

	Address	84 Main Street, Kandanga, QLD 4570
	Phone	07 5484 3267
	Fax	07 5484 3256
	Email	admin@kandangass.eq.edu.au
	Website	www.kandangass.eq.edu.au

## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

Kandanga State School has achieved excellent student outcomes for many years. Kandanga State School provides a wide range of learning opportunities for all students. Kandanga State School cares for the individual student and focuses on a holistic approach to education. One aspect of this approach is our school Values Education program which has helped shape the lives of all the students at Kandanga State School.

### Future outlook

Kandanga State School is facing a range of challenges within the school community. The proposed construction of the Traveston Crossing Dam is impacting greatly on our school population and is causing stress within the community. Kandanga State School is working with a range of support agencies to minimise the impact this has on students and student learning outcomes. Kandanga State School is continuing to provide an excellent education for students in an environment rich in both resources and opportunities.

## Our school at a glance

### School Profile

Kandanga State School has been established for 92 years and is located in the picturesque Mary Valley, about 25 kilometres south of Gympie. Kandanga State School is currently a Band 5 school, offering a full range of learning opportunities.

The township of Kandanga has approximately 250 people and provides the surrounding area with a hall, churches, garage, Post Office, hotel and basic retail businesses of general store, butcher and agricultural supplies. A tourist steam train, The Mary Valley Rattler, stops 2 or 3 times each week. The student project club operates a drink stall every Wednesday at the stop and this is a great learning experience for all students.

The community is made up of a mixture of rural and urban workers. The diverse rural activities include dairy and beef farms, sub-tropical orchards and small crops. Local trades people and timber mill workers and urban workers make up an increasing percentage of the population with many travelling to north to Gympie or south to the Sunshine Coast for employment. There is some degree of transience within the community and a number of homes are being built in the new adjoining subdivisions.

Student enrolment has declined over the previous 6 years from 80 students to 55. It is anticipated that an increase in numbers will not occur until the final decision is made about the construction of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam.

Kandanga State School offers classes for all students male and female from Prep to Year 7. Also, catering for students with special needs in a caring school environment.

### Curriculum offerings

#### Our distinctive curriculum offerings

Kandanga State School operates a very successful Boys in Education program. The program is well received by the students and wider community. Neighbouring schools have also adopted the program.

In 2007 an ICTs for girls program commenced. The program utilised the wide range of ICT resources available to all students and provided opportunities for female students to explore ICTs in a safe and supportive environment.

#### Extra curricula activities

Students have opportunities to participate in G&T programs, interschool competitions and are able to volunteer as school ambassadors at the Mary Valley Train Station.

#### How computers are used to assist learning

Computers are used extensively at Kandanga State School by all students. Computers are used for research, publishing and assessment. Kandanga State School operates both a computer lab and computers in classrooms. The school has a bank of laptops, PDAs, data projectors and extensive software resources. These are all used to enhance learning opportunities. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard. The interactive whiteboards have changed the way lessons are delivered by class teachers, they are now more visually stimulating and students have indicated their great satisfaction with the whiteboards.



Developing an Antarctica information report utilising Microsoft Photostory 3. The finished presentations were then presented to the school community or sent home on PDAs for families that were not able to attend the presentation.

### Social climate

Kandanga State School is a friendly school where students and families are made to feel welcome. Kandanga State School has a comprehensive Responsible Behaviour Plan that outlines the behavioural expectations of students, parents and staff. This and the schools character and values program, create a safe and caring environment that students and parents are happy with.

Regular communication between home and school is also very important to Kandanga State School. Parents participate in meetings and information sessions as required and this regular communication helps the continual improvement of our school.

### Involving parents in their child's education.

Kandanga State School has an open door policy that encourages parents into every classroom. This allows parents to feel welcome in the school and help out when they can.

Throughout 2007 many events and projects were actively led by parents at Kandanga State School. The school permaculture garden is one example of a tremendous educational project being led by the school community. The expertise and resources to implement such a project are being offered by the community and being shared with all students and staff.

