

# School Strategic Plan 2021-2025

Toolangi Primary School (3237)



Submitted for review by Sally Herbert (School Principal) on 22 November, 2021 at 02:16 PM

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Awaiting endorsement by School Council President

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<p><b>School vision</b></p>	<p>At Toolangi Primary School we cultivate curious and innovative young minds. We encourage a life-long passion for learning through the promotion of academic excellence, communication skills and creativity. We engage in individualized teaching and learning in a beautiful natural environment that enables us to maximize the academic achievement and well being of every student.</p>
<p><b>School values</b></p>	<p>Toolangi Primary School  'Every Child by Name and Need'  The core values that underpin our actions and behaviors at Toolangi Primary school are:  Respect: Caring for and appreciating ourselves, others and the environment  Integrity: Being reliable, honest and taking pride in our own actions  Responsibility: Taking ownership of our behavior and actions and setting a positive example to others  Understanding: Using our personal experiences to relate to others</p>
<p><b>Context challenges</b></p>	<p>School Context Summary:  Toolangi Primary School (TPS) Vision statement is 'Every child by name and need'. Our school values of Responsibility, Respect, Understanding and Integrity are essential in all aspects of student learning and school operations. We ensure every child has the opportunity to be heard, included and extended in their learning journey whilst participating in a supportive and engaging learning environment. In 2021 the current school enrolment is 19 students. The school's SFOE is 0.3869. The school is an integral part of the Outer Eastern Melbourne area within the Yarra Valley network.</p> <p>Toolangi Primary School is nestled in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and is located approximately 25 minutes from Healesville. Our grounds are abundant with nature and lush vegetation providing a natural bush setting for our students to play and learn. The school boasts an extensive kitchen garden that is a feature of our inquiry approach to learning and is utilized by the school community. The school buildings are representative of the Toolangi history and offer engaging and specialist areas for learning. The school contains a wealth of history and community connection with many generations of families attending our school over the last 100 years. The school will celebrate its 125 year birthday in 2022.</p> <p>Toolangi Primary school has an enthusiastic and committed staff comprising of: 1 Principal class, 1 Business Manager (0.4), 1 full time teaching staff member, 1 teaching staff member (0.2), 1 Education Support staff (0.2) and 3 part time specialists including Physical Education, Art and MARC (Mobile Area resource centre).</p> <p>The class structure is divided into the Senior school (years 3 -6) and the Junior school (years F - 2). The core business of English</p>

	<p>and Mathematics remains a high priority. Specialist staff focus their teaching all year levels on a weekly basis. Students are given opportunities to develop their Performing Arts capabilities in the area of Music, led by our Junior school teacher. This program is a highlight of our school's curriculum with students performing regularly both within our school and extending to the wider community. Toolangi Primary School is widely recognized for the Kitchen Garden program led by an Education Support staff member. This program provides students with engaging opportunities to learn about sustainability, science (including cooking), horticulture and biology through an inquiry approach to learning. The kitchen garden and music programs provide the stimulus for the school's annual events of the Harvest Festival, School concert and Community events.</p> <p>TPS has a strong community connection with families regularly participating in community events, strong representation on school council, trade expertise in maintaining buildings and grounds and working together as the Parents and Friends association to fundraise through local community events. The school currently offers a community playgroup and an Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) program.</p> <p>Extracurricular opportunities are varied including school camps, excursions, swimming and athletics programs and in school activities including sewing and cooking. Through the Sporting schools grant, TPS collaborates with other small schools in our district to participate in swimming carnivals, tennis tuition, athletics and gymnastics events providing our students with the opportunity to strengthen their skills, socialize and compete with other students within different sporting environments.</p> <p><b>Current Challenges:</b>  The school is currently working with a deficit budget. In 2021 we were successful in receiving workforce bridging and we currently have 1 full time staff member in excess. Over the last 4 years, enrolments have declined and currently we are experiencing uncertain times with 4 families not returning from remote and flexible learning and choosing to enrol in home schooling. These combined circumstances provide us with challenges relating to workforce planning, budgeting and resource management. Due to a recent change in leadership, uncertainty with staffing and the educational implications relating to COVID 19 restrictions, our current challenge is to provide consistency with whole school practices including curriculum planning and assessment, teacher practice and student voice and agency. Over the past 4 years our NAPLAN data reflects the need to decrease low relative growth of all students and increase the number of students in the top 2 bands. Teacher judgement data is inconsistent and requires the implementation of an effective whole school agreed upon assessment schedule that has been a focus of our work in 2021. Due to the remoteness of our school and the lockdown nature of the pandemic it has been challenging to access consistent and current professional learning. Increasing teacher capability is an essential component of improving student outcomes. Upskilling teacher capacity, engagement in network priorities (e.g PLC training) continues to be a high priority for the period of the new strategic plan.</p>
<p><b>Intent, rationale and focus</b></p>	<p>Intent:  As a result of our school review discussion Toolangi Primary School will focus on the following main areas of school improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Improving student growth in literacy and numeracy</li> <li>* Strengthening student wellbeing and connectedness to school</li> </ul>

