



	Address	1,018 Rode Road, McDowall. Q. 4053. P.O. Box 493. Everton Park. Q. 4053.
	Phone	07 3872 5333
	Fax	07 3872 5300
	Email	The_principal@mcdowallss.eq.edu.au
	Website	www.mcdowallss.eq.edu.au

Principal's Foreword

Introduction

The **purpose** of the McDowall State School is to deliver professional quality preparatory and primary education curriculum and teaching services within a supportive school learning environment facilitating achievement of personal excellence. Our **vision** is for all students to experience success and to assume increasing levels of self-responsibility in the achievement of pre-determined learning outcomes within a supportive learning context strengthened by partnerships.

We **aim** to: (a) Collaboratively address school and system needs (b) Tailor education to our students and community (c) Actively promote education and innovation; and (d) Build partnerships.

We **believe** that we can only *achieve the best outcomes for all students* when life-long learning is embraced by our school community.

We will **achieve the best outcomes for all students** through a commitment towards: Excellence, Connectedness, Resilience, Creativity, Integrity, Responsibility, Equity & Diversity; and Life-long learning.

The McDowall State School **seeks** to equip students with skills that will enable them to be active participants in a social, economic and cultural society. This is done by: (a) Putting students first (b) Supporting each other (c) Promoting equality, equity and respect; and (d) Focusing on quality and achievement.

* A Focus on the Child. * A Quality Curriculum. * Effective Learning and Teaching. * Partnerships.

SCHOOL RULES	SCHOOL MOTTO
Respect for Yourself	Courtesy in conduct
Respect for Others	Honesty in judgement
Take Responsibility for Your Own Actions	Knowledge on which to base informed decisions

Future Outlook

KEY PLANNING PRIORITIES FOR 2009:

Further improvement of literacy and numeracy learning outcomes for all students

Provision of professional development and training for all staff in the teaching of student literacy and numeracy outcomes across all key learning areas

Analysis of school literacy and numeracy student achievement data to inform further school curriculum and teaching pedagogy refinement

Student Profiling through 'One School' (a) Student Reporting (b) School Curriculum (c) Student Assessment (d) Learning Interventions (e) Behaviour Interventions (f) Extra-curricula Activity

Enhanced professional development and training for all staff in the use of ICTs within key learning areas to improve student learning outcomes

Exploration of flexible options in the delivery of educational programmes by use of ICT

Refocusing and confirmation of School Library services and support toward (a) Literacy (b) Literature

Implement the P-12 Curriculum Framework for Queensland State Schools

Continue implementation of the Early Years Curriculum Guidelines P-3 and the Queensland Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting (QCAR) Framework for Years 1-9

Further development and refinement of the School Website

Implement greater support, for Indigenous students and professional development for teachers to improve Indigenous student performance outcomes

Implement greater support for Defence students and their families

Further refurbish and redevelop the school as a public asset, a centre for student learning; and community engagement

Highlight 'Science' as a key learning area (a) Improve teaching aid and resource levels (b) Foster industry and community links

Review and redraft the 'Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students'

Implement a 'Triennial School Review 2006-9' and draft a 'Strategic Plan 2010-12' for the next three years

Further develop staff performance through 'developmental supervision'

Continue to promote safe and healthy learning environments within the school

Continue to align school policy and procedure with the Education (General Provisions) Act & Regulations 2006

Our school at a glance

School Profile

TOTAL STUDENT ENROLMENT: 112 Preparatory Year + 736 Primary = 848 students. Band 10 School.

YEAR LEVELS OFFERED: Preparatory Year to Year 7. Co-Educational (Boys and Girls in all classes).

