

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

	PO address	P O Box 126 EVERTON PARK Q 4053
	Phone	(07) 3550 1111
	Fax	(07) 3550 1100
	Email	<a href="mailto:mitcheltonshs@eq.edu.au">mitcheltonshs@eq.edu.au</a>
	Website or Contact Person	<a href="mailto:the.principal@mitcheltonshs.eq.edu.au">the.principal@mitcheltonshs.eq.edu.au</a>

## Principal's foreword

### Introduction

This report provides a snapshot of our school profile and documents student achievements and outcomes from strategies outlined in the school's Strategic Plan (2006-2008) and Annual Operational Plan.

Mitchelton State High School, situated in Brisbane's north-west, is a well established high school that has served its community well for over 50 years. It has a proud history of student achievements across the academic, sporting and cultural aspects of schooling. These achievements are reflected in the school's motto "A Sound Mind in a Sound Body" – educating the whole person.

The school is an accredited International Student Program centre. The program continues to expand with fee paying students from many countries including China, Japan, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Germany, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Iran, Macau, and Brazil. The International Student Centre also provides a High School Preparation (HSP) Program. Students come to study an intense English course before continuing their high school studies at either Mitchelton or another school in the Brisbane North Alliance.

In 2007, the school trialled a new senior timetable structure with two flexible days in response to the increasing diversity of the learning needs of senior students. The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) will recognise achievement across a range of study options. The new timetable structure remained in place until the end of 2008.

Dimensions of Learning (DOL), a whole of school approach to teaching and learning, has been a major focus since 2005. It embeds the five dimensions of the framework into our programs.

In 2008, the school employed a full time indigenous teacher aid to help provide appropriate welfare and support services to our indigenous students and families with emphasis on improving educational outcomes.

Facilities and resources continue to be upgraded to support our programs. The following refurbishments and enhancements were completed during 2008 from school budgeted funds and successful funding applications:

- Installation of three new cricket nets and refurbishment of two existing nets
- Purchase of a demountable building as a general learning area for High School Preparation Students
- Upgrade of the hall stage sound system including projection equipment
- Installation of bladder style water tanks under the school assembly hall in association with the Mitchelton State High School P&C Association
- Landscaping around class room blocks
- Purchase of a replacement 12 seater school bus
- Internal refurbishment at the Keperra Positive Learning Centre
- Air Conditioning at the Keperra Positive Learning Centre.

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

### Future outlook

The 2009 to 2011 school's planning priorities are:

- Continued whole school focus on Literacy and Numeracy strategies
- Science initiatives and applications promoted throughout the school
- Whole school focus on pedagogical practices and strategies to improve student results
- Continue implementation of Dimensions of Learning (DOL) Framework
- Celebrating the Mitchelton State High School "brand"
- A continued focus on promoting and valuing effective partnerships between staff, students, parents, and the community
- A continued focus on improving positive staff morale and welfare.

### School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: **540**

Year levels offered: **Years 8 - 12**

Coeducational or single sex: **Coeducational**

### Curriculum offerings

Mitchelton High School offers a broad range of subject offerings, using a flexible and responsive approach to timetabling and subject selection. The curriculum offerings cater for the full range of abilities.

Students experience development across all the Key Learning Areas (KLAs) in the Junior School, with opportunities to select pathways according to their developing strengths and interests as they progress through the junior school.

The senior curriculum, as well as providing a full range of academic (authority) subjects, also offers authority registered subjects and VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses.

Our distinctive curriculum offerings in 2008 were:

- Vertical unitised curriculum structure in Years 8 to 10
- Flexible study options in Years 11 and 12 providing multiple pathways for all students:
  - University courses through QUT Start Program
  - School based apprenticeships and traineeships
  - A variety of Certificate II to Diploma level courses offered through Brisbane North Institute (BNIT), Skills Tech Australia, and Metropolitan South Institute (MSIT). These courses were delivered off campus or through on-line studies
  - Certificate III in Children Services in partnership with My Other Mum, a private Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Students operated a weekly playgroup for the Mitchelton community
  - Continued the Trade Skills Project, aimed at providing senior students with the necessary skills to obtain apprenticeships in the Construction Industry. Mitchelton was one of four school involved in the construction of the major exhibit at the HIA Home Show
  - Certificate II in Active volunteering in partnership with Volunteering Queensland.
- Shared campus arrangements – students studying Music Extension at Ferny Grove State High School.