Rationale:

The school review highlighted the need to develop a whole school approach to curriculum planning, assessment and alignment of teacher practice. This combined with the need for rigorous and authentic individual learning plans for every child will be our major body of work. In order to boost student outcomes in English and Mathematics, the need to implement a streamlined approach to teaching and learning with the implementation of a whole school assessment plan is required. The review discussion also highlighted a need for increased student voice and agency with an intensive focus on meeting the individual needs of students and providing opportunity for authentic student feedback in relation to student learning and achievement.

Priorities:

Toolangi Primary School will endeavour to achieve excellence in teaching and learning through the following priorities

- \* committing to continual professional learning focusing on improving teacher capacity and practice
- \* implementing and monitoring the school's assessment schedule to assist alignment of teacher judgement with student performance
- \* ensuring the teaching and learning instructional model is evident in all learning environments
- \* documenting and aligning all curriculum assessment and planning
- \* implementing data driven school improvement through collaborative professional learning and team planning
- \* ensuring the differentiation of all learning tasks to suit the individual needs of our learners through a commitment to Individual Learning Plans, learning goals and student feedback
- \* building staff capacity and develop processes to support student agency

Toolangi Primary School will strengthen student wellbeing and connectedness to school through:

- \* fostering student connectedness to their learning
- \* promoting behaviours and attitudes within our school community that are reflective of our school values
- \* develop and implement practices which support high levels of community engagement and wellbeing (eg. Harvest festival, parent forums, community events)
- \* supporting 'at risk' or 'vulnerable students' through school based processes including outside agencies (SSS, allied health etc)
- \* fostering a sense of pride within the school through publicity and promotion with a focus on showcasing student achievement and celebrations

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<b>Goal 1</b>	Improve student learning in literacy and numeracy.
<b>Target 1.1</b>	Increase the percentage of students achieving above level, Teacher Judgement in reading from 22 per cent in 2021 to 30 per cent in 2025.
<b>Target 1.2</b>	Increase the percentage of students achieving above level, Teacher Judgement in writing from 12 per cent in 2021 to 25 per cent in 2025.
<b>Target 1.3</b>	Increase the percentage of students achieving above level, Teacher Judgement in number and algebra from 17 per cent in 2021 to 25 per cent in 2025.
<b>Target 1.4</b>	Increase the percentage of students with high benchmark growth (NAPLAN) in reading from 0 per cent (average 2018–2021) to three year average in 2025 of 25 per cent.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.a</b> Curriculum planning and assessment	Fully document and align curriculum, assessment and planning.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.b</b> Building practice excellence	Implement data driven school improvement through collaborative professional learning and team planning.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 1.c</b>	Fully develop, document and implement an agreed and evidenced based Instructional model.

Evidence-based high-impact teaching strategies	
<b>Goal 2</b>	Strengthen student wellbeing, and connectedness to school.
<b>Target 2.1</b>	By 2025 increase the positive responses in school developed survey from (XX benchmark set in 2021) to XX mean over three years (insert benchmark and target when data is available)
<b>Target 2.2</b>	By 2025, 90 per cent of students to meet Individual Education Plan (IEP) literacy goals, up from XX per cent in 2021 (insert benchmark when data is available)
<b>Target 2.3</b>	By 2025, 90 per cent of students to meet Individual Education Plan (IEP) numeracy goals, up from XX per cent in 2021 (insert benchmark when data is available)
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 2.a</b> Curriculum planning and assessment	Develop implement and monitor rigorous IEPs across the school.
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 2.b</b> Empowering students and building school pride	Build staff capacity and develop processes and practices to support student agency
<b>Key Improvement Strategy 2.c</b> Parents and carers as partners	Develop and implement practices which support high levels of community engagement and wellbeing.