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## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Noosa District SHS is a strong and vibrant educational community across two campuses – Cooroy and Pomona. As expressed in the school motto "Excellence through Diversity" we strive to offer a broad range of educational experiences to all our students.

In the Middle Phase, our students study a core of English, Mathematics, Science and SOSE with two elective subjects drawn from LOTE (Japanese, French), Technology (Industrial Skills, Life Technology, Business, Agriculture), The Arts (Visual Art, Dance, Drama, Music) and Health and Physical education. In the Senior Phase, students can access both academic and vocational subjects. We are a school that 'cares' with a strong Special Education Unit catering for 55 students with a disability. An integral part of our school is our house system with vertical roll groups arranged into six houses – Borumba, Cooroora, Eerwah, Nandroya, Pinbarren and Tinbeerwah overseen and supported by House Coordinators (teachers).

We also offer a variety of support programs including work placement, work experience, Rock and Water, Life Coaching, Work Placements and Structured Workplace Learning.

NDSHS has forged close alliances with allied agencies such as United Synergies to enable our 'at risk' students to follow alternative paths to active and informed citizenship. Our chaplains and Youth coordinator also play significant roles in the delivery of proactive programmes addressing individual student needs.

### Future outlook

With the successful transition of Year 10 students to the Cooroy Campus in 2007 we have been able to offer an outstanding choice of educational delivery for Year 8 and 9 students on both the Cooroy and Pomona Campuses. The Senior School continues to excel, offering students a variety of pathways enabling success for all students. The increase in the number of students receiving certificates will continue to be a focus for us into the future.

#### PRIORITIES FOR 2009 ARE:

- Senior phase option to continue with a stronger focus on student pathways
- Refocus on QCST preparation
- Refine Year 10 SET Plans
- Reflect on and redefine whole school philosophy and use this to develop or renew Middle Phase and Senior Phase philosophies
- Embed Literacy Strategies for whole school
- Continue the numeracy journey
- Restructure Year 8 & 9 curriculum to adopt the Essential Learnings
- Development and embedding into curriculum of pedagogy, assessment and reporting strategies
- Continued development of focus on high intellectual quality in student work
- Continued improvement of student learning outcomes
- Continued development of student - teacher- parent relationships
- Continued improvement of school-parent-community relationships
- Renewal of facilities
- Focus on academic engagement by transitioning to Year Coordinators to manage the distinct needs of each year level within the school.
- Engagement with Sunshine Coast Regional Council, Queensland Institute of Technology and the local Cooroy community in the Old Mill Project.



# Noosa District State High School – School Annual Report 2008

## School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: 1215 (Cooroy campus); 131 (Pomona Campus)  
Year levels offered: Years 8 – 12 (Cooroy); Years 8 and 9 (Pomona)  
Noosa District SHS is a coeducational school.

## Curriculum offerings

### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Gateway School Project in Manufacturing and Aerospace
- Marine Studies and Marine and Aquatic Practices
- Agriculture and Rural Operations
- Hospitality
- Live Performance, Theatre and Events
- Duke of Edinburgh Program (within Special Education)

### Extra curricula activities

- Australian Business Week (Awards won 2006,7,8)
- District, Regional and State Sport opportunities
- Award winning Cattle Show Team
- Biennial Fashion Show/Musical
- Performance opportunities in Drama, Dance, Orchestra, Stage Band
- Formula 1 and CO<sub>2</sub> Car program (National Finalists and Award Winners)
- Formula 1 prototype racing team invited to compete at World Championships in London

### How computers are used to assist learning

Computers are used to assist learning in all Key Learning Areas in the form of computer labs as well as classrooms that have small pods of computers. Smart Board technology is in some classrooms and will be advanced as the Laptops for Computers Program is delivered to NDSHS. All students and staff have access to their school studies and teachers via our site based web portal 24 hours per day.

## Social climate

Student care and welfare is the prime focus of Noosa District State High School. Support is provided through our vertical roll group system, allowing older students the opportunity to mentor students in the younger grades. Additional support is offered by our House Coordinators, School Based Youth Health Nurse, School Chaplain, Client focussed Heads of Department (Middle Phase, Senior Phase, Student Services and Operations), Faculty Heads of Department, Special Education and Support Staff .

