



Horizons College of Learning & Enrichment

Annual Report 2018 (based on 2017 data)

School Profile

Horizons College of Learning & Enrichment (Horizons College) is a co-educational, independent, special assistance school based at 2 King Street, Caboolture Queensland. At the time of the 2017 Commonwealth census there were 110 students attending the College, comprising 62 males and 48 females. Nineteen of our students identified as indigenous and seven of our students had verified disabilities.

The College catered to students from year 7 to year 12 in 2017, with our first cohort of year 12 students graduating at the end of 2016. 2017 was the first year of enrolling any year 7 students.

Students enrol at the College after becoming disengaged from the mainstream education system.

Curriculum

Our approved curriculum model is a mix of school-developed programs, the Australian Curriculum, Queensland Studies Authority curriculum and accredited Vocational Education and Training.

Our students study core subjects but also have the opportunity to learn practical skills in areas such as:

- Hospitality - Students prepare food in our own commercial kitchen and also have the opportunity to develop barista skills at our 'Pride' cafe
- Retail and Customer Engagement
- Construction/woodwork
- Automotive
- Hairdressing/Beauty
- Business
- Visual art
- Information, Digital Media and Technology (with photography electives)

Students across all year levels can have experience in any of the above areas. Year 10-12 students participate in one week's work experience – offered twice during the year.

Our College aims to provide a highly personalised, authentic and meaningful learning experience to students, with an emphasis on critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability, ethical and intercultural understanding. Students have the opportunity to develop a strong connection to the broader community and a sense of belonging.

We have a strong link to our related entity, Worklinks Inc, which is a registered training organization, and which coordinates vocational education courses for Horizons College students.



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Extra-curricular Activities

Students have the opportunity to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities, including sporting activities, excursions, art, music.

Social Climate

Horizons College recognizes that some of our students require help with social and emotional issues and we employ Youth Workers who work one-on-one with students who may need their help.

Our Youth Workers are at the College every day and are involved in all day to day College activities. We provide additional professional development opportunities for our Teaching staff to enable them to gain skills in dealing with difficult behavior and challenging social situations.

We want our students to enjoy their time at school and feel that they belong. We have a 'rec room' where students are provided with breakfast and lunch at first break. Here the students are free to socialise during break times and enjoy each other's company, play table tennis, listen to music or read a book.

We do not tolerate bullying and aim for all our students to feel secure when at school. We teach our students skills to increase their self-esteem and build their resilience. We deal with bullying incidents quickly and any issues are dealt with directly by the Principal.

Our College ethos is **PRIDE**:

Participation – participating in all activities

Respect – showing respect to staff, fellow students, staff and others

Integrity – being honest and acting truthfully

Determination – being determined to achieve and overcome obstacles as they arrive

Empathy – being thoughtful of others and helping when you can.

Parental/caregiver Involvement

Parents and caregivers are closely involved in their students' educational experience at Horizons. An open invitation is given to all parents and caregivers to attend the College at any time to discuss the progress of students and to raise any concerns. Parents and caregivers are regularly invited to attend celebratory events at the college and are encouraged to contact the Principal directly with any suggestions or concerns. We consider our students' education to be a shared responsibility between the College staff and the parents/caregivers.



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Parent, Teacher and Student Satisfaction with the School

Students complete a satisfaction survey at least once per year.

Staff attend weekly staff meetings, at which all concerns, issues, and ideas are shared in an open manner as part of our continuous improvement process.

Staff retention for both teaching and youth support is very high.

Parents have an open invitation to liaise with the school and to discuss concerns or provide feedback.

Contact Person for Further Information

Jan Robinson, Principal

School Income Broken Down by Funding Source

Income for 2017 was as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Government funding | \$2,464,617 |
| Student resource levies | \$67,586 |
| Interest | \$12,666 |
| Other income | \$192,299 |
| Total income in 2017 | \$2,737,168 |

Staffing Information

Horizons College employed the following as at December 2017:

Teaching Staff

9 full time Teachers and 7.2 part time Teachers

Student Support Staff

2 full time Youth Workers

Administrative Staff

5 full time employees and 0.5 part time employee

1 school support officer (grounds and bus duties)



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Teachers' Qualifications

| <u>Qualification</u> | <u>Number of Teachers holding this as their highest level of qualification</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| Doctorate or higher | - |
| Masters | 1 |
| Bachelor Degree | 14 |
| Diploma | 1 |
| Certificate | - |

Teachers' Participation in Professional Development in 2017

a) Teacher Participation in Professional Development

| <u>Activity</u> | <u># Teachers</u> |
|--|-------------------|
| Short Course in Applied Positive Psychology | 2 |
| Literacy Workshop | 2 |
| Cert III in Education Support | 1 |
| Supporting our Young People Seminar | 2 |
| Team Tech Foundation Course | 14 |
| TAEASS502 | 14 |
| Total number of teachers participating in at least 1 activity in the year | 14 |

b) Expenditure on Professional Development

| | |
|---|----------|
| Total Number of Teachers Employed in 2017 | 14 |
| The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2017 | \$11,011 |
| Average expenditure on PD per Teacher | \$786 |
| The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2017 | 100% |
| The major in-house professional development initiatives were as follows: Vocational education and training compliance, completing aspects of Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, informal development through sharing ideas etc eg at regular staff meetings, KPI reviews etc. | |



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Average staff attendance for the school

(based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to 5 days)

The average attendance rate for all staff in 2017 was 98.1%. For teaching staff the average attendance was 98.7%.

Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous year

All of our 2016 teaching staff were retained for 2017.

Key Student Outcomes

Average student attendance rates in 2017

The average attendance rates for students in 2017 by year level were as follows:

| Year Level | Average Attendance % |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 8 | 54% |
| 9 | 69% |
| 10 | 58% |
| 11 | 62% |
| 12 | 78% |
| Average | 64% |

Given many of our students have barriers to engaging with education, we are always striving to improve attendance rates.

Management of Attendance

Attendance rolls are marked at the start and end of each day, and at the start of each lesson during the day.

We use an SMS service to alert parents/caregivers when a student is absent without explanation.

We seek to have written evidence of all reasons for absence which we record in our student management system.

Poor attendance may result in enrolment being cancelled (depending on the circumstances).

NAPLAN results 2017

Horizons College had no students eligible to sit Naplan in 2017.



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Apparent Student Retention Rate – 2016 to 2017

| As at end of Term 4, 2016 | As at February 2017 census |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Year 9 (2016) – 6 enrolled | Year 9 (2017) – 25 enrolled |
| Year 10 (2016) – 21 enrolled | Year 10 (2017) – 20 enrolled |
| Year 11 (2016) – 26 students | Year 11 (2017) – 29 students |
| Year 12 (2016) – 43 enrolled | Year 12 (2017) – 16 enrolled |

Year 12 Outcomes and post-school destinations

In 2017 Horizons College had a 100% outcome rate for year 12 students ie they either achieved the Qld Certificate of Education and/or at least one fully completed Vocational Education and Training Certificate II. This was an improvement on the outcome for 2016; however not every year will be the same, depending on our clientele and their individual needs and challenges.