McDowall State School is a provider of Preparatory and Primary Education. The school was established in 1974 and takes its name from one of the distinguished early settlers of Brisbane. The area has a growing population of around 6,630 people with high percentage of home ownership (83.8%) and employment (95.6%). 79.4% of the population identify as Australian born. Median age of suburban resident is 34 years. Our Campus enjoys a well deserved reputation for high academic, cultural and sporting achievement, attention to special needs and quality co-curricular studies. The school is located on a hilly plateau of 6.6 hectares amidst attractive native landscaped grounds. Well appointed classrooms are complemented by outdoor teaching spaces, covered play areas, an environmental study area, as well as a Music Centre, School Hall, Community Access Centre (incorporating Before/After School Child Care), Curriculum Centre, Computer Centre and School Library. Adventure Playgrounds, Multi-Purpose Courts and Sporting Ovals exist to support the physical development of our students. The four Sports Houses (Acacia, Banksia, Grevillea and Melaleuca) have been named after flora found on the school site. In better managing student enrolment growth and trends, an Enrolment Management Policy applies.

Curriculum Offerings

School Core Curriculum Programmes are implemented for each of the Key Learning Areas.

English	Mathematics	Studies of Society and Environment	Science	Health and Physical Education	The Arts	Technology	Language Other Than English (Years 4-7)
---------	-------------	------------------------------------	---------	-------------------------------	----------	------------	---

- HRE
- Visual
- Technology
- Japanese
- You Can Do It Programme
- Dance
- Design
- Drama
- ICT
- Health
- Media
- Phys. Ed
- Music
- Fitness

DISTINCTIVE CURRICULUM OFFERINGS: Students may access according to their prior achievement, ability and standing the following distinctive curriculum programmes: Inter-school Sport, Representative Sport, Sports Extension, Cross Country, Instrumental Music (Brass, Woodwind, Percussion & Strings), Gifted and Talented Programmes, Performing Arts Celebration Concerts, Public Speaking, Artistry, Performing Arts (including Drama and Choir), Competitions (including Mathematics, Opti-Minds, Literacy, Chess, Volleyball, Art and Writing), Technology Applications (including Robotics and Design), Assembly Presentations, Book Week Authors, Defence Force Student Support Programme, Open Days, Student Leadership Programme, Student Council, Royal Life Saving; and Seniors Programme.

EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES: Students with a general interest in or having mastered core curriculum programme expectations may access the following extra-curricula activities: Art Extension, Sports Extension and Training, Lap-athon, Performing Arts (Stage) Extension, Qld Youth Choir Auditions, Years 6-7 Buddy Programme toward Years 1-2, Year Level Camping Programme, Year Level Excursion Programme, Chess Club, Art / Craft Club, Library Monitors, Book Club; and other Extension Activities planned by teachers in better responding to student potential. After-school 'Auskick', tennis coaching and drama is provided by community organisations. Out-of-School Hours Care Programme is available.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS ASSISTING LEARNING: Computer (ICT) technology is provided and maintained in all P-7 classrooms. A Computer Centre has been established for whole class and/or small group instruction. It is often used by students during recess periods. On average 3 computers are located in each P-3 classroom and 8 computers in each Years 4-7 classroom. Additionally, three portable laptop trolleys of 15 laptops, can be accessed for class use. Class teachers are conversant with technology use and applications. Technology use is integrated within class curriculum programmes as a critical learning tool. Computer (ICT) technology is networked throughout the school, to an intranet and with monitored, screened internet capability. Strict protocols are in place to regulate student online activity.

Our school at a glance

Social Climate

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is 'getting a good education' at this school: 96%

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is 'happy' to go to this school: 89%

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is 'safe' at this school: 89%

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is 'treated fairly' at this school: 86%

Percentage of parents satisfied that the school makes them feel welcome: 89%

Percentage of parents satisfied that they have opportunities to 'participate' in the life of the school: 85%

Percentage of parents satisfied that school staff are 'approachable' when they want to talk about their child: 86%

Percentage of parents satisfied with the 'interest' that the teacher takes in their child: 86%

Percentage of parents satisfied that this is a 'good' school: 93%

Percentage of students satisfied that they are 'getting a good education' at this school: 85%

Percentage of students satisfied that they are 'safe' at this school: 84%

Percentage of students satisfied that this is a 'good' school: 81%

Involving Parents in their Child's Education.

