

Our school at a glance



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Director's foreword

Introduction

Western Cape College officially opened in January 2002 to strategically align the education services across the Western Cape. Western Cape College is a PREP to Year 12 educational facility with Campus sites in Aurukun, Mapoon and Weipa. The College structure was created as a response to Education Queensland's commitment to improve educational outcomes for all students. Over the last four years this structure has resulted in improved student attendance and education outcomes.

During 2006 the College underwent a process of refining and cementing key policies and processes to ensure systemic requirements and various stakeholder needs were met. The effective transition of students from the 2005 closure of the Napranum Campus to the Weipa Campus was an additional focus in 2006. This focus in 2006 has further streamlined the organizational effectiveness of the College operationally and educationally. The College is structured around the three stages of schooling; Early, Middle and Senior with a curriculum infrastructure focused on age-appropriate development. This structure enables individual student's learning needs to be met throughout their P-12 schooling experience.

Western Cape College is a leader in education and has been recognized as a Centre of Excellence. The College is considered a driver of innovative strategies to address issues facing Indigenous students and educators. We are committed to improving the education outcomes for all students and will continue to deliver policies, procedures and practices to ensure we deliver on this commitment.

This report will:

Outline directions for Western Cape College in 2007

Provide an overview of the College environment

Provide quantitative evidence of student outcomes across the three stages of schooling.

2006 has been a time of stabilization for the College with past efforts beginning to take effect and positively impact a number of areas of College operation, including student outcomes. 2007 promises to take the College further toward achieving College goals.

Future outlook

The Western Cape College priorities for 2007 are:

The Bound for Success: Education Strategy for Cape York implementation. Consistency of Curriculum through P-12 and across campuses with an emphasis on the Preparatory year and pre-Preparatory directions.

Our school at a glance

Long term infrastructure planning and consistent maintenance of current facilities.

Implementation of *Cape Connect* a technology strategy to engage students, parents and community members in information and communication technologies.

Develop the *C2E Cradle to Economy* policy to support the pathways from education to employment.

Building relationships with other Cape schools to secure transition and employment outcomes for the children of the Cape.

School Profile & Social Climate

The Western Cape College is a response to Education Queensland's commitment to improve educational outcomes for all students. The Western Cape College officially opened on January 1, 2002. This P-12 educational facility aligns the campuses of Aurukun, Mapoon, and Weipa.

The Western Cape College serves a diverse Community with widely spread social, academic and economic experiences.

Our diversity is not, however, our defining feature. Western Cape College is committed to maximising life choice for all students by maximising educational outcomes, standards of behaviour, attention and commitment to formal learning and its structure are emphasised across all Campuses.

We judge our success by the retention of students to year twelve and their choices in regard to further education or employment. This outcome is dependent upon a safe, supportive learning environment so the principles of equity and social justice are applied.

Success is also dependent upon consistent rigour so every year level and every student is critical. Data is collected on all students to track development.

The complete College profile can be found on the College Website at <http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/22.html>.

Curriculum offerings

Each of the campuses has been organised into 'staged schooling' structures to provide best practice in learning and management. The College Director manages the strategic issues for the whole College and works with a range of community organisations and Education Queensland services to improve pathways, provide facilities, support and options for students. Each campus has its own 'Head', who oversees the management and operation of that campus. Each schooling stage has a leader, accountable for the delivery of curriculum, pastoral and administrative support.

The four college campuses retain some independence, in delivery of programs, but the College provides improved expertise and efficiency. All campuses are part of the 'New Basics' curriculum trial. Both Aurukun and Weipa campus' provide post compulsory curriculum, with a balance of both academic and vocational offerings.

The "Teach and Learn" section of the College Website provides information on Junior, Middle, and Senior Schooling, as well as our team of specialists and the services they provide as part of the Student Support Team. This section also provides details on the programs currently on offer at Western Cape College.

From the homepage, <http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au> select "Teach and Learn" to view this information.

How computers are used to assist learning

ICT's are an integral part of the teaching and learning process at all campuses of Western Cape College. The main focus of the ICT's program is to assist teachers to integrate ICT skills in line with requirements as outlined in the ICT's certificate and Pedagogical licence.

