Liverpool Hospital School
where caring and technology go hand in hand

2009 Annual School Report
Our school at a glance

Students
Liverpool Hospital School is a K-12 school situated within the Paediatric Unit of Liverpool Hospital, providing continuity of education for students from both government and non-government schools. Our school provides a stimulating, caring and nurturing educational environment, supporting students and families at an often stressful time.

Engaging in the school’s programs enhances learning outcomes, promotes psychological well being and assists in the recovery process.

Staff
The school staff is an important and valued part of the multidisciplinary team in hospital, working to ensure the best health and educational outcomes for students.
All teaching staff meet the professional requirements for teaching in NSW public schools.

Significant programs and initiatives
Students from K-12 participated online in World Maths Day. Almost two million students from two hundred and four countries took part. Students enjoyed the challenge of online learning.

Student achievement in 2009
Students who are well enough are able to complete external tests such as NAPLAN. Results go to the students’ home schools. The school liaises with home schools and the Board of Studies for HSC students as necessary.

Messages

Principal’s message
Parents and visitors to the hospital school give consistently positive feedback on the school’s programs and on the accommodating, professional and friendly staff. The staff is highly motivated and constantly learning to improve work practices and teaching and learning programs for all students.

I certify that the information in this report is the result of a rigorous school self-evaluation process and is a balanced and genuine account of the school's achievements and areas for development.

Gina Davidson
Principal

School Council message
All children enjoy and appreciate being involved in the hospital school program, with stimulating educational activities presented by friendly and enthusiastic staff. Technology is used widely and the curriculum is adapted to suit the needs of the students from Kindergarten to Year 12. The school and its staff is an integral part of the Paediatric Unit.

Dr Arthur Jarrett, President School Council.

Student representative’s message
My teachers are fantastic. Being at the school has helped me cope and I have had extra help with Maths and English when I needed it.

Zoe, Yr 10.

School context

Student enrolment profile
Students come from the full range of schools and educational settings in the NSW Department of Education and independent schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Secondary</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals:</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>606</td>
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</tbody>
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Of the 606 students in 2009,
52.8% were K-6 and
47.2% were 7-12.

Staff information
All teaching and School Administrative and Support Staff (SASS) are qualified, experienced personnel, who work effectively as part of the multi-disciplinary team in the hospital. They have strong professional links with the staff of other NSW Hospital schools and with other schools in the South West Sydney Region (SWSR). There are no indigenous members of staff.

Staff establishment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Learning Support Officer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrative Manager</td>
<td>0.496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom teachers</td>
<td>0.168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Librarian</td>
<td>0.084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
<td>0.049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levels:</td>
<td>2.797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Staff attendance and retention
Staff has access to leave entitlements such as sick leave. The number of teachers is below threshold for providing staff attendance figures.

Financial summary
This summary covers funds for operating costs and does not involve expenditure areas such as permanent salaries, building and major maintenance.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance brought forward</td>
<td>113 112.77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global funds</td>
<td>29 455.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tied funds</td>
<td>8 436.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; community sources</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>3 994.88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust receipts</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canteen</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td><strong>154 999.30</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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**Expenditure**
- Teaching & learning
  - Key learning areas: 2 995.52
  - Excursions: 0.00
  - Extracurricular dissections: 651.31
- Library: 42.18
- Training & development: 6 541.04
- Tied funds: 33 483.12
- Casual relief teachers: 779.36
- Administration & office: 11 813.36
- School-operated canteen: 0.00
- Utilities: 94.20
- Maintenance: 0.00
- Trust accounts: 0.00
- Capital programs: 0.00
- **Total expenditure**: 56 400.09

**Balance carried forward**: 98 599.21

A full copy of the school's 2009 financial statement is tabled at the annual general meetings of the School Council. Further details concerning the statement can be obtained by contacting the school.

In 2009 we spent or committed our Investing In Our Schools (IIOS) Federal government funding. All IIOS funds will be fully expended in 2010.

