

Thargomindah State School (0409)

Queensland State School Reporting

2012 School Annual Report



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Webpages	Additional reporting information pertaining to Queensland state schools is located on the My School website and the Queensland Government data website.
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Principal's foreword

Introduction

This report is designed to provide a summary of the progress made at Thargomindah State School during 2012. We have a passionate school community supporting our motto *Knowledge, Courtesy and Truth*. This underpins our school community vision which is *Together for Tomorrow*. This report contains information about what makes our school "*The greatest school in the far south west*"—the multi-age learning environment, the exciting and engaging learning, the supportive learning environment and the commitment and dedication of all staff.

School progress towards its goals in 2012

Throughout the previous year Thargomindah State School made significant progress towards achieving the key strategic focus goals for 2012 these priority areas included:

Priority	Implemented	Completed
Improved Reading Comprehension Strategies	2012-2013	2013
Quality teaching- Explicit Teaching Framework	2012-2013	2013
Communication & Feedback	2012-2013	2013
Data Analysis & Assessment	2012	2012
Behaviour- Review Whole School Responsible Behaviour Policy	2012	2012

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Future outlook

Our school priorities for 2013 are as follows;

School and student performance

- *Reading- critical literacies*
- *Numeracy-Action Learning Research on mathematical comprehension*
- *Problem Solving*

Implementation of National Curriculum

- *School Alignment Planner (Term, Unit, Week level)*
- *Whole School Moderation Framework (to align with Cluster Moderation)*

Staff Development & Performance

- *Professional Development Plan*
- *Coaching and Feedback Framework*
- *Explicit Teaching Framework*

Community confidence

- *Increase parent engagement*
- *School Website*
- *Individual Student Learning Plans- Goal Setting*

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Year levels offered in 2012: Prep - Year 7

Total student enrolments for this school:

	Total	Girls	Boys	Enrolment Continuity (Feb – Nov)
2010	21	9	12	88%
2011	31	13	18	100%
2012	31	14	17	100%

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

Characteristics of the student body:

Thargomindah State School has a range of student backgrounds including, property families, and those families who live in town. Parents and carers of most students are employed in some capacity by the Bulloo Shire Council. 38% of our student body are indigenous. We currently have a female population of 44% and a male population of 56%.

Average Class sizes

Phase	Average Class Size		
	2010	2011	2012
Prep – Year 3	10	15	10
Year 4 – Year 10	8	11	15
Year 11 – Year 12	n/a	n/a	n/a

School Disciplinary Absences

Disciplinary Absences	Count of Incidents		
	2010	2011	2012
Short Suspensions - 1 to 5 days	0	1	1
Long Suspensions - 6 to 20 days	0	0	1
Exclusions	0	0	0
Cancellations of Enrolment	0	0	0

Our school at a glance

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

In addition to Key Learning Areas (National Curriculum) Students at Thargomindah State School have access to a range of distinctive curriculum offerings. These include;

- Specialist Kitchen & Garden lessons (Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program)
- Environmental Studies
- Emphasis on Technology and Independent learning
- Leading Reading
- Support-A-Talker
- Mathletics & Spellodrome

Extra curricula activities

Students at Thargomindah State School are offered a wide range of extra curricula activities. These include:

- Swimming Club – whole community involvement
- Student Representative Council
- School Athletics Carnival, Cunnamulla Districts Sport Events (Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming)
- Book Fair
- Under 8's Day Celebration
- ANZAC Day March and Ceremony
- School Performance and Academic Presentation Night
- Weekly Whole School Parade requiring students to prepare and complete different presentations

How Information and Communication Technologies are used to assist learning

Information and Communication Technologies are integral to the everyday teaching and learning at Thargomindah State School. Students use computers every day to research, gather data, publish and complete a variety of interactive activities. A smart board is regularly accessed by all teachers and used as an effective tool to teach new concepts and consolidate students' learning. A number of computer software and online programs are regularly used as a medium to deliver the core curriculum intent.

