

2022 Annual Report to the School Community

School Name: Swan Hill North Primary School (4743)



- 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

Swan Hill North Primary School is just three and a half hours north-west of Melbourne and five and a half hours from Adelaide, the Swan Hill region is renowned for its Murray River location, fresh local produce, epic landscapes, Australian native wildlife and Aboriginal heritage. The region runs alongside the majestic Murray River for nearly 200 kilometers and features changing landscapes, thriving farms, and historic townships. The original custodians of the lands are the Latji Latji, Wemba Wemba, Barapa Barapa and the Wadi Wadi Nations.

At Swan Hill North Primary School, students, teachers and parents work together to support all students in building the knowledge and skills needed to achieve personal success and reach their academic and social potential.

The school values at a staff and student level are: the 3 R's - Respect, Resilience & Responsibility.

Swan Hill North Primary School embrace the seven DET Values in our work: Responsiveness, Integrity, Impartiality, Accountability, Respect, Leadership and Human Rights. The School's Cultural Agreement Plan identifies norms and protocols which detail how staff work together, how they teach and how they maintain high expectations of professional behaviour.

Swan Hill North Primary School has a dual focus on Personal and Academic development. Wellbeing is underpinned by School Wide Positive Behaviour framework which incorporates the school's values of 'Respect', 'Resilience' and 'Responsibility' as well as Respectful Relationships. The academic focus of the school is based on what the best available research tells us, much of this is now encompassed in the HITS (High Impact Teaching Strategies).

Swan Hill North Primary School has a commitment to their community and families to provide the most 'effective' teaching and learning practices in classrooms, based on research and evidence. The school aims to have outstanding, evidenced based programs that will support improved learning and wellbeing outcomes.

Swan Hill North Primary School has 204 students in grades Foundation to 6 in 2022. The school has 1.0 principal class and 16 teachers (11.9 EFT) including one Learning Specialist and a Mental Health and Wellbeing Teacher. There are 6 Educational Support Staff (4.7 EFT), including an Office Manager and Business Manager. The school also has a Chaplain. Specialist teaching staff include Physical Education, Indonesian and ICT. These specialist programs add to a diverse range of core and extra-curricular activities, which support the broader vision of the curriculum and the holistic vision of the school of 'learning for life'.

Progress towards strategic goals, student outcomes and student engagement

Learning

In 2022 the school continued to work on the DET priorities of Improved Student Learning and Improved Student Wellbeing with additional focus on the school's AIP's Key Improvement Strategies that relate to the DET priorities. The school developed the AIP that outlined specific strategies and activities for addressing these areas of need. The schools' activities developed the work undertaken by staff in 2022. From developing the actions, we focused on specific strategies and interventions for addressing these areas of need. Targeted professional development opportunities were designed for teachers to help them develop skills and strategies for addressing areas of need identified in AIP.

Swan Hill North Primary School is working at a lower level than similar school in English and Maths based on teacher judgements. The introduction of PLCs to support the targeted Professional Learning was continued in 2022 with refinements to meeting processes and a restructure of the meeting schedule that brought all teachers together to share practice in learning and teaching. The school will access regional support (Education Improvement Leaders) to assist teachers to review and improve practice. Year level teachers plan together to ensure consistency of planning documents. MiniLit and MultiLit were introduced for the tutor learning program.

These programs demonstrated good growth in student learning who were involved in the program. The response to intervention is continuing in 2023 with the introduction of Initial Lit in P-2. In line with the introduction of PLCs, Peer Observations will be both

implemented in 2023, providing teachers with inhouse professional development, immediate feedback and great material for in-depth conversations about their teaching and their students' learning. Maths will continue to be a focus for the school.

Wellbeing

After returning from COVID and staff shortages in 2022, the health and wellbeing supports for our staff, students and their families' experiencing difficulties was at the forefront of all actions over any other priorities. The increased connection with students and families continued to develop with Seesaw and building of solid positive relationships during this time.

The Wellbeing data showed that Year 4-6 students had a slightly less connection to the school compared to other similar schools and the state. The Management of Bullying data for students in Year 4-6 was slightly less than to other similar schools and the state. School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) continues to be a strong focus at our school in 2023. The school is engaging in support from the SWPB regional coach to implement this initiative.

Engagement

There has been an emphasis at SHNPS to focus on what is next in our student wellbeing space to ensure we are building staff capacity to respond to the needs of students.

Staff evaluated the Student Wellbeing program to see how SWPB and RRR is working across the school. Respectful Relationships was timetabled into the whole school to ensure a school wide consistent approach. The RRR coaches visited the school to support staff in delivering content.

SWPB was at its beginning stages in 2022. Staff were involved in professional learning around why we are building this initiative into our whole school practices. Sentral wellbeing data was used to make decisions on yard supervision and how we can best support students wellbeing needs.

2023 will see a greater focus on students re-engaging with school, in particular our Koori students. Hands-on Learning is one strategy that can support students to continue to make connections at school in the senior years.

In 2023 the school will be involved in building teacher capacity in the School Wide Positive Behaviour Framework and Mental Health Literacy, SHNPS has continued to receive funding to employ a teacher to be the Mental Health and Wellbeing Coordinator in 2023. The attendance data at SHNPS is like other schools, with students having an average of 24 absence days. We would like to see this decrease. Sentral Management System will support staff in managing and tracking data of absences. In 2022 Year, 5 students had the greater absences. Outside support agencies as well as our Koori Engagement Support Officers play an integral part supporting families with regular school attendance. The school has continued to refine and monitor its attendance policy and a range of strategies have been implemented such as attendance awards, regular phone calls and attendance meetings with families and the development of attendance plans in attempt to improve student attendance. Sentral and Seesaw are both pivotal communication tools. Breakfast club continues to grow at the school and will be expanded in 2023.

Other highlights from the school year

Returning from COVID impacted learning there were many highlights from activities that students participated in.

The 3/4 and 5/6 Camping program was highly successful. The staff worked hard to ensure all students could access the camp.

The 5/6 Leadership program continues to grow, and our students had various opportunities to participate in activities to support their leadership. The students attended Murray Downs and listened to guest speakers.

Breakfast club

The Student tutoring program saw excellent results being achieved by students who were selected in the program. This will continue to be a priority in the school.

Financial performance

The financial position of the school is in a more positive position. The school entered an agreement with DET to pay back our deficit budget in the credit to ensure the school could keep operating to its fullest extent and provide resources that students need to improve student outcomes. The school has a positive net income, and its revenues (such as parent contributions, grants, and donations) exceed its expenses.

This was achieved by completing a very rigorous budget process. This surplus has been designated to various projects around the school including maintenance, staffing, and purchasing resources for students. The school has partnered up with St Mary's Swan Hill to run an OSHC service for our students. SHNPS provides a grant to the service that is provided by DET in our Term 3 quarterly grant. This grant provides resources and staffing to the service. This money is reconciled through DET. St Mary's regularly provide updates to the school which are tabled at School Council.

The Equity money the school receives is acquitted yearly to ensure students are being supported to achieve their educational outcomes.

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