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

### Extra curricula activities

All students are encouraged to participate in extra curricular activities to encourage contribution to school life and the broader community. Examples include:

- Academic Competitions – English, Mathematics, and Science
- Wide range of sporting competitions with students being selected to represent their school at District, Regional, and State levels
- Instrumental Music Program
- MADD (Music, Art, Dance, Drama) Night
- Supporting charitable organisations through school fund-raising
- Debating and Public Speaking competitions such as Lions Youth of the Year
- Community Service Organisations such as LEOs
- Visiting Japanese Tour Groups (including Sister School Relationships)
- Certificate III in Financial Services as an extra curricular choice
- Participation in QUT's Bright Minds Scheme with Mitchelton High's Science Ambassador
- Green Team facilitating environmental initiatives
- Safe School Committee.

### How computers are used to assist learning

The school has excellent and well maintained ICT (Information & Communication Technology) facilities across the school, with one computer to every 1.8 students which significantly exceeds Education Queensland's recommended student computer ratio.

The school has 280 computers for student use through the following access:

- 6 large computer labs and library
- Mini Computer Labs or Pods of computers in classrooms across all faculty areas
- All faculty areas are committed to the integration of the full range of ICTs into their teaching, learning, and assessment
- Provision for full wireless network covering the school
- Installation of multimedia stations (data shows with video and audio connections), and interactive whiteboards in classrooms
- Provision of up-to-date software e.g. imaging, editing software, and subject specific programs

Replacement and cost of expansion of ICT hardware and software is an ongoing challenge for the school. Accordingly, an ICT replacement strategy has been put in place at the school and increased school funding for additional ICT Support staff.

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

### Social climate

The school has a reputation as a caring and supportive school catering for all students across a diverse range of backgrounds. The school values of Participation, Accountability, and Respect underpin all aspects of school life.

Our safe, supportive, and disciplined environment is maintained through:

- Pastoral Care Program – House based with a House Coordinator and Care teachers assigned to each house and each student assigned a Care group (vertical - Years 8 to 12 – groupings) within each house
- The learning climate in the classroom is supported by the application of the Responsible Thinking Process and the staffing of a Responsible Thinking Classroom
- Student Services Support Team consisting of Guidance Counsellor, Year Coordinators, School Chaplain, School Health Nurse, Defence Transition Mentor, Youth Support Coordinator, Indigenous Community Participation Officer
- Safe School Policy
- Human Relationships Education (HRE) Program.
- All students are encouraged to participate in extra curricular and all House/Care activities. Students are also encouraged to take on leadership roles within the school. Such opportunities include:
  - Leaderbody (School Captain, Prefect) positions
  - House Captains
  - Year 11 Mentors
  - Executive positions on the SRC and in LEOs
  - Welcome to Mitchie Team
  - Safe School Committee.

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

Parent involvement and development of positive relationships/partnerships are encouraged through the following strategies:

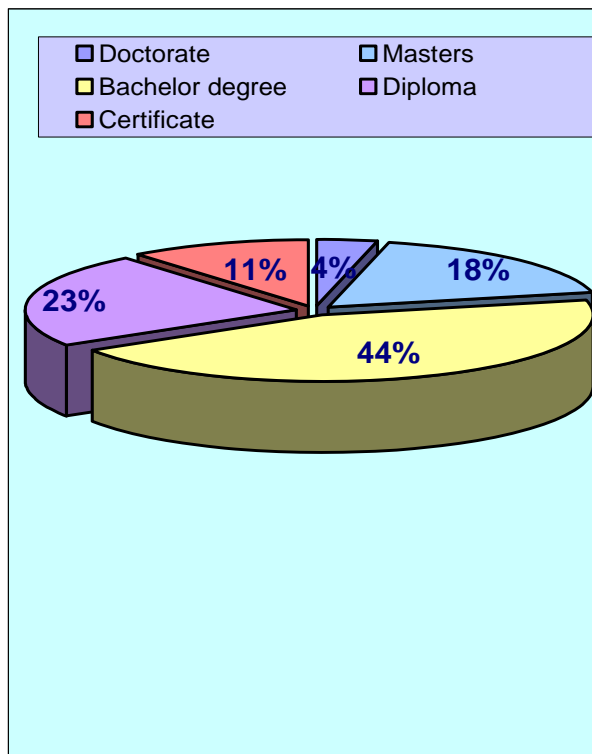
- Enrolment interviews for every student enrolling in the school and at SET Plan interviews for all Year 10 students
- Formal reporting to students/parents – four times a year
- Parent/teacher Interview Evenings scheduled once a semester
- Subject Selection Evenings
- Development of EAPs (Educational Adjustment Plans) for Students With Disabilities
- Interviews in relation to individual student needs (e.g. academic progress, behaviour, social development)
- Encouraging two way communication through email and phone contact
- Sporting competitions and performance evenings
- Awards Night and Year 12 Graduation
- P&C and School Council Meetings
- Meet & Greet barbecue offered to parents and caregivers free of charge
- Newsletters – Mitchie Moments published fortnightly and posted on school website.