Social climate

The social climate within the school continues to reflect the happy and positive attitude of the students overall. They are responsible and enjoy the love of learning and there exists an enjoyable environment for them to continue this. School staff meet regularly, to discuss important issues as they arise as part of our commitment to planning. There is an easy and comfortable atmosphere that encourages each member to fully participate.

Our school at a glance

Parent, student and staff satisfaction with the school

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of parents/caregivers who agree that:	2012 [#]
their child is getting a good education at school	85.7%
this is a good school	100.0%
their child likes being at this school*	100.0%
their child feels safe at this school*	100.0%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school*	100.0%
their child is making good progress at this school*	100.0%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best*	100.0%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work*	100.0%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn*	100.0%
teachers at this school treat students fairly*	85.7%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns*	100.0%
this school works with them to support their child's learning*	100.0%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously*	100.0%
student behaviour is well managed at this school*	100.0%
this school looks for ways to improve*	100.0%
this school is well maintained*	85.7%

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of students who agree that:	2012 [#]
they are getting a good education at school	100.0%
they like being at their school*	100.0%
they feel safe at their school*	100.0%
their teachers motivate them to learn*	100.0%
their teachers expect them to do their best*	100.0%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work*	100.0%
teachers treat students fairly at their school*	100.0%

Our school at a glance

they can talk to their teachers about their concerns*	83.3%
their school takes students' opinions seriously*	100.0%
student behaviour is well managed at their school*	100.0%
their school looks for ways to improve*	100.0%
their school is well maintained*	100.0%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things*	83.3%

Performance measure (Nationally agreed items shown*)

Percentage of school staff who agree:	2012 [#]
that they have good access to quality professional development	83.3%
with the individual staff morale items	100.0%

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

[#] Percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement. Due to changes to the School Opinion Surveys in 2012, comparisons with results for previous years are not recommended.

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Involving parents in their child's education

Parents are encouraged to interact with their child's school through the following activities:

- Attending Friday Morning Parade
- Membership of the P&C Committee
- Newsletter contributions
- Individual Student Learning Plan Meetings (twice yearly)
- Sport Day Activities- Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics Carnivals.
- Special Days held at school to celebrate events, including; Crazy Hair Day, An Easter Egg Hunt, Anzac Day Service, Car Wash , School Concert and Graduation Dinner.

Our school at a glance

Reducing the school's environmental footprint

Data is sourced from school's annual utilities return and is reliant on the accuracy of these returns.

Thargomindah State School has made a concerted effort to reduce its environmental footprint this year. The solar schools program has been a major focus for the school. We are developing a sense of environmental awareness, with sustainable lifestyle programs being developed within the school and community.

