

2022 Annual Report to the School Community

School Name: Kurunjang Primary School (5256)



- All teachers at the school meet the registration requirements of the Victorian Institute of Teaching (www.vit.vic.edu.au).
- The school meets prescribed minimum standards for registration as regulated by the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) in accordance with the Education and Training Reform (ETR) Act 2006. This includes schools granted an exemption by the VRQA until 31 December of the previous calendar year from the minimum standards for student enrolment numbers and/or curriculum framework for school language program.
- The school is compliant with the Child Safe Standards prescribed in Ministerial Order No. 870 – Child Safe Standards, Managing Risk of Child Abuse in School.

- This 2022 Annual Report to the School Community has been tabled and endorsed at a meeting of the school council and will be publicly shared with the school community

About Our School

School context

Kurunjang Primary School is located in the northern area of Melton in the Kurunjang estate, adjacent to Kurunjang Secondary College.

Our mission is 'high levels of learning for all students', whilst our vision states 'At KPS we are committed to being an inclusive, safe and positive community where students are empowered to achieve learning and life success'. Our 6 values of Respect, Excellence, Responsibility, Effort, Resilience and Empathy are personified as child super heroes.

The school's student population was 589 in 2022, a decrease of 42 students from 2021; in 28 classrooms across the school. 25% of students had English as an additional language (an increase of 1% from 2021) and the percentage of students with Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent increased from 4% in 2020 to 5% in 2021. The 2021 leadership profile consisted of one Principal, two substantive Assistant Principals, the equivalent of 39.0 FTE teaching staff including 3 Leading Teachers and 2 Learning Specialists; and 19.7 Education Support staff, ranging from EFT 0.5 -1.0 to support Administration and Business Management, the PSD (Program for Students with Disabilities) and Intervention programs, Grounds, Library and ICT infrastructure.

The Student Family Occupation and Education index (SFOE) was Identified as High, representing low parent education level and low socio economic advantage. Equity funding for social disadvantage was allocated based on 296 of the total 589 student population. To achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, Equity funding for disadvantage was utilised to support the continued implementation of the Positive Support Planning (team around the learner) model for wellbeing and teaching/learning practices, to progress student academic achievement; and additional education support staff beyond the allocation of funding for the Program of Students with Disabilities.

Progress towards strategic goals, student outcomes and student engagement

Learning

In 2022 the FISO improvement initiatives we continued to specifically focus on were Building Practice Excellence, Curriculum Planning and Assessment, and Setting Expectations and Promoting Inclusion. The key improvement strategies continued to embed a whole school focus on purposeful teaching, high expectations of learning and consistent instructional practices in reading and numeracy, across the school.

During 2022 we continued developing the capacity of teachers to analyse and use data at a Professional Learning Team level to improve planning and instruction, and to monitor student growth, through weekly timetabled year level data and planning meetings. Explicit leadership in instructional practice continued by the school based leading teachers and learning specialists. Continuation of the Professional Learning Community improvement cycle following Leadership's completion of the DET Professional Learning Communities initiative in 2019 continued to be a priority. Our improvement work was once again supported by the DSSI Leadership and Teaching Partner initiative, and really supported our school with the development of middle leadership capacity and the use of data to inform teaching and learning. Student engagement and wellbeing on our return to school was paramount and supported by our wellbeing team.

2022 was our seventh year as an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) site team, with the incorporation of Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organisation and Reading strategies within the DET Literacy and Numeracy initiatives, across years F-6. Kurunjang Primary School's participation in the third year of the funded AVID Australia/Sydney Myer Primary Maths Project was extended for completion in 2022 due to COVID. KPS AVID leaders presented remotely at the AVID Australia national conference.