McDowall State School is strongly supported by the local community. Committees and Working Groups include:

- Parents' and Citizens' Association

(including Fundraising, Tuckshop, Book & Uniform Sales, Facilities Hire, Communication, Safety, Tartan Network, Grounds and Traffic)

- School Advisory Council
- Outside School Hours Child Care
- Tartan Network
- Safety & Safe.St
- Grounds & Working Bee (Each Term)

The relationship between school and home is a significant driver of school success and achievement. Parents are proud of their 'Great State School' and actively support school policies and procedures in seeking the very best for their children. This is evident in the student dress standard, homework and general conduct, standard and demeanour of McDowall State School students. Student success and achievement is due to an effective teacher / parent partnership. This partnership is fostered at the Enrolment Interview and Induction Meeting conducted by the Deputy Principal. The 'Tartan Times' is published fortnightly and is placed on the school website.

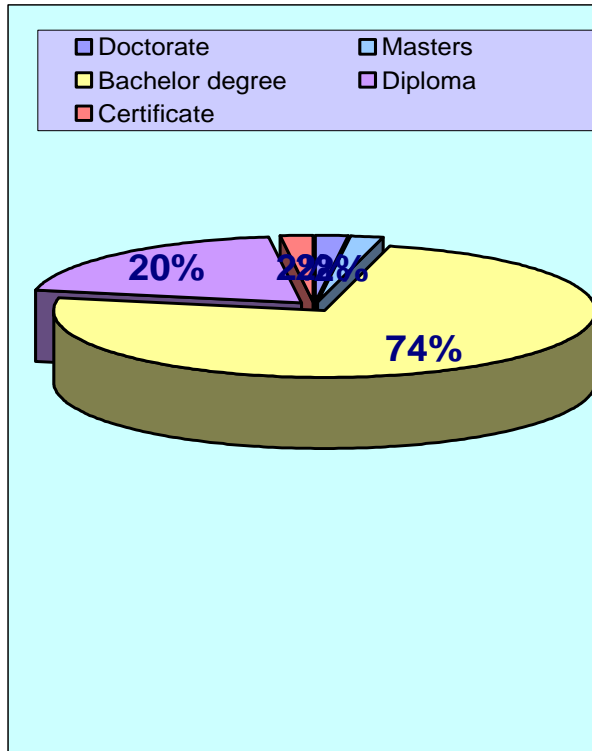
Parent Information Meetings for all classes are held each February and July to ensure that parents are provided with opportunity in keeping abreast with classroom programming, activity and child involvement. Student Progress Reports are issued in June and December. Parents are requested to attend Parent / Teacher Interviews each July to discuss child progress and achievement so that in partnership, both parent and teacher can give each child the very best opportunity for learning success each year. Parents are also invited to attend an End of Year Interview in December.

Parents are regularly encouraged to assist within designated programmes across the school in assistance and support of students. This may be performed as a volunteer class assistant, as a Year Level representative, as a Performing Arts support parent, as a volunteer at the Tuckshop or Bookshop / Uniform Shop, within a Working Party addressing a school project, within a fundraising project; or parent social network. A P. & C. Association Information Morning Tea is held annually for new parents. Grandparents are welcome to assist in various roles within the school. A Grandparents Morning and Morning Tea is held annually each August.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all Teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	1
Masters	1
Bachelor degree	37
Diploma	10
Certificate	1



Expenditure on and Teacher Participation in Professional Development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$16,218.00.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Implementation of the Preparatory Year and Early Phase P-3
- Early Phase P-3 Literacy
- Mathematics Education
- Science Education
- Middle Phase Years 4-9
- Curriculum (including content, strategy, assessment and reporting)
- Safety (including First Aid, Resuscitation, Anaphylaxis Response, Medication Management)

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 95%.

