

2022 Annual Report to the School Community

School Name: Kongwak Primary School (3323)



- 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

Kongwak Primary School is situated in the South Gippsland town of Kongwak. Kongwak Primary School is in a Hub/Annexe arrangement with Inverloch Primary School which means that while they are separate entities with their own school governance, they share staff, Principal, Assistant Principal, professional learning, excursions, camps and special events and travel between the schools at different times. Whilst both school work collaboratively together to provide cohesive learning, engagement and wellbeing programs, both schools are valued for their individuality and their place and purpose in their local communities.

The enrolment for Kongwak in 2022 was 24 with projected enrolments declining so the school will continue with its enrolment strategy. In 2022 there were two classrooms with two fulltime teachers and one Education Support Officer with the Principal primarily based at Inverloch PS and the majority of administration also centralised at Inverloch Primary School. The classes were P-3 and 4-6. There were 4 Specialist classes which the students access each week –P.E. music and Auslan taught by specialist teachers and Visual Arts and other specialist areas taught by the class teachers with the whole school.

Our vision has been updated slightly with our vision and values work. Our vision is '*all students achieve their full potential and develop into confident, well-rounded citizens*'. In conjunction with Inverloch Primary School various stakeholders were consulted and data examined to determine our new school values. The schools still value the qualities of persistence, getting along, emotional resilience and organisation.

Kongwak Primary School has also adopted the motto Care, Lead, Achieve as part of the enrollment strategy to send a more school specific message. Our school, and particularly our students, value and respect the environment and actively engage in environmental awareness and care programs in school and in the community through the Sustainable Kongwak program.

Student Leadership was once again a focus for the senior students and this resulted in greater opportunities for student voice and agency. This includes the fund raising, school events, and hosting a stall at the Kongwak Market.

The school is currently working through the Comprehensive Assessment Report in upgrading facilities and attending to buildings and grounds issues identified in the report. The students are active and proud in looking after their school. This is also complemented by a maintenance person who maintains routine maintenance and grounds.

The community of Kongwak value their little country school which is reflected in the higher than State parent satisfaction endorsement. One of the strengths of the school is the ability to maintain its own identity and benefits of a smaller school while benefiting from the partnership with the larger hub school of Inverloch.

Progress towards strategic goals, student outcomes and student engagement

Learning

In 2022 we continued to solely focus on the Department's learning priority to *Support both those who need extra support and those who have thrived to continue to extend their learning, especially in numeracy*

The following actions and activities were implemented as part of the DE Learning Key Improvement Strategy

Further build staff capacity in assessment and data analysis to provide differentiated learning to meet students' individual learning needs.

- Weekly PLC meetings to develop capacity in assessment, data analysis and provision to support differentiation (Additional non face to face time)
- Provision of a Teaching and Learning Leader to coordinate and provide staff professional development (assessments, data analysis, PLC development, Middle Level Leader development)
- Refresh peer observation and feedback program with a focus on differentiation and demonstrated practice change in the classroom
- Embed a multi-tiered response to meet students' individual learning needs.
- Recruitment and provision of the Tutor Learning program

- Provision of an additional assistance program (RTI) for identified students based on teacher judgement data (less than expected achievement and growth)
- PLC Inquiry Cycles to develop capacity of teaching staff to provide differentiated learning experience

In 2022 we implemented all our actions and activities despite interrupted staffing levels and periods. Fortunately, our staff work in teams which ensured student learning continued according to curriculum plans with little loss of effective teaching and learning time. Our strong commitment to PLCs also enabled school improvement actions and teacher learning to continue.

Teacher Judgement

When compared to the State and Similar schools, Kongwak PS has made similar progress in English P-6 which is favourable after such another disruptive learning year. The prioritization of curriculum time and focus on literacy and numeracy may contribute to these results. The highly successful work of the Learning Tutors and school based additional assistance has contributed to student growth in English.

