



School plan 2018-2020

Cowra High School 8148



School background 2018–2020

School vision statement

Cowra High School provides an educational experience which meets the current needs of students while equipping them to be lifelong learners in a constantly evolving world environment.

School context

Cowra High School is a comprehensive school with an enrollment of 540 students, including approximately 20% Aboriginal students. The school is located in the town of Cowra, situated in the Central West of NSW. Students have a broad range of socio-economic backgrounds. The school embraces the Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) ethos. Cowra High School runs a school based selective Gifted and Talented stream in Stages 4 and 5. There is also a Support Unit, consisting of four classes for students with mild and moderate intellectual disabilities and mental health disabilities. The school has a proud history of outstanding academic, sporting, cultural, creative & performing arts achievements and has strong ties with our parents and the Cowra community. Cowra High School is part of the Southern Lachlan Trade Training Centre with facilities in Metal & Engineering and Primary Industries and the Lachlan Valley Learning Community. We offer a broad and innovative curriculum and deliver both academic & vocational courses.

School planning process

Our school planning team consisted of representatives from the School Executive. Consultation was with the school executive and the entire school staff through workshops, with opportunities for feedback on a number of different dates. Input from community stakeholders has occurred on several occasions through various mediums, including face to face meetings, focus groups and an online survey. Draft school plans were presented to the school staff, Parents' & Citizens' Association and the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group for feedback.

School strategic directions 2018–2020



Purpose:
To develop respectful and responsible members of the school community who value lifelong learning.

Purpose:
To build a culture of collaboration and communication between the school and the community in order to improve learning outcomes and life opportunities for our students.

Purpose:
To deliver a high quality curriculum that meets the needs and expectations of our school and community.

Strategic Direction 1: Positive School Culture

Purpose

To develop respectful and responsible members of the school community who value lifelong learning.

Improvement Measures

Whole day attendance rates have improved, with a reduction in class based truancy.

The school has achieved Tier 3 (the highest level) in its PBL journey.

People

Students

- Engaged in classroom activities
- Accept ownership/ responsibility for behaviour
- Display a sense of belonging and pride in the school

Staff

- Engage in professional learning directed at teaching practice
- Consistently practice PBL strategies
- Consistently follow school and Department student management procedures

Leaders

- Actively engage in PBL strategies and their development
- Model positive approaches to student management
- Ensure consistent adherence to school and Department student management policies and procedures
- communicate and work with parent/carers regarding Department and school expectations of student attendance and behaviour

Parents/Carers

- Actively work with students to attend school and engage with learning in class

Processes

Explore and establish programs designed to re engage students identified with attendance or behaviour issues.

Develop PBL based processes that recognises and encourages positive attendance patterns in students.

Development of attendance strategy that identifies motivation behind lack of attendance and classroom truancy and then addresses these motivation.

Evaluation Plan

Attendance, truancy, suspension and behaviour referrals will be monitored via the school's electronic data base.

Practices and Products

Practices

The school attendance plan is implemented.

Students are recognised and celebrated for positive attendance.

Where appropriate, the Learning Hub is utilised to re engage students with school.

NGOs work with the Attendance team and/or Learning and Support Teams to address student wellbeing.

The school is implementing PBL Tier 3 protocols.

Products

Average school attendance rates have improved when compared to the average in 2017.

Period by period attendance has improved in comparison to the baseline established at the conclusion of Term one 2018.

There is a reduction in the number of suspensions when compared to 2017.

Strategic Direction 1: Positive School Culture

People
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage with the school Attendance and/or Wellbeing team as need arises.
Community Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NGOs such as HeadSpace and the Neighbourhood Centre will coordinate with the School's Attendance and Wellbeing team around case management.• Local business will work with the Careers Advisor relating to work experience opportunities.

Strategic Direction 2: School and Community

Purpose

To build a culture of collaboration and communication between the school and the community in order to improve learning outcomes and life opportunities for our students.

Improvement Measures

Students accessed work placement or work experience in Cowra if the industries exist in town.

A high proportion of Cowra High students attend all community events the school is involved with.

People

Staff

Engage with the development and implementation of a school wide promotions plan.

Develop opportunities to engage local employers in school events.

Enhance the school's relationship with local service clubs.

Leaders

recognise and promote opportunities to enhance the school's standing in the community and with employers.

Actively encourage students and staff involvement in positive community events.

Explore strategies to enhance school and parent/carer communication.

Community Partners

Local employers and service clubs utilise the school as a first point of call for connection with the youth of Cowra.

Employers willing provide opportunities for work placement and work experience for Cowra High students.

Community organisations recognise the positive involvement of Cowra High students in the community.

Students

Involvement in significant community events such as ANZAC day, Break Out commemorations and the Festival of

Processes

Utilise the expertise from the DoE Communication directorate to collaboratively finalise the development of a school promotions plan.

Actively seek improved relationships with local employers and service clubs.

Formulate a team to develop strategies to increase student and staff participation in community events.

Evaluation Plan

Work placement records will be maintained and reviewed after each work placement period by the VET coordinator.

Work experience records will be maintain by the school careers adviser and reviewed twice a year.

A record of all student involvement throughout the year will be maintained by the school's promotion team.

Practices and Products

Practices

Host a minimum of two local business/employer events at the school each year.

Implement the school promotions plan.

Community events are promoted within the school community as important components of school life.

School representatives speak at service club meetings on a regular bases.

Products

Students accessed work placement or work experience in Cowra if the industries exist in town.

A high proportion of Cowra High students attend all community events the school is involved with.

Cowra High is recognised as an active member of the Cowra community.

Strategic Direction 2: School and Community

People
International Understanding. Positive commitment to work placement and work experience.
Parents/Carers
Encourage student involvement in school/community events. Recognise the breadth of opportunity for student involvement in the community.

Strategic Direction 3: Quality Teaching and Learning

Purpose

To deliver a high quality curriculum that meets the needs and expectations of our school and community.

Improvement Measures

The average value added growth in 7 to 9 and 9 to 12 increases.

Average HSC results for each subject will increase over the average results for the last 5 years where that data exists.

People

Students

Engaged in their own learning .

Striving to meet their potential.

Responding positively to opportunities to improve general learning skills development.

Staff

Engaging with professional learning opportunities.

Development of study skills program for Stage 6.

utilise available data relating to student performance.

Implementing whole school strategies to improve student learning outcomes.

Leaders

Maintain direction towards set targets.

Directly support development of required programs.

Provide required resources.

Parents/Carers

encourage their students to fully participate in learning opportunities and programs as required.

Processes

Explore and implement an approach to enhance classroom teaching through the "Curiosity and Powerful Learning" model.

Develop a strategy to address the numeracy and literacy needs of identified students falling just short of Band 8 in Year 9 NAPLAN.

Target Professional learning to address teaching strategies for the implementation of of the new Stage 6 syllabuses.

Development of a program to address Stage 6 study skills for students.

Evaluation Plan

NAPLAN and HSC data.

Practices and Products

Practices

CHIPs is also effectively supporting students just below the top two NAPLAN bands.

An effective whole of school approach to the specific development of numeracy and reading in Junior students is embedded.

Stage 6 students are engaged in regular study skills sessions.

Products

The proportion of Year 7 and Year 9 students in the top two NAPLAN bands for reading and numeracy has increased when compared to the proportion achieved in their last NAPLAN tests.

Average HSC results for each subject has increased over the relevant average result for the last 5 years. Where that data exists.