



# Horizons College of Learning & Enrichment

## Annual Report for the 2018 school year

### 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 2018 Commonwealth census (August 2018) there were 122 students attending the College, comprising 66 males and 56 females. Eighteen of our students identified as indigenous and thirty of our students had verified disabilities.

The College catered to students from year 7 to year 12 in 2018, with our first cohort of year 12 students graduating at the end of 2016.

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 (with digital design electives)
- 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.

## **Extra-curricular Activities**

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

## **Social and Emotional Support**

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 also have a 'lunch' club for those students who want quiet activities e.g. Chess.

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.

## Parent/Caregiver, Teacher and Student Satisfaction with the School

Students complete a satisfaction survey at least once per year.

Staff attend regular 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/caregivers 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 2018 was as follows:

Government funding	\$2,751,329
Student resource levies	\$88,077
Interest	\$
Other income	\$179,494
<b>Total income in 2017</b>	<b>\$3,018,900</b>

## Staffing Information

Horizons College employed the following as at December 2018:

### Teaching Staff

12 full time Teachers, including the Principal

### Student Support Staff

5 full time Youth Workers (two of these also act as school support officers, with other assigned tasks)

### Administrative Staff

5 full time employees and .5 part time employee

## Teachers' Qualifications

<u>Qualification</u>	<u>Number of Teachers holding this as their highest level of qualification</u>
Doctorate or higher	-
Masters	2
Bachelor Degree	12
Diploma	1
Certificate	-

## Teachers' Participation in Professional Development in 2018

### a) Teacher Participation in Paid 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
First Aid	12
<b>Total number of teachers participating in at least 1 activity in the year</b>	<b>14</b>

Other informal PD occurred regularly throughout the year.

### b) Expenditure on Paid Professional Development

Total Number of Teachers Employed in 2018	12
The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2018	\$20,188
Average expenditure on PD per Teacher	\$1,682
The proportion of the teaching staff involved in professional development activities during 2018	100%
The major paid in-house professional development initiatives were as follows: Vocational education and training compliance, completing aspects of Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.	

## 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 2018 was 98.1%. For teaching staff the average attendance was 98.7%.

### **Proportion of teaching staff retained from the previous year**

All of our 2017 teaching staff were retained for 2018.

## **Key Student Outcomes**

### **Average student attendance rates in 2018**

The average attendance rates for students in 2018 by year level were as follows:

<b>Year Level</b>	<b>Average Attendance %</b>
7	68%
8	70%
9	75%
10	68%
11	70%
12	77%
<b>Average</b>	<b>71%</b>

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 2018**

Horizons College had no students eligible to sit NAPLAN in 2018.

### Apparent Student Retention Rate – 2017 to 2018

As at end of Term 4, 2017	As at February 2018 census
	Year 7 (2018) – 1 enrolled
	Year 8 (2018) – 16 enrolled
Year 9 (2017) – 25 enrolled	Year 9 (2018) – 26 enrolled
Year 10 (2017) – 20 enrolled	Year 10 (2018) – 38 enrolled
Year 11 (2017) – 29 students	Year 11 (2018) – 20 students
Year 12 (2017) – 16 enrolled	Year 12 (2018) – 19 enrolled

### Year 12 Outcomes and post-school destinations

In 2018 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.