

Julia Creek State School

Queensland State School Reporting

2014 School Annual Report



Postal address	PO Box 178 Julia Creek 4823
Phone	(07) 4746 4444
Fax	(07) 4746 4400
Email	the.principal@julicreess.eq.edu.au
Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the My School website and the Queensland Government data website.
Contact person	Principal

Principal's foreword

Introduction

At Julia Creek State School we are committed to ensuring that:
 All our actions promote the best interests of the students.
 All our actions are the very best quality we can achieve.
 For all of our actions we are prepared to accept accountability.

School progress towards its goals in 2014

As a school community, our focus in 2014 was to strive to reach new heights under our whole school improvement agenda. The staff and students of Julia Creek State School will continue to move forward in areas of learning and attainment, engagement and wellbeing. At Julia Creek State School, we are dedicated to providing our students with quality learning experiences to further develop their literacy, numeracy and science skills. Teaching staff will continue to be engaged in relevant professional development opportunities to further enrich their pedagogy and academic programs that align with the National Curriculum, delivered through the Curriculum Into The Classroom suite of resources and the developing Pedagogical Framework. Students of Julia Creek State School interact and learn in a safe and supportive learning environment. In 2014, the school was committed to running a social skilling program that helped enable our students to be resilient and confident young people.

The bonds between community and the school will continue to strengthen due to the school offering greater opportunities for parent engagement. In 2014, culminating events were scheduled each term enabling students to showcase their work to the school community. Parent helpers were encouraged to help with reading to students. The school partnered with the community sport and recreational officer to assist in the delivery of physical education and the delivery of the Active After School Communities program. The community sport and recreational officer also organised vacation care opportunities for our students.

Future outlook

- Reading: Explicit teaching of reading addressing decoding and comprehension strategies
- Student outcomes: Improvement in student academic achievement through targeted teacher-aide intervention and principal support based on short term data cycles
- Staff capacity: Building capacity through classroom observations, feedback and coaching
- Attendance: Raising community awareness through 'Every day counts' strategies.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered in 2014: Prep Year - Year 7

Total student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2012	49	24	25	89%
2013	41	21	20	85%
2014	40	25	15	95%

Student counts are based on the Census (August) enrolment collection.

Characteristics of the student body:

In 2014, Julia Creek State School was a co-educational, P-7 campus. The majority of our students live in Julia Creek, with a small number travelling in up to 30 minutes from surrounding properties. Many of our students' parents are employed by service industries in Julia Creek. The town has a population of approximately 300 and provides a range of services which include: a local state school, a police station, a post office, a hospital, a medical practice, a chemist depot, one hotel, two motels, the Combined Sports Association, a swimming pool, a town library and a caravan park. Julia Creek State School provides educational services to primary children in their local community. We believe that all children, regardless of their income, disability, gender, race or where they live, should have the opportunity to benefit from a quality education. However, parents are responsible for providing items such as exercise books and stationary.

Average class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2012	2013	2014
Prep – Year 3	23	19	14
Year 4 – Year 7 Primary			
Year 7 Secondary – Year 10			
Year 11 – Year 12			

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2012	2013	2014*
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0	0	0
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	0
Exclusions [#]	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

[#] Exclusion is an abbreviated title which reflects suspensions with recommendations for exclusion, which may result in an exclusion or be set aside through an appeals process.

* Caution should be used when comparing 2014 data with previous years SDA data as amendments to the disciplinary provisions in the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, passed in late 2013, created a time series break.

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- The teaching staff at Julia Creek State School deliver the Australian Curriculum through the use of the C2C units of work for English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography.
- Other Key Learning Areas are delivered through the Essential Learnings and Ways of Working outlined by the Queensland Studies Authority syllabus documents.
- The majority of curriculum delivery is provided by a classroom teacher who is allocated to a class group for the year and who ensures that individual and group needs are catered for.
- The school offers a LOTE program based on the Japanese language and culture. Lessons are provided by the School of Distance Education in Charters Towers via web conferencing.
- The delivery of Physical Education is provided by the principal with the assistance of the local communities appointed sport and recreation officer, visiting sports developmental officers and the local swimming coach.
- Learning support is co-ordinated by a classroom teacher who then utilises teacher-aides and the principal to implement programs that cater to individual students and focus groups.