Wellbeing

Due to 2022 being our first full year at school since the Coronavirus pandemic began, student, parent and staff wellbeing increased as a major priority for 2022. With the absence of normal wellbeing supports from Government family support agencies unable to attend homes to assist and connect families, the school Wellbeing team and Primary Welfare officer were required to manage high level crisis situations for much of the year. Each member of the Wellbeing team was allocated families that fell into the vulnerable category to monitor and check in on and support on a regular basis. Throughout 2022, vulnerable students required intensive support from the Wellbeing team and school staff. Regular programs such as Breakfast Club, social skills and leadership groups, lunchtime activities, and the Drumbeat programs were reinstated and at times required amendments which impacted negatively on student engagement and wellbeing.

The rollout of our SWPBS approach occurred in term 1, and was incredibly successful. Students really responded to being recognised for displaying positive behaviours. A focus or spotlight on student behaviour was introduced at the beginning of 2022 and consequences were applied consistently. This resulted in a total of 84 suspensions for the year, but more importantly a significant improvement in behaviour across our school.

The Student Attitudes to School Survey for students in years 4 to 6 resulted in the positive endorsement (agree/strongly agree) of a sense of connectedness at 70% and for stimulated learning at 76%. 74% of students recorded they did not experience bullying and 82% of students identified as having an advocate at school.

Engagement

Continued and consistent implementation of the Victorian Curriculum has supported teachers to plan and implement a viable and differentiated curriculum across all year levels to address individual student needs, abilities and interests. Adjustments and the provision of additional assistance were implemented in the areas of cognitive, social/emotional and sensory needs, to maximise student engagement and therefore learning outcomes. Teaching staff implemented Individual Learning Plans for 324 students and Behaviour Support Plans for 28 students in 2022.

Twenty-five students were funded through PSDMS (Program for Students with Disabilities) under the categories of Intellectual Disability, Severe Language Disorder (SLD), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Severe Behaviour Disorder (SBD). The school continued to provide additional support outside PSDMS funding for several students who presented with significant behaviour and learning disorders. Education Support staff were timetabled to assist with whole class support across the school and individual students were also supported both in the classroom and in the school yard.

The average 2022 attendance rate per year level saw an increase in absences from 18.99 days in 2021 to 35.69 days across all year levels. A significant increase in 30+ days of absences also occurred. There was an increase in unapproved absences from 8.0 to 8.9. Continued focus on improving student attendance, especially late arrivals and unexplained absences will be a continued priority in 2023. Attendance has continued to be a focus at whole school assemblies and in the newsletter. Feedback regarding attendance was provided through reminders, regular phone calls to parents, letters outlining the percentage of attendance and through discussions at Parent/Teacher conferences. Our Primary Welfare Officer continued to work with our 'at risk' and vulnerable families to provide support where necessary and the Attendance Officer continued to monitor the attendance of our high at risk students/families, through phone calls and texts to parents and guardians on the third day of absence.

Individual students' talents continued to be fostered through sporting enrichment activities, such as tennis clinics and through the Music and Art Enrichment programs. Many opportunities were provided to our families throughout the year to engage with the school community including year level and whole assemblies, school celebrations and events, sporting activities, Education week parade and Family Fun afternoon, and School Council.

Financial performance

Kurunjang Primary School was in a sound financial position at the conclusion of 2022. In addition to our SRP funding which reduced due to decreased enrolment numbers, the school received other significant revenue including a shade sail grant, a grant for new

walkways, bank interest, sports grants, and fundraising yielded \$6,869.

Voluntary contributions from families has also decreased on previous years. Contracts entered into by School Council included a new uniform supplier, new canteen provider, and a new contract with our current OSHC provider will also generate increased locally raised funds in years to come. Our equity funding has decreased on previous years, but our PSD funding has increased, reflecting an increase in the number of students with additional needs.

Capital expenditure items included a server upgrade, CCTV system, new phone system, and walkways. The school purchased a significant number of new iPads for student use. Maintaining our ageing buildings and grounds was a significant expense, as was the cost of replacement staff.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at
<https://www.kurunjangps.vic.edu.au>