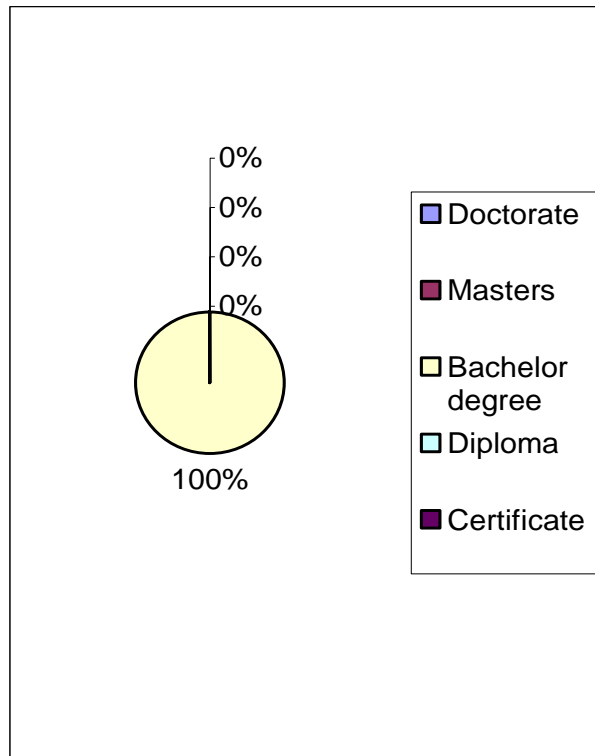


The school P&C is also very supportive of the school and many families are actively involved in school P&C projects. Parent/teacher interviews occur once per semester to discuss individual student progress. The interviews provide an opportunity to cooperatively plan for the child's needs. More frequent meetings with teachers are always encouraged.

## Our staff profile

### Qualifications of all teachers

Highest level of attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	0
Bachelor degree	5
Diploma	0
Certificate	0



### Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2007 was \$2197.40 .

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

1. All staff completed training in "Brain Gym". Brain gym has proven itself to be very valuable tool for all teachers in preparing students for the activities of the day and refocusing students on the tasks at hand.
2. All staff completed their senior first aid certification.

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2007 was 100 %.

### Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 97% in 2007.

### Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

From the end of the 2006 school year, 67% of teaching staff were retained by the school for the entire 2007 school year.

# Performance of our students

## Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2007 was 94%.

## Key outcomes in the early and middle phases of learning

Results in the Year 2 Diagnostic Net	
	Percentage of students not requiring additional support
Reading	88%
Writing	88%
Number	100%

Our reading, writing and numeracy results for the Queensland Years 3, 5 and 7 Literacy and Numeracy Tests.

		Yr 3	Yr 5	Yr 7	
Reading	Average score for the school	501	594	670	
	Average score for Queensland	527	606	672	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100 %	100 %	100 %
		2006	100 %	71 %	70 %
Writing	Average score for the school	447	586	686	
	Average score for Queensland	523	600	681	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	67 %	100 %	100 %
		2006	100 %	83 %	100 %
Numeracy	Average score for the school	556	584	626	
	Average score for Queensland	521	588	648	
	Percentage of students at the school above the national benchmark	2007	100 %	75 %	100 %
		2006	83 %	71 %	100 %

## Other Key Outcomes

### Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Parent satisfaction is generally very high. In 2006 the announcement of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam impacted greatly on our community. The announcement caused high stress levels throughout the community. Parents, students and staff were all affected. The effects of this were still very much evident in 2007, the school staff worked very hard to keep parent satisfaction high. Although parent satisfaction was high it was lower than in previous years.

Student satisfaction was very high in 2007. Students at Kandanga State School have such a diverse range of learning opportunities and resources at their fingertips, along with quality teaching that high satisfaction is what is expected.

Teacher satisfaction is also very high. Teachers feel appreciated and valued for what they bring to the school learning environment. Teachers are provided opportunities to participate in decision making and help shape the direction of the school. Teachers are also provided with opportunities to develop their skills to better cater for the needs of themselves and the school.



The Honourable Warren Truss MP officially opening the four Kandanga State School Investing In Our Schools projects. The total funding received was \$135 000, this money was spent refurbishing the school library, refurbishing the school canteen, purchasing additional ICT equipment and network infrastructure, physical education resources and a new covered playground for all student to enjoy. The funding is greatly appreciated by the entire Kandanga community.