Extra curricula activities

Julia Creek State School conducts many extra curricula activities ranging from cultural activities to sporting events. Annually the school and/or community conduct:

- Community ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day services
- Biggest Morning Tea (raising money for cancer)
- Under 8's Day (in collaboration with Julia Creek Kindergarten)
- Community Arts Day
- McKissa Athletics Carnival (co-hosted with Mt Isa School of the Air)
- P-7 Swimming program
- Swimming Carnival
- Julia Creek Campdraft
- Dirt and Dust Triathlon Festival
- Mid-West sports carnivals (co-hosted with Cloncurry, Richmond and Hughenden State Schools)

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Julia Creek State School is committed to embracing digital technologies and resources. The Learning Place's suite of digital resources, learning pathways and edStudios form an essential part of curriculum delivery and learning support. Our ICT laboratory has been progressively improved over the years to upgrade computer hardware and software. The school utilises the skills of our TAOO4 teacher aide to deliver literacy and numeracy lessons to all students, planned in conjunction with class teachers. Every student receives 45 minutes per week of literacy and numeracy support utilising technology. The TAOO4 also plans and delivers IT lessons to all students for 45 minutes per week and individual progress is monitored by the teacher aide and teacher. These lessons focus on using ICTs, such as email, smart board, digital cameras, basic computer functions, iDevices and other internet based programs. As well as lessons delivered by TAOO4, ICT's are integrated into daily learning experiences.

Social Climate

Julia Creek State School is a hub of the Julia Creek community. Students, staff and parents show a great deal of pride and ownership over their school and its development. A whole-school supportive environment, monitored by all staff, supports children's social needs. Support staff includes access to a Chaplain, Guidance Officer, Speech Pathologist and learning support teacher aides. The support staff work in liaison with other agencies where necessary, such as Centacare, North & West Queensland Primary Health Care, Julia Creek Hospital and McKinlay Shire Council (Community Nurse, Sport and Recreation Officer).

It is the intent of Julia Creek State School to provide a safe and caring social environment for our students. Many initiatives are implemented across the school year to provide students with education and skills to become resilient, functional and well-informed

citizens. Structured lessons are delivered fortnightly and form part of a social skilling program that focuses on anti-bullying education. The social skilling program aims to enable students to cope with feelings of fear, worry and depression by building resilience and self-esteem through the active and explicit teaching of cognitive and emotional skills. The school works closely with the Queensland Police Service to provide an Adopt-a-Cop to build positive relationships between police personnel and all members of the school community.

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Performance measure			
Percentage of parent/caregivers who agree [#] that:	2012	2013	2014
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	100%	100%	100%
this is a good school (S2035)	95%	100%	100%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	95%	100%	88%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	100%	100%	100%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	95%	87%	100%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	95%	87%	100%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	100%	100%	100%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	89%	100%	88%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	95%	100%	100%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	90%	93%	88%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	95%	100%	100%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	100%	93%	100%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	90%	93%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	90%	87%	75%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	90%	93%	100%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	86%	93%	75%

Performance measure			
Percentage of students who agree [#] that:	2012	2013	2014
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	100%	100%	100%
they like being at their school* (S2036)	100%	100%	85%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	100%	100%	92%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	100%	100%	100%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	100%	100%	100%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	100%	100%	92%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	95%	50%	85%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	100%	75%	100%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	95%	100%	100%

Performance measure			
Percentage of students who agree# that:	2012	2013	2014
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	90%	75%	92%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	100%	100%	100%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	95%	100%	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	95%	100%	92%

Performance measure			
Percentage of school staff who agree# that:	2012	2013	2014
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)		100%	100%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)		100%	100%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)		100%	71%
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)		100%	100%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)		100%	100%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)		100%	100%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)		100%	86%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)		100%	71%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)		100%	100%
their school is well maintained (S2078)		100%	100%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)		100%	100%

* Nationally agreed student and parent/caregiver items were incorporated in the School Opinion Survey in 2012.

'Agree' represents the percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement. Due to a major redevelopment of the surveys (parent/caregiver and student in 2012; staff in 2013), comparisons with results from previous years are not recommended.

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Involving parents in their child's education

Parents are offered a range of opportunities to become involved in their children's education. Some of these strategies include;

- parent information sessions,
- parent volunteers in classrooms,
- regular volunteer involvement in Parents & Citizens Association's activities,
- formal & informal parent/teacher interviews,
- written semester report cards,
- opinion surveys and special purpose committees (Campdraft, Dirt and Dust festival).
- our open door policy (parents are always welcome)
- invitations to classroom activities
- involvement in activities such as tuckshop volunteers, sporting events, parades and excursions.
- QSchools App

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Julia Creek State School is committed to reducing the school's environmental footprint. The school has implemented an environmental management plan designed to decrease the amount of physical waste expended by the school, reduce the consumption of water and lessen the usage of electricity. Water timers were fitted to all tap fittings within the school and irrigation systems were installed as part of an initiative supported by the McKinlay Shire Council to help reduce the consumption of water for irrigation purposes. Lights, computers and air conditioners are powered down when not in use and during vacation periods.

Years	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2011-2012	81,777	120
2012-2013	53,926	120
2013-2014	65,426	0

The consumption data is compiled from sources including ERM, Ergon reports and utilities data entered into OneSchool by each school. The data provides an indication of the consumption trend in each of the utility categories which impact on the school's environmental footprint.

