

2016 QUALITY TEACHING & LEARNING

Statement on commitment to quality teaching:

The aim of the partnership between school community members and schools is to develop socially responsible young people who are capable of making informed decisions. This is achieved through an effective social, cultural and academic curriculum which caters for the individual needs of students.

In line with the Student Welfare Policy of the Department of Education, this school aims to enhance effective learning and teaching by:

- Encouraging students to take responsibility for their own learning and behavior;
- Identifying and catering for the individual learning needs of students;
- Establishing well-managed teaching and learning environments;
- Ensuring that learning activities build on prior knowledge and experiences and are socially and culturally relevant;
- Providing frequent opportunities for students and their parents to discuss learning programs and student behaviour and progress;
- Identifying key social skills and developing plans for all students to acquire them, or make progress towards them, over time;
- Ensuring that gender and equity issues are recognized and addressed across the curriculum.

A number of programs enhance effective learning and teaching at Pagewood Public School:

- **A Teacher/Librarian** develops our students' library skills, research skills and literature. The librarian and the class teacher plan collaboratively. Students are able to borrow from our well-resourced library.
- **Information and Communication Technology** programs provide all students with access to technology to enhance their learning in all Key Learning Areas. Each classroom is equipped with at least two computers for access during class time. In addition, classes are able to access sets of desktop computers, laptops and tablets.
- All students choose between undertaking either the **Mandarin or French language** program for approximately 35 minutes weekly.
- K-2 classes have a ½ hour **Gymnastics** program for one term.
- **English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EAL/D)** instruction is provided for students whose first language is not English. The EAL/D teacher works with students in small groups and within the classroom.
- A **Learning and Support Teacher (LaST)** provides small group and individual instruction for students experiencing difficulty with literacy and numeracy skills. The LaST also trains and co-ordinates volunteer tutors.
- **The Resource Allocation Model (RAM)** provides additional support to identified students in literacy and numeracy. RAM equity loadings are for: socio-economic background, Aboriginal background, English Language proficiency and low-level adjustment for disability.
- **Funding Support programs** provide additional support to students with disabilities to be integrated into mainstream classrooms.
- All students have access to a **School Counsellor**. The counsellor provides assistance to students experiencing emotional, social and learning problems.
- Students have many opportunities to demonstrate **academic excellence** at Pagewood Public School, through class-based assessment activities and external tests. A range of other opportunities is also provided for students to demonstrate academic excellence. Students compete in the Zone and Regional Public Speaking Competition, Premier's Reading Challenge, Premier's Sporting Challenge and Premier's Spelling Competition, ICAS testing program..
- Students have many opportunities to display their artistic and creative talents. **The choir** performs regularly at a wide variety of school and community events as well as the Cantabile festival at the Opera House. Students in Year 3 – 6 are eligible to join the school **Band**. The Band performs at a number of school events as well as at the Daceyville Big Band Bash and the Engadine Band Festival. Students from Y2-6 audition for our high-performing **Dance** groups which are regularly selected for the State Dance Festival. Other dance programs are available to all students.
- All students participate in weekly **fitness and sporting** activities. Students from Kinder to Year 2 have a weekly sports session that aims to develop skills. Swimming and Athletics Carnivals are held annually and students who are successful at these participate in the Zone Carnivals. In addition, students participate in clinics in sports such as AFL, soccer, softball, netball and cricket to improve their skills. Each year a two-week intensive Swimming Scheme is held so that students in Years 2 and 3 can improve their swimming skills.

- The school has a number of specific programs designed to meet the **personal, social and welfare needs** of students. These include:
 - Prefect group
 - Anti-Bullying Policy
 - Child Protection
 - Drug Education
 - Assessment & Reporting
 - Excursions
 - Aboriginal education
 - Personalised Learning Plans
 - Healthy canteens
 - Bounce Back (anti-bullying program)
 - Asthma Education
 - Anaphylaxis training