The funding has been used to purchase computers and other technology equipment for student learning programs. As the majority of this equipment will be obsolete at approximately the same time, we have put aside funds for replacement of these assets.

The carried forward balance consists of funds committed for asset replacement, unpaid casual salaries, ongoing staff training for Connected Classrooms and for additional teaching and learning resources. Further details are available in the school's Annual Financial Statement.

School performance 2009

Achievements

Arts
Students create artworks which are framed and displayed in the ward and schoolroom for the enjoyment of others. In term two a group of girls from Liverpool Girls High School came to the hospital to work with our students on art projects.

Sport
The school purchased a WiiFit with funds from The Premiers Sporting Challenge. This allows students participate in sport despite the restrictions of medical equipment and health conditions.

Workplace Learning
In first semester two Year 11 students completed workplace learning placements at the hospital school and helped with computer technology issues. One student had the opportunity to attend a regional Technology Conference with staff and found it to be informative and very worthwhile.

Team Challenge
All staff competed as a team in the Hospital Team Challenge to improve their fitness and diet. The program raised individual awareness of healthy lifestyle choices and had a positive impact on staff fitness levels.

Significant programs and initiatives

Christmas Ward Decorating Competition
The school as part of the Paediatric team took part in the second Ward Decorating Competition and was again successful, receiving $500 to be spent on resources for the ward.

Aboriginal education
Students celebrated NAIDOC week by listening to stories from the Dreaming and by creating artworks to decorate the schoolroom and ward.

Multicultural education
Students learned about the work of UNICEF around the world and celebrated Children’s Week and UNICEF Day for Change with a week of celebrations in October.
Respect and responsibility
Our nine core values adopted by the multidisciplinary Paediatric staff as part of our Values Forum are displayed throughout the ward. Staff model these values in their interactions with children, their parents and other staff.

Staff Professional Learning - Technology
We have a major focus on using technology in teaching and learning. Staff observed a video conference with cartoonist Dave Hackett where students from several schools asked questions about his craft, techniques and inspiration.

Staff also investigated new technologies and networked with other staff and schools at the Regional ICT Conference and Computer Coordinator days.

Mentoring
The School Learning Support Officer (SLSO) undertook two placements to learn the role of a School Administrative Manager (SAM) in larger schools. Her mentors were at Cecil Hills High and Warwick Farm Public school.

Progress on 2009 targets

Target 1
Improve students learning outcomes in Numeracy
Our achievements include:
- students achieving syllabus outcomes using new resources and learning programs; and
- increased student engagement in numeracy.

Target 2
Improve students learning outcomes in Literacy
Our achievements include:
- improved student literacy in mathematics and
- improved problem solving by students.

Key evaluations

Educational and management practice
Attendance and Roll Marking

Background
Many home schools contacted to share students in ERN were not sure of how to mark the roll. This issue was raised with DET personnel.

Findings and conclusions
A Memorandum was issued to all schools stating schools should use the code “H” for students attending another educational setting.

Future directions
Staff will refer home schools to the Memorandum.

Curriculum - Music

Background
Our specialist secondary trained music teacher has developed a music program for hospital students incorporating the use of technology.

Findings and conclusions
Students, parents and staff reported that students are actively engaged and enjoying using the turntable and Garageband, with some students creating original compositions.

Future directions
Using Connected Classroom technologies.

Parent, student, and teacher satisfaction
In 2009 the school sought the opinions of parents, students and teachers about the school.

Sample responses are presented below.

The Liverpool Hospital School and its staff are a valuable asset to the hospital. By being able to give Jerami more one on one time, it gives him a better chance to catch up on important studies that he may otherwise missed due to his frequent hospitalisation. School makes his hospital stays a bit more bearable. Lisa, parent of Jerami, Yr 8.

I like this school. It’s fun. It’s great, actually excellent! Abhi and Chantelle, Yr 1.

Thank you for giving us this amazing experience and letting us work with kids our age and younger to help build confidence and leadership and to learn how to work as a team. On the way we have met lots of interesting children who all have great talents. Thanks from Liverpool Girls High art group.

