

	PO address	Cnr 19 th Avenue and Avocado Street, Elanora 4221
	Phone	07 5533 9299
	Fax	07 5534 8332
	Email	admin@elanorashs.eq.edu.au
	Website or Contact Person	www.elanorashs.eq.edu.au

Principal's foreword

Introduction

Elanora State High School was established in 1990. The School Motto is '*Aim to Excel*' and at Elanora SHS students can achieve excellence through an innovative and broad curriculum. Elanora SHS has a full range of students and its curriculum continues to evolve to reflect the aspirations of the student community. It also reflects the importance of the global community to the future of the Gold Coast. Elanora High is an accredited international school and in 2008 students from Japan, China, Brazil, Germany, Italy, Chile and Mexico were enrolled at the school. A number of International Tour Groups visited the school and Elanora High School staff and students participated in a teacher and student exchange and a homestay visit with our sister school, Yokosuka, in Japan.

This report outlines the successes and achievements of Elanora SHS students and staff over 2008. It also highlights some priorities for 2009.

Future outlook

Elanora State High School has a strong focus on maximising student outcomes, particularly in the area of literacy and numeracy. Elanora also seeks to ensure all students exit Elanora in Year 12 with a meaningful qualification, for example, Overall Position, Vet qualification or School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT). These areas have been listed as key priorities in the 2009 Annual Operational Plan. Elanora is mapping literacy and numeracy competencies across the middle school. Head of Departments are reviewing literacy requirements in each faculty and implementing processes to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes. All senior students are tracked to monitor their subject choices and assessment results to continually monitor outcome progress. 85% of Year 12 students exited Elanora in 2008 with A Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) which is in the top 3 state high schools on the Gold Coast.

A further priority is the ongoing review of whole school curriculum to: align with Queensland Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Framework (QCAR) requirements, Middle School Philosophy and Senior Phase of Learning, review of Year 10 transition units and SET (Senior Education and Training Plan) planning processes. Elanora has introduced an electronic SET planning process to support student transition from the Middle to the Senior phase of learning. Yr 10 Transition subjects have been reviewed to ensure relevance. Middle School subjects are being mapped to ensure alignment with QCAR.

Our school at a glance

School Profile

Total student enrolments for this school: 1185

Year levels offered: Year 8 – Year 12

Coeducational or single sex: Coeducational

Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings

- Elanora State High School vertical curriculum allows students to individualise their learning pathways. Students have opportunities to accelerate, move in a natural sequence or consolidate their learning pathways.
- Students in the senior school had a learning or earning day on Mondays to support VET study, work experience, school-based apprenticeships, traineeships, enrolment in University programs and academic study.
- Students in Years 11 and 12 have the opportunity to complete a Certificate 11 in Business, Certificate 111 in Children's Services, Certificates 11 and 111 in Hospitality, Certificate 11 in Information Technology, Certificate 11 in Public Safety-Aquatic Rescue in Surf Lifesaving or Excellence in Surfing, Certificate 11 in Tourism.
- Elanora SHS offers an accelerated transition learning program for Year 7 students from local primary schools.
- In 2008 planning was underway to develop a Year 8 ACE (Accelerated Class of Excellence) program in 2009. Technology is heavily embedded into this program and each student in the class in 2009 will be issued with the use of an individual Apple Mac computer.
- Elanora participated in the League For Life program in 2008 with a special dedicated class of Middle School boys.
- In 2008 Elanora developed a cross curricular subject "*Solar Boat Challenge*". Elanora was successful at the state level and the team competed successfully in Sydney.
- The school operates a Pastoral Care program across all year levels called "CREW." The program is called CREW to reflect the values of the school.
- Elanora in the Middle School up until Term 2 Year 10 operates four terms a year. Students across the whole school are reported on four times a year.

Extra curricula activities

- Sport – Intraschool, Interschool, District, Regional, Community Competitions (Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country).
- The Arts – Music, Dance, Drama, Art. In 2008 students competed in the Rock Eisteddfod with a theme around the Moulin Rouge, had art works displayed in the Ministers Award, the Stage Band and Concert Band represented Elanora in the Fanfare competition in Term 3 and won second place in the Gold Coast Eisteddfod and Drama students participated in a Drama Enrichment Trip to Sydney.
- Leadership and Business Week - a program involving all Year 11 students. This program links develops strong partnerships with the community and provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate their leadership potential and business acumen.
- International Exchange program – Elanora in 2008 welcomed visitors from Germany, Italy, Brazil, Japan, Mexico, Chile and China. As part of the sister school arrangement with Yokosuka Sogo High School Elanora welcomed 20 students and two teachers for a two week study tour and homestay. As part of the exchange four Elanora students travelled to Yokosuka in Term 4 to learn about Japanese culture and study the language. Two teachers from Elanora also went to Yokosuka for a four week exchange.
- Ski trip in Term 3 2008 to Mt Hotham
- Student Council – In 2008 the Student Council assisted with local, state, national and international charities. One of the major projects undertaken by the council was a Country to Coast exchange with Barcardine State High School. Six Barcardine students and a teacher were hosted by the Elanora community.