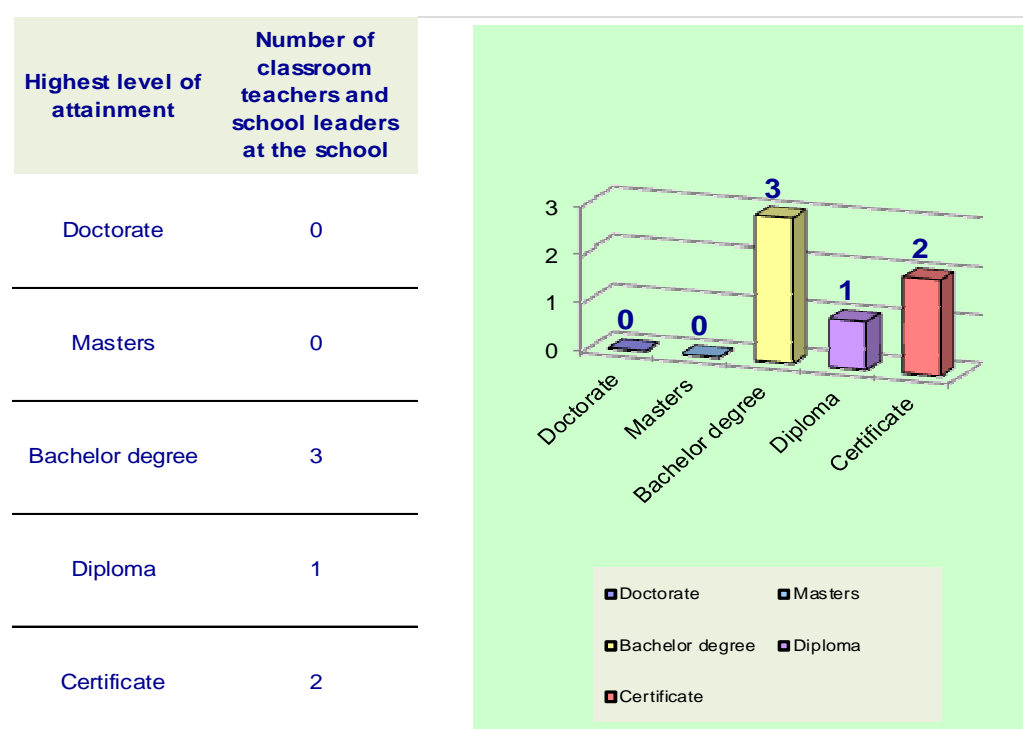
	Environmental footprint indicators	
	Electricity kWh	Water kL
2009-2010	16,554	0
2010-2011	5,719	60
2011-2012	34,480	0

Our staff profile

Staff composition, including Indigenous staff

2012 Workforce Composition	Teaching Staff	Non-teaching Staff	Indigenous Staff
Headcounts	3	4	<5
Full-time equivalents	2.5	2.3	<5

Qualifications of all teachers



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2012 were \$8851.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Essential Skills for Classroom Managements
- In service Symphony of Teaching and Learning
- Explicit Teaching Framework
- Support-A-Talker
- Pedagogy Coaching
- Cluster Moderation

Mandated Training including; Asbestos Awareness, Code of Conduct and Child Protection Training

The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2012 was 100%.

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

	2010	2011	2012
Staff attendance for permanent and temporary staff and school leaders.	97.7%	99.8%	97.5%

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 2012 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

GO

Search by suburb, town or postcode

Sector ☐ Government ☐ Non-government

SEARCH

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 web page.

School financial information is available by selecting '**School finances**' in the menu box in the top left corner of the school's entry web page. 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	2010	2011	2012
The overall attendance rate for the students at this school (shown as a percentage).	89%	90%	91%
The overall attendance rate in 2012 for all Queensland state Primary schools was 93%.			

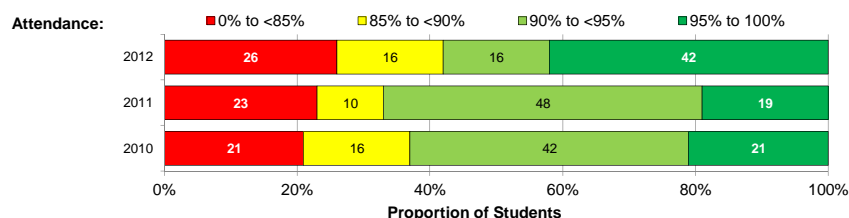
Student attendance rate for each year level (shown as a percentage)

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
2010	89%	90%	n/a	94%	92%	91%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2011	80%	94%	92%	85%	93%	95%	93%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2012	85%	84%	96%	90%	93%	93%	98%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

Student Attendance Distribution

The proportions of students by attendance range.



Description of how non-attendance is managed by the school

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

School rolls are marked twice daily. Non-attendance of three or more days unexplained, is followed up with a phone conversation from the school. The parents of Thargomindah SS students are very proactive informing the school when their child will not be attending. Quite often parents inform the school with a phone call or discussion with the classroom teacher before the expected absence.

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.

Performance of our students

Find a school

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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

Indigenous students at Thargomindah State School record a high attendance rate, in some instances a better attendance record than non-indigenous students.