To this end, significant ICT professional development has been targeted at staff in 2007 to assist in this process in the identified areas of the college requiring additional support.

Western Cape College has two One School guiding coalition members, a Far Northern District Regional Reference Group delegate, staff completing high level PD and innovative programs. One of these programs is the Tablet Notebook Pilot at Weipa campus, the first of its kind in Education Qld. These leaders and processes ensure that WCC has a high level of ICT's integration across all sectors and campuses.

The College's ICT's focus can be found in the WCC Strategic ICT's Plan – the only one of its kind in the Far Northern District. See the following link to this document.

http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/wcc_strategic_ict_plan_final_1.doc

Involving parents in their child's education.

The parents of all students at all campuses of Western Cape College are encouraged to play an active role in the education of their children. Parents have many options to become involved, these include assisting with school activities, volunteering at the tuckshop, or joining the P & C Association.

All campuses have active P & C Associations who are involved in a variety of school activities from policy development to budgetary planning, as well as fundraising for facilities, tuckshop coordination, and other school functions.

Many parents of Western Cape College regularly assist in the classroom with literacy and numeracy activities, as well as assist with the organisation of the students at sports carnivals, excursions, and other extra-curricular activities.

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

The teaching staff of Western Cape College have the following qualifications:-

Diploma – 20

Bachelor – 53

Masters – 1

Expenditure on and participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2006 was \$85,000 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Code of Conduct
 - Child Protection
 - Walking Talking Text
 - Language/Literacy (guided reading, oral language, guided writing, First Steps etc)
 - Behaviour Management (Microskills)
 - Rock & Water Program
 - QSA Panelist training & Voc. Ed
 - New Basics Moderation
 - You Can DO It
 - THRASS
 - Yachard Accelerated Learning Project
 - Aurukun Cultural Protocols
- The involvement of the Western Cape College in professional development activities during 2006 was 73 %.

Average staff attendance

- For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate for 2006 was:- Aurukun (100%), Mapoon (100%), Weipa (94%)

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2005 school year, the following number of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2006 school year.
 - Aurukun 54% Mapoon 60% Weipa 78%

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2006 for the campuses was:-

Aurukun 62.4 %

Mapoon 95.2 %

Weipa 87.2 %

Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net

The results for the 2006 Year 2 Diagnostic Net for all campuses can be found on the Western Cape College website at the following address.

<http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/1680.html>

Our reading, writing, and numeracy results for the Queensland Year 3 Literacy and Numeracy Tests

The 2006 reading, writing, and numeracy results for the Year 3 students of all campuses can be found on the Western Cape College website at the following address.

<http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/1680.html>

Our reading, writing, and numeracy results for the Queensland Year 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests

The 2006 reading, writing, and numeracy results for the Years 5 and 7 students of all campuses can be found on the Western Cape College website at the following address.

<http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/1222.html>

Key outcomes in the senior phase of learning

Comprehensive data on the Western Cape College Year 12 cohort of 2006, including a comparison of indigenous v's total students can be found on the Western Cape College website at the following address.

<http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/5913.html>

Western Cape College was instrumental in the development of the *Service Guarantee for Torres Strait and Cape Senior Schooling: A Senior Schooling Strategy 2006-2008*. This document is the result of a meeting called by the Torres Strait and Cape Executive Director to address senior schooling issues faced by senior education providers in the District. The College is committed to fulfilling the guarantee and has begun implementation.

The consultation process for the *Review of the Senior Syllabuses* is underway and the College will contribute actively to this process.

For further detailed information on the service guarantee, please see the link below.

http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/wcc_service_guarantee.doc

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2006 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be posted to our website by early September.

Other Key Outcomes

Western Cape College is a driver of excellence and is driven to excel. The College is in a phase of strategic alignment where College operations and priorities all contribute to the achievement of the College vision. The Education Queensland Director-General commissioned The Journey to Success 2001-2006: A Retrospective on the Development of Western Cape College. This highlights the significant progress made at the College since inception but also how much more work there is to do. The development of this document is paramount to building a strategic plan as it provides the College with a foundation of understanding from which to work.

A copy of our Journey to success can be obtained from the link below.

http://www.westerncapecollege.eq.edu.au/wcc_retrospective_2001_2006.pdf