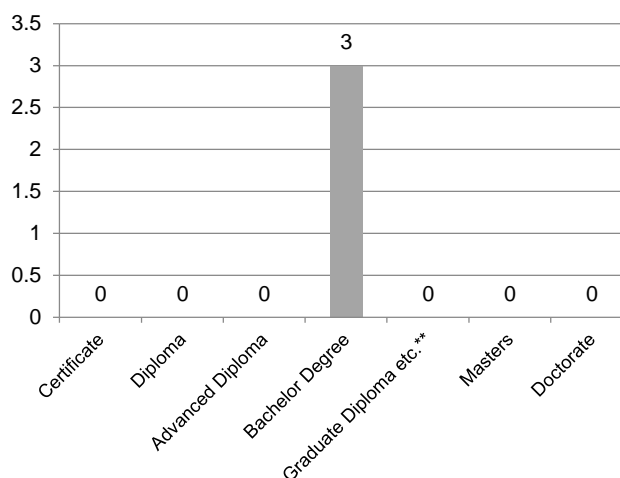
Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2014 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff*	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	3	5	0
Full-time equivalents	3	3	0

Qualification of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Number of Teaching Staff *
Certificate	0
Diploma	0
Advanced Diploma	0
Bachelor Degree	3
Graduate Diploma etc.**	0
Masters	0
Doctorate	0
Total	3



*Teaching staff includes School Leaders

**Graduate Diploma etc. includes Graduate Diploma, Bachelor Honours Degree, and Graduate Certificate.

Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2014 were \$3450

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Improving pedagogical practice in reading and writing.
- OneSchool training and functionality.
- First Aid training

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2014 was 100%.

Average staff attendance

	2012	2013	2014
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	100%	100%	99%

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year

From the end of the previous school year, 100% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2014 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

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government
 Non-government

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 webpage.

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

Performance of our students

Key student outcomes**Student attendance**

	2012	2013	2014
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	92%	87%	90%

The overall attendance rate in 2014 for all Queensland Primary schools was 92%.

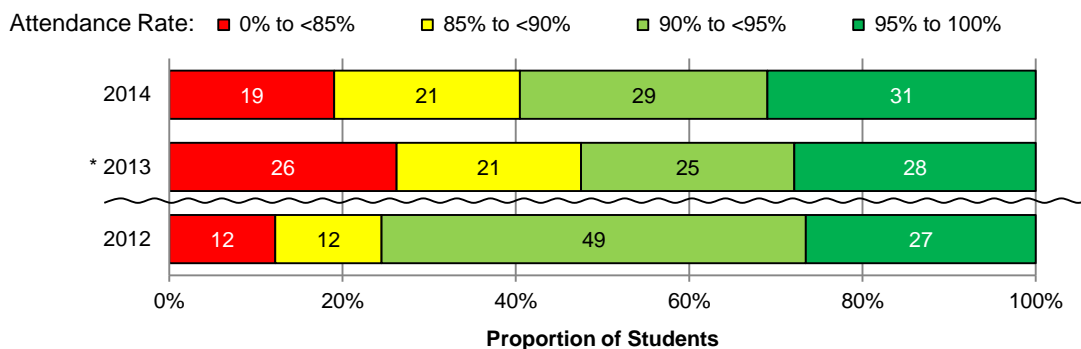
Student attendance rate for each year level (shown as a percentage)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
2012	93%	92%	93%	97%	94%	83%	94%					
2013	86%	91%	90%	91%	87%	88%	89%					
2014	91%	86%	91%	89%	90%	84%	95%					

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Student attendance distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



*The method for calculating attendance changed in 2013 – care should be taken when comparing data after 2012 to that of previous years.

Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

Non-attendance is managed in state schools in line with the DETE 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.

Each of the teaching staff at Julia Creek State School is responsible for marking their class roll electronically twice a day using OneSchool. When a student is absent from school, parents and caregivers are encouraged to either phone the school or provide a note explaining the absence. If a student is absent for a period of two days or more without an explanation, a phone call is made to parents and caregivers to determine the reason for absence.

The school takes a proactive approach to minimising absenteeism through attendance awards, parent conversations and newsletter items that publish the school's current overall attendance rate.

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/>.

To access our NAPLAN results, 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

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector Government
 Non-government

Where it says '**Search by school name**', type in the name of the school whose NAPLAN results 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 able to access NAPLAN data. If you are unable to access the internet, please contact the school for a paper copy of our school's NAPLAN results.

Achievement – Closing the Gap

Julia Creek State School is committed to providing the best possible education for our indigenous students by imbedding indigenous perspectives into the curriculum planning process and the organisation of school events. At Julia Creek State School, we aim to design learning experiences that are tailored to meet the needs of every student. Strategies to improve indigenous student academic outcomes include targeted literacy and numeracy support.