class rolls are marked at 9.00am and 2.00pm.

Teachers record attendance using an electronic roll which means that student attendance can be monitored from the school office.

Parents can contact the school using a dedicated 24hr phone number and message system to inform the school of a student absence.

Teachers follow-up any 'unexplained' absence through letter or phone call to parents.

In the event that an absence remains unexplained after teacher efforts to follow-up a text message is sent to parents.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results – our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 are available via the My School website at <http://www.myschool.edu.au/>.

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#### Achievement – Closing the Gap

Indigenous students comprise approximately 4.6% of the total student population at Minimbah.

In 2011 indigenous student attendance was similar to that of non-indigenous students.

Indigenous student attainments in the year 3, 5 and 7 NAPLAN tests were similar to the school mean scaled score in nearly all areas..