Because our students come from a diverse range of social and economic backgrounds, we have a strong student support network that endorses and promotes socially just practices within a supportive school environment providing a range of services including use of inter-agency Support Networks, careers and personal development programs (including the CHOICES program within the Middle School across both campuses, Shaping Your Future in Year 10 and Australian Business Week in Year 11).

We also offer programs that focus on resilience (Rock and Water), Life Skills (Life Coaching) and substantial transitional programs to enable 'at risk' students.

Our Special Education unit focuses on providing students with a disability with a structured, caring environment offering appropriate challenges to all students. The focus on personal development is scaffolded by the Duke of Edinburgh program, a highlight of the unit.

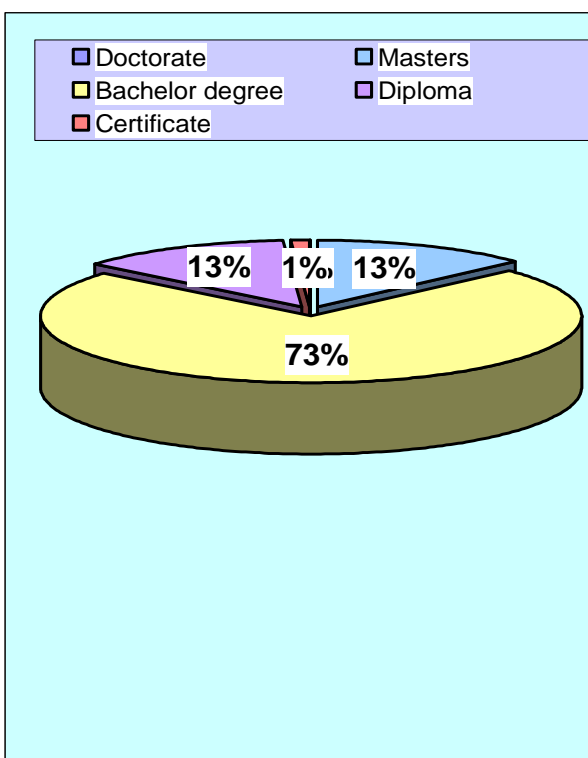
### Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents are an integral part of learning and are encouraged to be a part of their child's secondary schooling at NDSHS. School Council, Parents and Citizens and Pomona Parent Representative groups support parents to engage with their child's learning. The P&C operates the school canteen and uniform shop which forms the basis of financial support for student learning.



Qualifications of all teachers. (Double click anywhere in the first two columns below. A spreadsheet appears. Enter the percentages for your school then click outside the spreadsheet to return to the word template.)

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	13
Bachelor degree	73
Diploma	13
Certificate	1



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 were \$57211.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Teaching and learning
- QSA training
- Vocational Education currency
- Computer Literacy

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 74 %.

## Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96.2% in 2008.

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

From the end of the 2007 school year, 97.1 % of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.



## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 88 %.

### Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Year 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	559
	Average score for Queensland (Do not change)	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 91 %
Writing	Average score for the school	547
	Average score for Queensland (Do not change)	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 80 %
Spelling	Average score for the school	569
	Average score for Queensland (Do not change)	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 87 %
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	558
	Average score for Queensland (Do not change)	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 85 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	570
	Average score for Queensland (Do not change)	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 94 %

### Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort. 71 %

### Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	172
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	129
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	113
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	32
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	96
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	70 %
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	94 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	96 %



## Performance of our students

### Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

### Value added

Noosa District State High School's vision is for every student to achieve his or her potential for the future to become active citizens in a learning society.

Our purpose of achieving quality educational outcomes for all our students is to provide educational excellence within a safe and tolerant environment.

Educational excellence will be achieved based on our beliefs that:

- all individuals can learn and achieve
- all individuals want and deserve respect
- individuals learn at varying rates and to varying degrees
- individuals grow, take greater risks, and perform at higher standards through sincere affirmation, encouragement and validation, not negative criticism; and
- education involves working as a team in partnership with our students, their parents or guardians and the community.

NDSHS is proud of the pathways extended to all students which is articulated into very positive destination data for exiting students. All students are encouraged to broaden their learning beyond the classroom and this is evident in the enormous range of experiences that students participate in throughout the year.

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

Satisfaction with the school is conveyed in the community's support for the school with strong enrolments, substantial numbers of students and parents at all functions. P&C meetings are well attended and volunteer support in the canteen and uniform shop is strong. Staff satisfaction is evidenced by very low numbers of requested transfers out with high requests for transfers in. This is also evidenced in staff attendance and retention.