Kongwak Primary School achieved the following :

- English Teacher Judgement -At and above -School 90.3% State 86.7%
- Mathematics Teacher Judgements-At and above -School 90.8% State 86.5%
- In Reading, the 'below expected' percentage has decreased to 7% and the 'above expected' decreased from 55%-48%.
- In Writing, the 'below expected' percentage had decreased slightly from 24%-22% with 'above expected' remaining at 34%
- In terms of the Annual Implementation Plan targets, Reading almost achieved the above expected target of 45% with a result of 43%. Number achieved the 2022 above expected target .
- Writing was determined as our literacy focus in 2022 with PLC Inquiry cycles, professional learning, assessment and curriculum improvements supporting this focus area. The schools did not achieve the target causing this focus to continue into 2023
- Reading -Yr 3 NAPLAN Top 3 Band was 'at' State Level
- Numeracy -Yr 3 NAPLAN Top 3 Band was above State levels

Wellbeing

In 2022 Kongwak Primary School was committed to the Department's Wellbeing priority and is committed to continue these efforts to *Effectively mobilise available resources to support students' wellbeing and mental health, especially the most vulnerable*

The school released a staff member with a psychology background one day a week to support whole school wellbeing in addition to having a wellbeing committee and wellbeing as a portfolio of the Assistant Principal.

The school continued with the three School Strategic Plan's focus areas of Confidence in Learning, Motivation and Interest and Stimulating Learning and introduced Connectedness, Sense of Inclusion and Advocate at School as a result of the last two years. Our SSP focus areas were based on data and to support achievement in all subjects including Inquiry based learning. However the last two years has redirected our efforts towards supporting student wellbeing (connectedness, sense of inclusion, advocate at school)

The following actions and activities were implemented successfully as part of our strategy to improve student wellbeing outcomes:

- Embed the multi-tiered response model to support students' mental health
- Fortnightly Wellbeing meetings to plan, action and review AIP actions
- Provision of a Wellbeing Officer to provide direct support to identified students
- Provision of school funded Chaplaincy program to support connections, 1:1 support and student voice and agency
- Embed positive mental health approaches in staff professional practice
- Engage support services from the Mental Health Menu to support Tier 3 students
- Establish a coordinated and resourced wellbeing program to address connectedness and seek help behaviours
- Develop and provide a multi-faceted school community connection plan.

Engagement

While student attendance data improved in 2020 (15 days per student), attendance unfortunately declined in 2021 and significantly declined in 2022 with the average number of absences per student rising to 29.8 days. The unapproved absences follow this pattern and have significantly contributed to this decline in attendance. 2022 and 4-year average data indicate the students at Kongwak PS have higher absences than the state average and similar schools.

The school continued to implement the Attendance Monitoring and Follow up program throughout the year including during the use of Student Absence Learning Plans. As travel became possible again in 2022 a high number of families left to travel for extended periods of time.

Attendance will continue to be a focus in 2023 with the Tier 2 Coordinator overseeing student absences and following up with parent/carer contact and Attendance Support Plan if required.

The following data represents Kongwak Primary School's achievement in the Attitude to School Surveys Engagement factors which are on the School Strategic Plan.

	2021	2022	2022 Target	2022 State	SSP Target
SSP focus					
Confidence in Learning	63	71	78	71	79
Motivation and Interest	69	79	76	78	77
Stimulating Learning	84	89	73	78	65

Kongwak PS students positive endorsement responses were above the State in all the focused AtSS data sets (Confidence in Learning, Motivation and Interest, Stimulating Learning). Their responses were also above State for our local level factors. Due to its size, strong sense of pride and sustainability focus, students readily engage in hands on learning experiences resulting high results in Motivation and Interest and Stimulating Learning.

Other highlights from the school year

In 2022 the focus was on reconnecting and as the pandemic restrictions eased, the school community was able to reconnect to the school. We had a most successful Trivia Night after several postponements. Parents returned to the end of year assembly and the Year 6 graduation.

A group of very keen parents formed a fete committee and designed a community fete for 2023. The fete will be a means of reconnecting service and sporting clubs, businesses and the schools.

A significant achievement in our both schools was the successful completion and approval of our Reconciliation Action Plan. The RAP was developed with staff, parents and First People's input. By documenting our visions and intentions it will guide actions to develop greater understanding and respect of the history, culture and perspectives of our First Nation's People. The RAP, being annual, will ensure our intentions are achieved and embedded.

Financial performance

Kongwak Primary School maintained a sound financial position throughout 2022 with a surplus of \$84,060 due to Financial Commitments. Such commitments include School Council Master Planning Funding of grounds work and an Operating Reserve. Several DET initiated minor works programs such as the Comprehensive Assessment Report, has offset buildings and grounds expenditure. Expenditure on curriculum consumables and incursions was decreased so Parent Payments were reduced and 'consumable' learning platforms such as Reading Egg and Eggspress have been funded by the school in 2022. Parent Payment contributions were significantly lower again in 2022 affecting our cash budgets.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at [www.http://inverlochps.vic.edu.au/](http://inverlochps.vic.edu.au/)