I enjoy the challenge of being a teaching principal and teaching a broad range of students. I learn something new every day. I constantly strive to keep up my professional learning to inspire me to improve the teaching and learning programs at the hospital school. Gina Davidson.

School development 2009 – 2011
The school will focus on improving student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy with a focus on connected learning, integrating ICT into teaching,
and learning programs, quality teaching and student engagement.

Targets for 2010

A Connected Classroom installed in Term 2. Our focus will be on incorporating the new technologies into teaching and learning programs.

Target 1

*Increased student engagement.*

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- focused professional learning for staff;
- incorporating new technologies into teaching and learning programs; and
- developing strategies to engage students with mental health, behaviour and conduct disorders.

Our success will be measured by:

- feedback from staff on using new technologies in teaching and learning programs and
- surveys of students, parents and staff on student engagement.

Target 2

*Improved student learning outcomes in literacy and numeracy.*

Strategies to achieve this target include:

- ongoing professional learning for staff; and
- incorporating new technologies to improve teaching and learning in literacy and numeracy.

Our success will be measured by:

- feedback from staff, students and parents on student learning and engagement; and
- students achieving syllabus outcomes in literacy and numeracy using new technologies.

About this report

In preparing this report, the self-evaluation committee has gathered information from evaluations conducted during the year and analysed other information about the school’s practices and student learning outcomes. The self-evaluation committee and school planning committee have determined targets for the school’s future development.

Gina Davidson, Principal
Ronda Glanville, School Learning Support Officer
Noeline McKenzie, School Administrative Manager
Dr Arthur Jarrett, President School Council
Shobna Wati, Nursing Unit Manager

School contact information

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Web: http://www.liverplhos-s.schools.nsw.edu.au
School Code: 5556

Parents can find out more information about Annual School Reports, how to interpret information in the reports and have the opportunity to provide feedback about these reports at:


Staff at the ‘Mind and Its Potential Conference’ in December 2009.
Andy has been a student at the hospital school for a number of years. Andy has attended the hospital school from his early primary school days. He is now in Year seven at high school and is one of our favourite regulars.

Holly has also been to the hospital school on several admissions. She is always bright and happy and enjoys talking to the staff and other students. Holly especially enjoys art.

Zoe has also been a regular student of the hospital school. Secondary students are often helped to begin or to complete assignments and assessment tasks from their home schools. It looks like Mrs Davidson needs to concentrate hard on this one.

Students are supported with one on one assistance in their learning programs. Monique is receiving individual tuition from School Learning Support Officer Mrs Glanville who teaches the students some great technology tips.
Johnny, thinking mathematically to solve an Aboriginal design jigsaw puzzle. Jigsaws and other mathematical puzzles such as tangrams and tactiles are used to develop logical thinking skills, spatial awareness and problem solving using clues such as shape, colour, size and pattern.

Dawit enjoyed his time at school. Students use technology in their learning programs to take part in online competitions such as World Maths Day, to use the internet for research and communication.

Students use Microsoft Office software for literacy and numeracy programs. They learn to use many of the features of the programs to complete their learning tasks. Brooke is publishing her work using Microsoft Word.

Brandon is creating a powerpoint presentation on Amazing Animal Facts. His learning involved literacy, numeracy and science. Brandon was keen to demonstrate his understanding by presenting his slide show to the class.
Matthew is receiving his medication for asthma while he attends school in hospital. Nurse Alicia is giving Matthew his medicine through a spacer. Nurses and doctors often come to the schoolroom to see patients.

Ryan needed to come to school in his bed. Laptop computers and wireless internet connection enables students to access technology for their learning programs in most areas of the ward.

Isabella is using one of the school’s puppets in her literacy program. Students enjoy using the puppets for creative and dramatic play, public speaking and to create characters and scripts for writing and performance.

The schoolroom has two oxygen outlets so that students who are well enough, like Khaled are still able to come to the school and to enjoy the small school atmosphere and the opportunity to learn and socialise with others.