# Performance of our students - 2008

School Annual Report

## Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	2
Masters	10
Bachelor degree	25
Diploma	13
Certificate	6



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$30,918

The major professional development initiatives are as follows:

- Literacy
- Middle schooling
- Dimensions of Learning
- ICTs e.g. Joomla Training, Pedagogical Licence, NetAlert, email
- QSA – BonSAI & QCAR implementation, panel training, QCE, SEPT
- VET e.g. Certificate IV in Training and Assessment
- International Education, developing Intercultural understanding and ESL
- Financial Literacy / Management and Purchasing training
- Student Protection Training and Code of Conduct

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 94%.

## Average staff attendance

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 95% in 2008.

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

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

From the end of the 2007 school year, 95% of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 88%.

## Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for Year 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	552
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 79%
Writing	Average score for the school	533
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 76%
Spelling	Average score for the school	546
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 75%
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	553
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 75%
Numeracy	Average score for the school	556
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89%

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

### Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 10 student cohort.

81 %

### Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	74
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	1
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	46
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	42
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	12
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	39
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	72%
Percentage of Year 12 students who are completing or completed a SAT or were awarded one or more of the following: QCE, IBD, VET qualification.	85%
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	93%

### Post-school destination information

Post school destination report follows on next page.

# YEAR 12 2008

## STUDENT DESTINATIONS

### Mitchelton State High School



#### Introduction

This report is based on the findings of the Queensland Government *Next Step* survey, which targeted all students who completed Year 12 and gained a Senior Statement in 2008, whether they attended a Government, Catholic or independent school, or a TAFE secondary college. The Office of the Government Statistician conducted the survey between 30 March and 6 May 2009, approximately six months after the young people left school. Responses were predominantly collected via computer-assisted telephone interviewing with a paper-based survey collected from a small number of students for whom telephone details were not available.

The statewide and regional reports of the *Next Step* survey can be located at the *Next Step* website at [www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep)

#### Response rate for Mitchelton State High School

Table 1 below reports the response rate for Mitchelton State High School. It expresses the number of respondents from this school, as a percentage of all Year 12 completers attending Mitchelton State High School in 2008.

It has not been possible to ascertain how representative these responses are of all students at this school.

**Table 1** Survey response rate

Number of respondents	Number of students who completed Year 12	Response rate (%)
65	85	76.5

#### Definitions of main destinations

The pathways of Year 12 completers were categorised into ten main destinations. Respondents who were both studying and working were reported as studying for their main destination. A table defining these categories can be found in the statewide report at [www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep)

#### Summary of findings

In 2009, 53.8 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 at Mitchelton State High School in 2008 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.

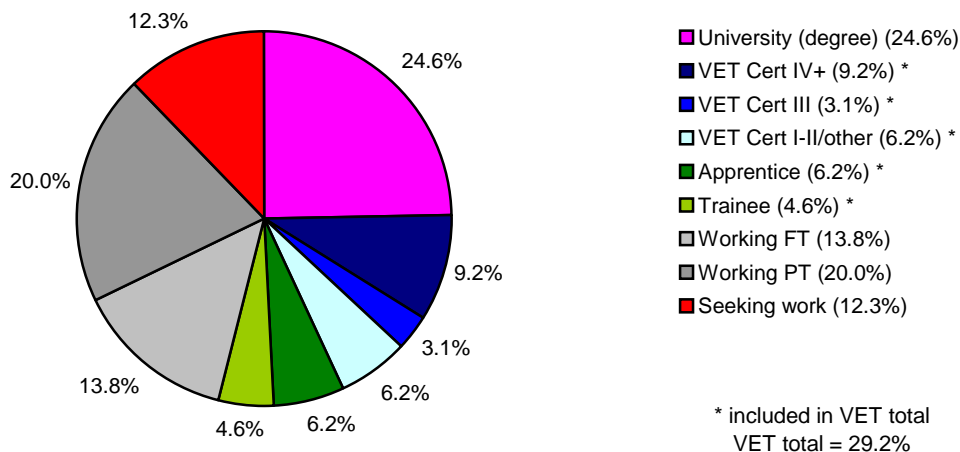
The most common study destination was university (24.6 per cent). The combined VET study destinations accounted for 29.2 per cent of respondents, including 18.5 per cent in campus-based VET programs, with 9.2 per cent of Year 12 completers entering programs at Certificate IV level or higher.