Our school at a glance

- NAIDOC Week – the whole school participated in a special assembly and other activities for indigenous students involved a bar-be-que with traditional aboriginal foods and indigenous painting
- The Kokoda Challenge – Twelve students and three teachers participated in the Kokoda Challenge which involved an arduous 96kms trek.
- Heron Island Trip – students and teachers studied the flora and fauna of Heron Island for a week.
- Canberra Trip – In April 2 staff and 40 students visited important sites in Canberra. The group were able to attend the National ANZAC Day service. The students gained a valuable insight into our nation's history.
- Gifted and Talented competitions: Opti-minds – the teams achieved honours in the regional tournament, Mathematics Teams Challenge, Exit 92 cluster Mathematics Teams challenge, Science-ICT-Mathematics Competitions

How computers are used to assist learning

- ICTs are integrated extensively throughout all curriculum programs. The school has invested heavily in the acquisition of hardware, software and laptops.
- In 2008 Elanora introduced an electronic system to support SET planning and attendance through ID Attend.
- Elanora High offers specific IT subjects including Information Processing and Technology, Business Communication and Technology, Certificates 1 and 11 in Information Technology and a range of Middle School Business and Technology subjects
- Students use computer facilities for internet research, data analysis and reporting, multi-media applications, graphic design and accessing school information
- The ratio of computers to students is 1:3.3. There was a total of 430 computers available in the school for student and staff use.

Social climate

Elanora High School is committed to creating a caring, friendly and productive learning environment, where students can strive to attain a broad educational foundation for life and achieve their individual potential.

We believe that the staff, students and parents form a three-way partnership which aims to provide the very best education for our students. To ensure the success of this partnership, it is necessary for us to co-operate fully with each other and accept our responsibilities. This forms part of the enrolment agreement signed between the school, parent and student on enrolment.

Student care and welfare is supported by a network of support personnel including CREW teachers, Year Co-ordinators, Guidance Officer, Youth Health Nurse, Youth Pathways Officers, Indigenous Liaison Officer, Industry Liaison Officer, Teachers, Heads of Department and members of the Administration. In 2009 a Chaplain will be added to the team. Students who require further support are referred to outside agencies.

Elanora SHS has a Responsible Behaviour Plan For Students that clearly outlines the boundaries and expectations of student's behaviour. It is formed around positive relationships and core values. There are three basic rules – the teacher has a right to teach, students have a right to learn and all have a right to be safe.

To support student's making appropriate decisions the school has a strong emphasis on responsible decision making. This is achieved through the use of the Responsible Thinking Classroom and Alternative Dispute Resolution strategies, in particular, mediation.

All students participate in a CREW program which is a spiralling curriculum of pastoral care. Through this program issues of self-awareness, social awareness, self-management, responsible decision making and relational skills are covered. To support this program all students in the Middle School undertake classes in Healthy Lifestyles and Career Education to support the student's social and emotional development.

Elanora High is a multi-cultural school inclusive of socio-economic status, indigenous and international students. It endorses socially just practices in a supportive school environment.

Involving parents in their child's education.

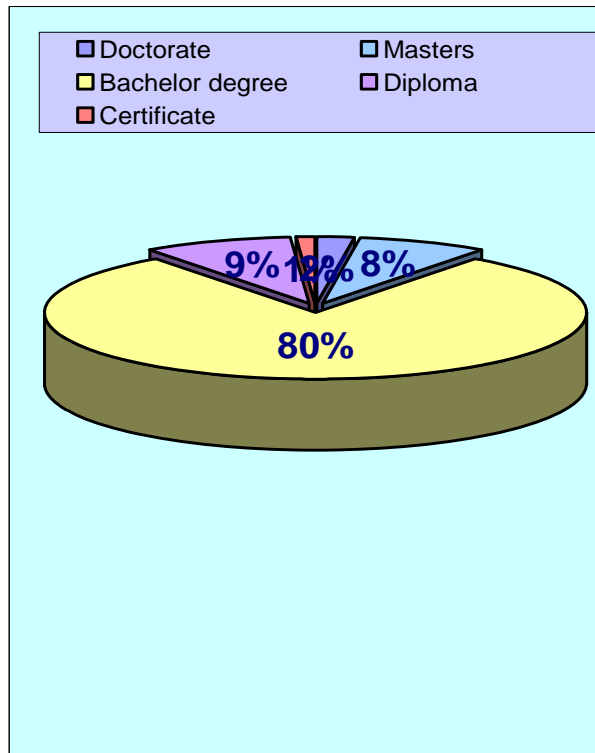
Parents are actively encouraged to participate in the education of their children in a number of ways:

