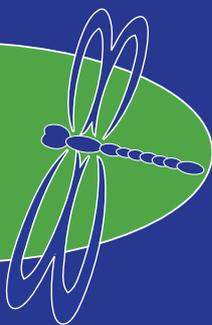
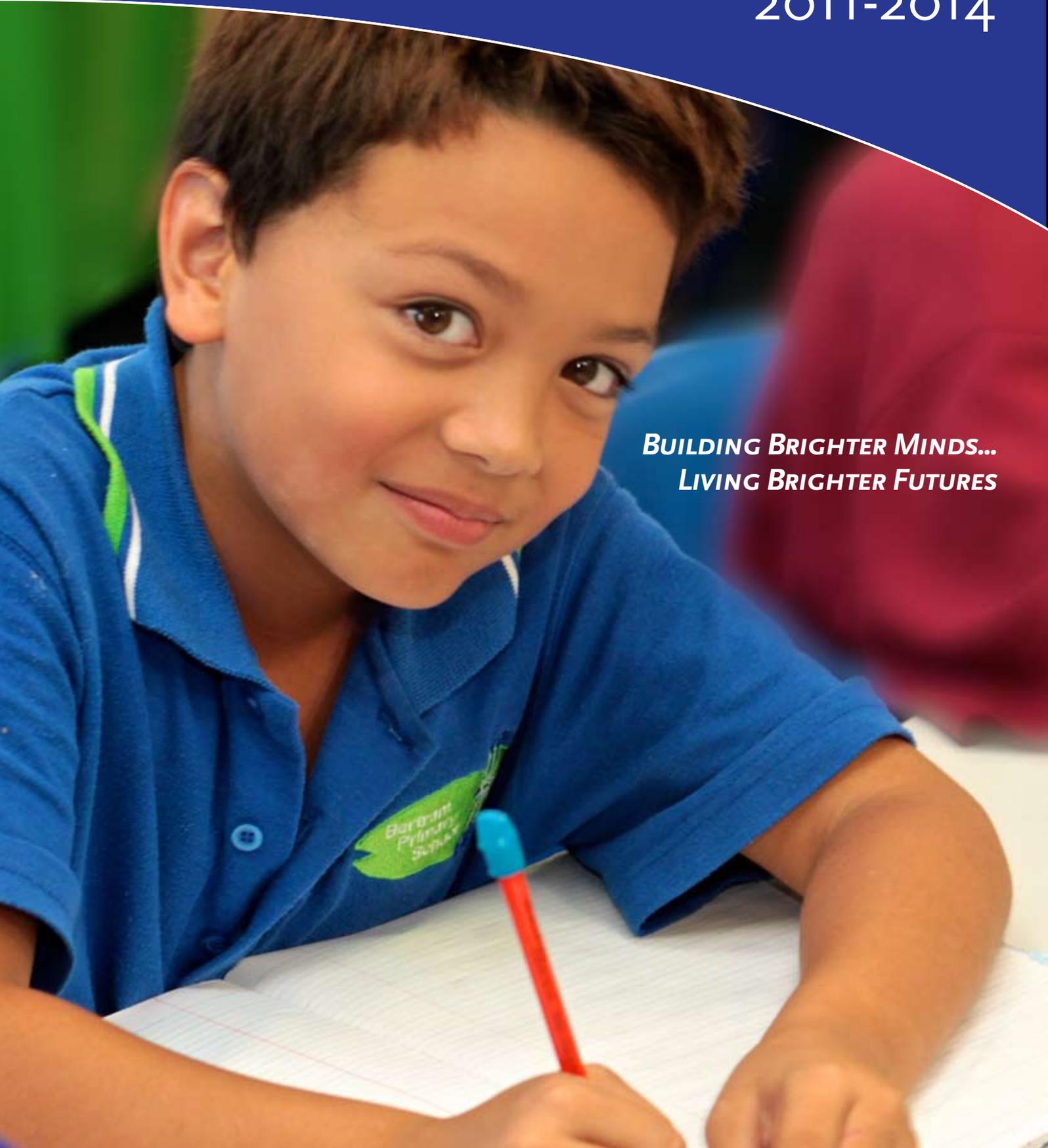


**Bertram
Primary
School**



an Independent Public School

Business Plan 2011-2014



***BUILDING BRIGHTER MINDS...
LIVING BRIGHTER FUTURES***



Bertram Primary School opened in January 2007 and serves the surrounding communities of Bertram, Casuarina and Emerald Park. The school opened with a population of 250 students and the knowledge that as a young growing community numbers would quickly increase.

A strong child and community focus makes Bertram Primary a central point within the local area. Classes within the school are multi-grade thus further fostering the sense of community and the whole school emphasis.

Bertram is committed to improving the educational outcomes of its students through positive engagement and a variety of learning opportunities. The strategic use of resources is planned and focussed and outlined for all stakeholders in the school's planning documentation and support materials.

Bertram has developed a fully integrated Kitchen Garden and Sustainability program which supports students from K-6 in many of the curriculum areas. This real life learning encourages healthy life styles and teaches the children the practical application of many of the skills they learn in the classroom whilst planting, growing, harvesting and preparing foods for the kitchen table.

In 2011 Bertram became an Independent Public School which further moved the decision making and future planning processes closer to the local community. The selection of staff by the school and the future planning set in place ensure that Bertram continues to respond to the needs of its students and the local community.

Bertram staff has a strong student focus and all staff regularly attend professional learning which ensures current teaching and learning practices are being implemented. Adjusting programs to meet the needs of the students is a significant aspect of modern teaching and the staff at Bertram work hard to ensure this occurs across the curriculum.

A whole school approach to school improvement ensures that all staff has ownership of the improvement process and play an integral part in their own development by observing colleagues, providing feedback and discussing areas of success and areas requiring development.