10.8 per cent commenced employment-based training, either as an apprentice (6.2 per cent) or trainee (4.6 per cent).

In addition to the above study destinations, a further 3.1 per cent of respondents from this school deferred a tertiary offer in 2009 (deferrers are shown in Figure 1 in their current destination).

46.2 per cent did not enter post-school education or training, and were either employed (33.8 per cent) or seeking work (12.3 per cent).

**Figure 1** Main destinations of Year 12 completers



# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

### Value added

Highlights of our achievements for 2008 include:

- 30% of OP eligible students in OP 1 to 5 range
- 72% of OP eligible students in OP 1 to 15 range
- 84.2% scoring As, Bs, Cs in Core Skills (QCS) Test
- Year 12 (2008) Subject results show:
  - Significantly above state and like schools performance data in Multi-Strand Science, Maths A and Physical Education
  - Above state and like schools performance data in Ancient History
  - Comparable with state and like schools data in BCT and Legal Studies.
- Significant per cent of students at or above the national minimum standard in Year 9 NAPLAN test results:
  - Reading 79%
  - Writing 76%
  - Spelling 75%
  - Grammar and Punctuation 75%
  - Numeracy 89%.
- Literacy strategies embedded in all subjects
- Provision of multiple pathways for our students
- 21 students were completing school based traineeships/apprenticeships
- 42 students enrolled in TAFE courses:
  - Certificate III in Visual Arts
  - Certificate III in Multimedia
  - Certificate III in Companion Animal Services
  - Certificate III in Business
  - Certificate II in Hospitality
  - Diploma of Justice Administration
  - Certificate II in Retail Operations
  - Certificate III in Tourism
  - Certificate II in Construction
  - Certificate II in Engineering
  - Certificate III in Business
  - Certificate II in Applied Fashion Design.
- 70 Year 11 and 12 students undertook structured workplace learning for Certificate II in Workplace Practices or Cert III in Children's Services
- Music students performances including:
  - Primary school tour including Mitchelton and Grovely State Primary Schools
  - RNA exhibition
  - Instrumental recital night

# Performance of our students - 2008

## School Annual Report

- Local retirement village and nursing homes
- Showcase concert for community members as assessment piece
- Fanfare competition winning a Silver and two Bronze certificates.
- Involvement in Year 9 Mentoring Program sponsored by law firm DLA Phillips Fox. Approximately 14 students met with their mentors each fortnight for 6 months and worked on topics such as goal setting, respect, and tolerance. Graduation was held early in Term 4
- Safe School Committee winner of the Department of Communities 2008 Queensland Young Volunteer Awards
- Senior Art students involved in Community Arts project painting of murals at St Joseph's Villa Hostel Retirement and Aged Care
- Teacher, Kerri Furlong recognised with a highly commended award for Excellence by a Teacher in the National Awards for Quality Schooling
- Involvement in the Australian Brick and Blocklaying Training Foundation's Step Out Program
- Dance class performed for community in the Primary School Performance
- Student of the Month Certificates awarded to students who have contributed positively to their learning
- 5 Distinctions and 12 Credits were awarded to students who entered the ICAS English Competition
- Music, Art, Dance and Drama (MADD) night annual show
- Brisbane North International School Alliance Award for Excellence recognising the outstanding contribution of an institution by providing exemplary student services, support and pastoral care to international students.

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

75% of Parents have confirmed that Mitchelton High is a good school.

Student satisfaction levels overall are comparable with the previous two years, remaining in the neutral to satisfactory levels.

79% of staff have stated they are happy working at this school.