Average Staff Attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2008.

Our staff profile

Proportion of Staff Retained from Previous School Year.

From the end of the 2007 school year, 93% of staff were 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 95%.

Key Outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) Results. Reading, Writing, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, and Numeracy results for Years 3, 5 and 7.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7
Reading	Average score for the school	404	492	556
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	91%	94%
Writing	Average score for the school	421	491	570
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	96%	94%
Spelling	Average score for the school	387	481	556
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	95%	92%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	415	509	554
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	96%	94%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	372	473	559
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008	92%	96%

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students <i>not</i> requiring additional support
Reading	90%
Writing	94%
Number	96%

Other Key Outcomes

Value Added

Year 2 Net Achievement:

There are significantly fewer students (as a percentage of population) requiring additional support at McDowall State School than in other State and Like Schools.

Year 2 Net scores well exceed State and Like School mean scores across Reading, Writing and Number.

Year 3 Achievement:

Year 3 Literacy and Numeracy scores all well exceed State mean scores. Only in the Year 3 Numeracy score did the Like Schools mean score slightly higher in 2008.

Year 5 Achievement:

Year 5 Literacy and Numeracy scores all well exceed State mean scores. Only in the Year 5 Numeracy score did the Like Schools mean score slightly higher in 2008.

Year 7 Achievement:

Year 7 Literacy and Numeracy scores all well exceed both State and Like Schools mean scores in 2008. Only in the Year 7 Numeracy did the Like Schools mean score approach the McDowall SS score in 2008.

Middle Phase (Years 4-7):

District Mathematics Tournament: 3rd Place

Maths, Science, Technology Day (Wavell SHS): Year 6 team 1st Place. Year 7 team 1st Place

Language, Literacy Challenge Day (Wavell SHS): Year 6 team 1st & 2nd Place. Year 7 team 2nd Place

Opti-Minds Challenge: Honours (1 team) + Regional 1st (1 team)

District Chess Tournament: 1st Place and Runner Up

Volleyball Challenge (Craigslea SHS): 20 students competed. Both teams 3rd Place

Mathematics Olympiad: 30 students. 1 student in top 10% in Australia

Performing Arts:

Instrumental Music Honours Camp: 12 students selected

Instrumental Music Beginners Camp: 19 students selected

Brisbane School Band Festival: 3 x Silver Medals

Performing Arts Celebration Concerts held at conclusion of Terms 2, 3 & 4

Fanfare: String Ensemble awarded a Bronze Award

17 students sat Australian Music Examination Board Exams: External Graded Music.

2 students sat Trinity College Music Exams.

1 student sat Australia & New Zealand Cultural Arts Exam.

169 students participated in the 3 x School Choirs

Performance of our students

School Representative Sport: Representing North District

54 McDowall State School students were selected to represent North District at Regional Level Competition in 2008

- Swimming: 7 students
- Cross Country: 15 students
- Track and Field: 28 students
- Hockey: 9 students
- Touch: 6 students
- Rugby League: 2 students
- AFL: 6 students
- Soccer: 2 students
- Tennis: 1 student
- Softball: 4 students

School Representative Sport: Representing Metropolitan North Region

7 McDowall State School students were selected to represent Metropolitan North Region in State Level Competition in 2008

- Hockey: 2 students
- Track and Field: 5 students

Parent, Student and Teacher Satisfaction with the School

Parent Satisfaction with the School:

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is getting a 'good' education at this school: 96%

Percentage of parents satisfied that this is a 'good' school: 93%

Student Satisfaction with the School:

Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a 'good' education at this school: 85%

Percentage of students satisfied that this is a 'good' school: 81%

Staff Satisfaction with the School:

Percentage of staff satisfied that this school is a well organised place to work: 94%

Percentage of staff satisfied that there is a good team spirit among staff at this school: 94%

Percentage of staff satisfied that this school is a good place in which to work: 99%

Percentage of staff 'happy' working in this school: 100%