- Through the Parents and Citizens Association
- Students receive four report cards a year to inform them of their child's progress
- Mail outs – at crucial times parents receive a mail out to ensure delivery of communication
- SMS texting parents if a child is absent without reason. If a student has an unexplained absence parents receive a text informing them of this absence.
- Two parent-teacher interview evenings are held at critical times after Term 1 and 2 results
- Elanora produces a weekly newsletter to keep parents informed about school activities. In 2009 we hope to move this method of communication to an E newsletter
- Regular phone contact with parents by staff, Year Co-ordinators and members of the Administration
- Regular parent evenings with regards to subject selection, SET Planning, Yr 8 evening, Year 7 into 8 evening, Academic and Sports Awards evenings
- Access by parents to the school website. The website is currently under review and will be redesigned in 2009

Our staff profile

Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of attainment	Number of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	2
Masters	7
Bachelor degree	73
Diploma	8
Certificate	1



Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

- The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2008 was \$32412 .
- The major professional development initiatives are as follows:
 - Curriculum Development
 - Behaviour support
 - ICT's / Smart Classrooms
 - Budget / Financing
 - Literacy
 - Middle Phases of Schooling
 - Numeracy
 - School priorities – workplace health & safety, wellbeing in schools
 - Senior phase of learning
 - Aspiring leaders
 - Students with disabilities
 - Conferences
- The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2008 was 88 %.

Our staff profile

Average staff attendance

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

Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.

- From the end of the 2007 school year, 92 % of staff were retained by the school for the entire 2008 school year.

Performance of our students

Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2008 was 82 %.

Key outcomes

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Domain	Measures	Yr 9
Reading	Average score for the school	561 Result
	Average score for Queensland	568.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89% % Result
Writing	Average score for the school	551 Result
	Average score for Queensland	555.3
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 82% % Result
Spelling	Average score for the school	559 Result
	Average score for Queensland	567.8
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 86% % Result
Grammar and Punctuation	Average score for the school	537 Result
	Average score for Queensland	563.2
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 75% % Result
Numeracy	Average score for the school	563 Result
	Average score for Queensland	570.7
	For the school the percentage of students at or above the national minimum standard.	2008 89% % Result

Apparent retention rates Year 10 to Year 12.

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

74.2%

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2008

Performance of our students

Number of students awarded a Senior Statement.	181
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate Individual Achievement (QCIA).	0
Number of students awarded a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) at the end of Year 12.	154
Number of students awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).	0
Number of students awarded one or more Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications.	113
Number of students who are completing or completed a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SAT).	23
Number of students receiving an Overall Position (OP).	101
Percentage of OP/ IBD eligible students with OP 1-15 or an IBD.	58 %
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.	91 %
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving a tertiary offer.	87 %

Post-school destination information

At the time of publishing this School Annual Report, the results of the 2008 Year 12 post-school destinations survey, Next Step – Student Destination Report for the school were not available. Information about these post-school destinations of our students will be incorporated into this Report in September.

Value added

Elanora High is unique in a number of areas:

- A unitised vertical curriculum. Students are able to individualise their learning and speed of acceleration through the curriculum
- Numerous extra curricular activities as listed in extra curricular section. Elanora provides an extensive range of rich extra curricular opportunities for students as evidenced in the extra curricular section of the report.
- Senior students have opportunities to engage in vocational programs through: vocational subjects, work experience, school-based apprenticeship or traineeships. Time is provided to access these programs through the *Learning or Earning Day*. Resources to support students are provided through a variety of sources but particularly by the Industry Liaison Officer, Guidance Officer and Careers Education program.
- Elanora has strong partnerships with Griffith University where students in Year 12 may be offered direct or guaranteed admission through the Griffith University Guest program and/ or achievement in prescribed Griffith University subjects.

Performance of our students

Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school

Each year Education Queensland monitors student, staff, parent satisfaction with the school through the School opinion Survey. The responses from parents to some key questions indicates the success Elanora has achieved in developing a partnership between the school and parents that supports student learning. A range of 2.41-3.20 is the satisfied range.

Parents say	Elanora Mean	State Mean	Like School Mean
That your child is making sufficient progress?	2.97	2.86	2.88
That your child works well at school	3.18	3.04	3.02
That your child is getting a good education at this school	3.00	2.98	3.01
That your child is confident using computers at school?	3.03	2.97	3.03
That the school provides good learning opportunities for your child?	3.08	3.06	3.12
That your child is treated fairly at this school?	3.00	2.98	2.91
Students say satisfaction with			
Student outcomes	2.71	2.59	2.60
Curriculum	2.78	2.65	2.60
Pedagogy	2.64	2.59	2.59
Learning climate	2.41	2.35	2.34
School climate	2.50	2.48	2.53
Resources	2.46	2.36	2.33
That you are getting a good education at this school	2.80	2.71	2.79