

# External School Review - Waikerie Primary School

Across our education system, we seek growth for every student, in every class, and in every school. The external school review value-adds and supports schools to raise student achievement and sustain high performance by providing an expert external perspective on school performance by verifying or challenging:

- a school's improvement planning and processes and its impact on student learning
- the impact of previous external school directions
- the rigour of a school's improvement practices
- the school's capacity to achieve or sustain learning improvement over time.

The external school review lines of inquiry focus on:

- quality school improvement planning
- expert teaching
- quality leadership
- conditions for optimal learning.

The overarching question in every external school review is: How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement, and equity?

## Reported impact of directions from the previous External School Review in July 2019.

Teachers are collectively developing their capability to analyse student achievement data to inform practice. Phonics assessments are used to determine the starting point for the phonics sequence and Big Ideas in Number assessments are used to determine next steps to target teaching in number. All students have been tested and placed into quadrants using the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills assessment tools. Teachers are using this analysis to support the development of fluency in reading, and they will be accessing professional development to further develop their ability to use this data to target teaching practices.

Teachers have participated in professional learning and are implementing strategies to support differentiation when teaching the mathematics units of work. Some teachers discussed using concrete, pictorial and abstract strategies to support students to solve problems, to enable stretch. The school is including problem solving and reasoning tasks in mathematics to ensure students are challenged in their learning. Further opportunities to strengthen the use of data to differentiate student learning would be beneficial.

A whole school focus on visible learning has occurred to support the development of student agency. This has resulted in teachers referencing learning intentions at the beginning of most learning tasks. Students discussed that learning intentions were useful and supported them to understand what they are expected to learn. Success criteria are discussed with students to support learning and consequently some students discussed using them to improve their work. Students are receiving feedback on their learning, enabling most students involved in interview forums to discuss their next steps for learning.

## Outcomes from the External School Review held in May 2023.

The principal will work with the education director to implement the following directions:

- Direction 1**      **Strengthen teachers' ability to effectively use student achievement data to differentiate learning, enabling all students to be stretched and challenged in their learning.**
- Direction 2**      **Ensure teachers use data to effectively evaluate the impact of changes to their practice and make appropriate adjustments when required that improve student achievement.**
- Direction 3**      **Collectively strengthen, consolidate and document current evidence-based practices to ensure they become embedded and sustained practice.**

These directions are published on the school improvement plan and will support the school's ongoing improvement work. **Based on the school's current performance, Waikerie Primary School will be externally reviewed again in 2026.**



**Roy Page**  
Director  
Review, Improvement and Accountability



**Julia Oakley**  
Executive Director  
System Performance

