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Principal's foreword

Introduction

"Divided by Distance, United by Voice"

The Charleville School of Distance Education has an ongoing commitment to building positive partnerships with parents and effective relationships with students to maintain the educational engagement of all students. Students' families are spread over a wide area of Southern and South-Western Queensland.

Our school offers home based learners a program that incorporates:

1. Curriculum materials in both hard copy and electronic forms that cover all key learning areas.
2. An On-Air program that is offered on a daily basis. This gives students the chance to interact with their teachers and fellow students and may be supported by interactive learning depending on student /school connectivity.
3. A Field Service program that is offered to P-10 students throughout the year and ranges from 1 day events to 7 day residential camps. These provide social and educational activities for all.
4. Home tutor support that includes a Home Tutor Conference, On-Air sessions, workshops at Field events and the support of a Parent Liaison Officer.

The staff are enthusiastic, professional and come from experienced and less experienced backgrounds to stay for an average of three years. They are highly motivated and totally committed to working closely together and with the Parents and Home Tutors to achieve the best learning outcomes for the students.

Future outlook

The Charleville school of Distance Education has a highly professional team of teachers and support staff who, with the Home Tutors are delivering a very sound curriculum.

Priorities for 2009 are:

- to improve on the staff and parent satisfaction through close monitoring, attention to feedback and professional development in the areas of Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting and Personal Communication and Relationships.

- To increase the educational standard of students displaying poor results from national testing in reading, writing and number by targeting intervention and school funding in this direction.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: 218

Year levels offered: Prep - Year 10

Coeducational or single sex: Co-educational

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Agricultural Studies Level 1 and 2 (Years 8,9 and 10)
- ICT specialist lesson for every student per fortnight

Extra curricula activities

- Recorder Club
- Choir
- Keyboard Club
- Violin
- ICT (Smarties Club)
- Readers' Club

How computers are used to assist learning

Children enrolled as Geographically Isolated students are supported through government subsidies to purchase and maintain a computer and internet connection as the Distance Education program is becoming an on line program. Students: use Blackboard on line classrooms to share their work; email completed work to teachers; prepare digital presentations in many programs; use web conferencing to connect with their class; research and download information for their studies; and, communicate with their peers. This assists the teaching and learning by providing a much quicker turn around in marked responses from teachers as well as providing a greater depth of connectivity with the community beyond their home.

Our school commits one teaching FTE as an ICT Coordinator to support teachers, students and Home Tutors in the use of technology.

The school community is committed to exploration, innovation and embedded use of new technologies to improve the delivery of Distance Education.

Social climate

The Charleville School of Distance Education offers a multi-faceted program that includes Year 8 -10 Pastoral Care, and is complemented by an active Student Council. We also are involved in enrichment and extension programs that are offered by other agencies throughout the year.

Our school at a glance

Involving parents in their child's education.

Parents at the Charleville School of Distance education are an integral part of the teaching and learning that takes place at our school.

In delivering the curriculum, the generic papers are sent to the families or placed on a website and the student is guided by the Home Tutor through the unit. This is supported by lessons taught by a class teacher on air (teleconference) and through web conferencing each day. Parents have the ability to ring or email their child's teacher whenever they have a query about the curriculum.

Parents are involved in the P&C Committee, the School Council and the School Management committee. Parents are consulted through each of these forums in all areas of the delivery of the curriculum.

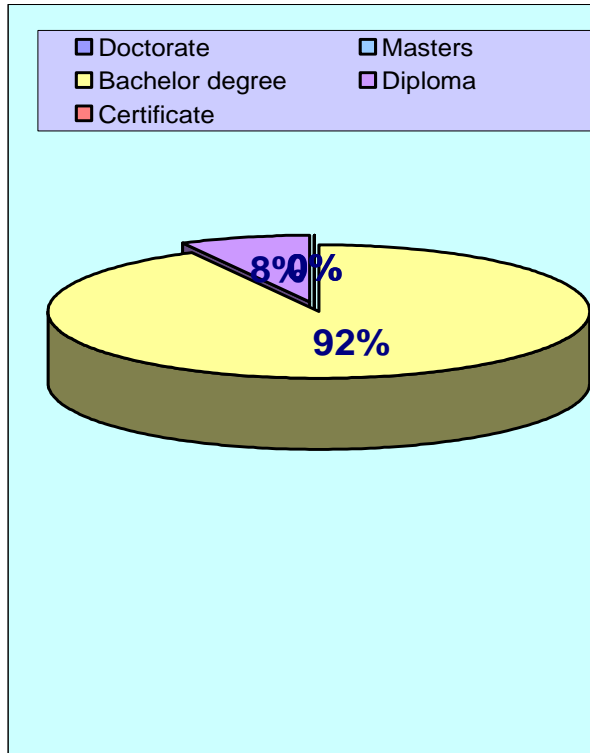
Our field events are a camp like situation where the Parents have responsibility for the catering and supervision of students when bathing and sleeping.

Parents have the support of a Parent Liaison Officer who provides support in times of need, around such issues as behaviour management, multi year levels, parenting, and contacts for further help.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	24
Diploma	2
Certificate	0



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 were \$27,616.86 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

Literacy
 ICT
 QCAR
 Code of Conduct
 Child Protection
 4 Wheel Drive Training
 Personal Development
 Austswim

- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 100%.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 96% in 2008.

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 72 % 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 100%.

Key outcomes

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.

Domain	Measures	Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	390	496	601	586
	Average score for Queensland	371.1	466.1	528.1	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	82 %	83%	93%	100%
Writing	Average score for the school	400	470	580	402
	Average score for Queensland	391.8	468.9	522.7	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	88%	91%	86 %	62%
Spelling	Average score for the school	382	466	551	607
	Average score for Queensland	366.7	462.0	528.0	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	88%	88%	86%	100%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	402	501	581	559
	Average score for Queensland	370.4	476.6	518.0	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	82 %	88%	86%	92%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	424	484	571	572
	Average score for Queensland	367.9	458.2	539.0	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard. 2008	94%	92%	86%	100 %

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	75%
Writing	90%
Number	85%

Performance of our students

Value added

Celebrations:

P&C recognised 5 Home tutors as Life Members for their dedication and commitment to the students and school.

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Percentage of students satisfied that they are getting a good education at school 91% (State 79%)

Percentage of parents satisfied that their child is getting a good education at school 77% (State 78%)

Percentage of parents satisfied that the school is a good school 83% (State 84%)

Percentage of teachers satisfied with morale at the school 96% (State 79%)

Thank you and acknowledgement:

To our home tutors – for your incredible contributions to your student(s) and our school.

To our amazing team who staff our school (both non-teaching and teaching) - for your professionalism and caring.

To our incredible students – for your fantastic, exciting and amazing personalities and abilities.