As a recently opened school Bertram has excellent facilities for all students with a range of new buildings and resources. The expansion of the school vegetable gardens continues to provide students with an integrated range of learning opportunities and is now capable of producing a wide range and quantity of vegetables for use in the kitchen. The school kitchen is equipped to accommodate all classes and has state of the art facilities rarely found for such a program in a primary school setting.

The school has 20 smart boards (interactive whiteboards) and 40 laptops and the required associated IT infrastructure which ensures that IT teaching and learning is integrated into the curriculum across all year levels.

The Social Economic Index when the school opened in 2007 was nominally established at 98.4 however, as a result of the 2006 census this was upgraded to 104, just above the state average. The enrolment numbers have since more than doubled which may indicate that the current SEI is no longer a reflector of the community. This changing demographic in such a short period of time brings challenges to the school staff and community whilst making comparisons to like schools and their relative performance difficult.

Bertram's projection is for extended student growth with the area recently being identified as having the largest number of 0-4 children in the metropolitan area.

Bertram was established with a community and student focus and this focus has remained a high priority as the school has continued to grow. The various sustainability programs across the school support this and actively engage both students and community. As an active community member Bertram works to develop partnerships within the local and wider community which will complements the various school focus areas.

Bertram recognises the differing circumstances and needs of both our students and community and is dedicated to achieving the best possible outcomes for all. It offers an environment where children learn to appreciate and respect diversity, think globally and care for the environment and each other.

The curriculum offered provides many opportunities to include all students in a meaningful way but provides us with continuing challenges to maintain excellence.

The implementation of our school beliefs is clearly evident across the teaching and learning program with everyone focussed on ensuring their engagement in school life.

This plan outlines four key areas that have been identified to ensure the ongoing educational and social growth of the Bertram School Community.

- **Strive to ensure quality teaching and learning**
- **Achieve improved academic outcomes**
- **Foster environmental responsibility and healthy lifestyle choices**
- **Forge strong and sustainable community partnerships.**



Strive to develop quality teaching practices

Staff remains open to continuous learning and are challenged to take responsible risks in a variety of situations.

MILESTONES

- Positive student, community and staff satisfaction survey data
- Professional development opportunities which highlight best practice in teaching and learning
- Achieve three Level 3 classroom teachers working within the school

STRATEGIES

- Develop school wide improvement processes
- Provide quality in school professional support
- Improve whole school planning and expectation documentation
- Develop meaningful performance management processes
- Build a suite of teaching and learning strategies including Kagan, Guided Reading and Literacy Cycle
- Develop leadership skills and roles within the school
- Implement Australian National Curriculum in English, Mathematics and Science
- Expand student teacher placement relationship with Murdoch University
- Provide smartboard and associated technologies across the school

Achieve improved academic outcomes

Students are supported in their efforts to persist and strive for academic accuracy and excellence.

MILESTONES

- Reduce the gap between Bertram PS and state mean in all NAPLAN assessments
- Identified students will improve 3 NAPLAN bands from Yr 3 to Yr 5
- 14% of students in the top 20% of the Year 5 WAMSE Science assessment
- No more than 20% of students in the bottom 20% of the Year 5 WAMSE Science
- Match or exceed whole school regular attendance at or above regional average
- Improve regular Indigenous attendance by 5% using 2010 data

STRATEGIES

- Embed whole school practices K-6
- Provide teacher and education assistant support in identified Curriculum areas
- Foster PEAC and other academic achievements as a positive initiative
- Implement focussed early intervention processes in K-1
- Focus on standards, expectations and explicit teaching
- Combine with Murdoch University to have tutorials onsite combined with practical application sessions
- Provide focussed educational opportunities for SAER students
- Utilise a variety of channels of communication between school and home
- Recognise regular school attendance
Strive to improve Indigenous attendance across the school

Foster environmental responsibility and healthy lifestyle choices

Students and staff work together to foster an improved understanding of healthy lifestyle choices and a greater engagement with sustainable lifestyles.

MILESTONES

- Develop a Business Plan and Operational Plan for the Bertram Kitchen Garden Program
- Engage in external sporting opportunities in two or more sporting areas
- Positive student, community and staff satisfaction survey data in relation to the Kitchen Garden Program
- Increase the number of regular parent and community volunteers within the Kitchen Garden Program

STRATEGIES

- Integrate healthy lifestyle practices into the daily curriculum
- Develop an integrated Kitchen Garden program
- Foster healthy practices and positive social and civic responsibility
- Provide a variety of active healthy opportunities for all students
- Involve every student in physical activity in the garden for at least 45 minutes a week
- Develop social-emotional skills such as cooperation, communication and negotiation through kitchen and garden activities
- Develop creative and aesthetic skills in the way students combine ingredients and present food



Forge strong and sustainable community partnerships

Recognise the school as part of the local and wider community and engage businesses and academic and support institutions to enhance teaching and learning opportunities.

MILESTONES

- Increasing the trend of school - community survey participation
- Maintain and expand positive and constructive relationships with our partners
- Develop plans to establish funding sources and procedures for the ongoing development of the school
- Source significant financial support for the school's Sustainability Program

STRATEGIES

- Actively encourage both local and wider community participation
- Source supplementary resources which support the teaching and learning programs at Bertram
- Actively promote partnerships with community groups including Red Cross, ALCOA and Murdoch University
- Support special days and events by involving the whole school community
- Encourage community use of school facilities

Students at Bertram Primary School learn best when they -

- *have a personal understanding of and engagement in their learning*
- *remain open to continuous learning and are challenged to take responsible risks in a variety of situations*
- *are a part of collaborative relationships with open channels of communication*
- *are in a safe, positive and inclusive environment which values their individual learning styles and offers a variety of learning opportunities*



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