

School Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Ballarat Primary School (Dana St) (0033)



DANA STREET PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 33

BALLARAT EST. 1857

<p>School vision</p>	<p>At Ballarat Primary School (Dana St), we strive to empower every student, in a culture of engagement and excellence, to embrace challenges and reach their full potential.</p> <p>We provide a welcoming, stimulating, caring and supportive learning environment for our students, teachers and families, with a strong culture of excellence. We aim to connect our students with the wider community, so that they are empowered to participate and contribute within a global community.</p> <p>Learning opportunities are tailored for members of our school community from Foundation to year 6. Curriculum is delivered consistently via an agreed pedagogical understanding that reflects current best practices. We provide rich and diverse learning opportunities to maximise the academic, social and emotional growth of all students. Learning achievements are monitored, acknowledged & celebrated together by students, parents and staff.</p> <p>Students are supported to develop their social & emotional capabilities so they feel safe and ready to learn. We acknowledge and promote cultural diversity, ensuring that students are understanding of respectful relationships.</p>
<p>School values</p>	<p>At Ballarat Primary School (Dana Street) we believe that education is a process of growth underpinned by the values of respect & care; responsibility; inclusion, tolerance & understanding; and excellence.</p> <p>Our school recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children.</p> <p>All staff, parents and students adhere to the behavioural expectations of Ballarat Primary School (Dana St). We respect the diversity of individuals in our school community and address the shared responsibilities of all members in building safe and respectful relationships.</p> <p>Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this school.</p> <p>Our Statement of Values acknowledges that parents and school staff are strongly motivated to do their best for every child. Everyone has the right to differing opinions and views and to raise concerns, as long as we do this respectfully as a community working together.</p>
<p>Context challenges</p>	<p>SCHOOL CONTEXT.</p> <p>Ballarat Primary School (Dana St) is located in the provincial city of Ballarat approximately 116km kilometres from the Melbourne Central Business District. The school was founded in 1857.</p>

	<p>The school facilities include classrooms, office administration areas, a library space, art room and a multi-purpose space. The school grounds include two playgrounds, a grassed area, a basketball court, a large sandpit, gaga pit, playpod and a cubby house.</p> <p>Enrolments at the time of the review were approximately 250 students. Over the past four years, enrolments had been stable. The Student Family Occupation (SFO) category was 0.46 and the Student Family Occupation Education (SFOE) index was 0.37 in 2019–2020.</p> <p>The staffing profile of Dana Street Primary School in 2020 includes a principal and assistant principal, 15 teachers, 5 part time equivalent Education Support (ES) staff, and 2 office administration staff.</p> <p>The school provides an approved curriculum framework based on the Victorian Curriculum, differentiated to meet student needs.</p> <p>The school delivers the Victorian Curriculum, including specialist subjects in Language - Japanese, Physical Education, Performance Arts and Visual Arts.</p> <p>The school took part in the Professional Learning Community (PLC) program in 2018.</p> <p>KEY CHALLENGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Ensure continue academic growth for all cohorts of students. Academic results and indeed all data sets had a strong trajectory of growth throughout the previous SSP. Keeping this growth at a strong level is a challenge. *Continuing to ensure that consistency is embedded for Writing cycles, word study teaching and Mathematics learning sequences will be a challenge, as we necessarily focus on other areas in our next SSP. *Enhancing data literacy is seen as a priority, and this is challenging as staff transition in and out of the school and between year levels. *Ensuring that our curriculum is authentic and relevant will be a great challenge, as we strive to integrate curriculum areas into rigorous, authentic learning sequences that assist our students to engage with the wider community. * The school will need to monitor wellbeing programs that were embedded during previous strategic plan. Intermittent whole school focus to ensure continuation and consistency
<p>Intent, rationale and focus</p>	<p>INTENT</p> <p>Findings from the 2020 school review indicate that Ballarat Primary School (Dana St) has embedded practices and structures to maximise student outcomes and grow teacher expertise.</p> <p>Our intentions throughout the strategic plan 2021-24 are to further promote learning growth and achievement, particularly in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy, further develop learner agency and voice, and to promote student engagement and deep learning connected to the wider world.</p>

RATIONALE

The 2020 School Review found that the school had strong results in English and Mathematics across the school. PLC processes were embedded and operating effectively. Additional work on developing data literacy to enhance planning, assessment and curriculum and lesson design was identified as a priority.

The School Review found that the school had high levels of student leadership embedded in the practice. Raising the level of student voice and student agency in learning and curriculum development was identified as a priority.

The school had high levels of student engagement with learning. Further development of inquiry learning to engage students was identified as a priority by the Panel. This was also linked to feedback from parents and students to greater engagement with learning opportunities within the local community and with broader global issues.

FOCUS

The school will prioritise data literacy, especially in the areas of Literacy and Numeracy. This will be supported by effective PLC inquiries; working with an external consultant; the work of our learning specialist and A.I.P. leaders and teams; and peer observations. We will continue to embed evidenced based high impact teaching strategies, including goal-setting, which promote student agency in learning. We will enhance student voice and engagement through a more authentic inquiry approach to studying curriculum.

Goal 1	To maximise learning growth and achievement for all students.
Target 1.1	By 2024 increase the percentage of students above benchmark growth in NAPLAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading to increase from 38% (2019) to 45% in 2023 • Writing to increase from 36% (2019) to 40% in 2023 • Numeracy to increase from 24% (2019) to 30% in 2023
Target 1.2	By 2024 to increase the percentage of students above level on Teacher Judgements F-6 against the Victorian Curriculum in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading & Viewing from 38% (2019) to 45% in 2023 • Speaking & Listening from 11% to 25% in 2023 • Writing from 22% (2019) to 30% in 2023 Number & Algebra from 31% (2019) to 40% in 2023
Key Improvement Strategy 1.a Curriculum Planning and Assessment	Improve teacher capacity to use curriculum, assessment and pedagogy to design effective learning sequences
Key Improvement Strategy 1.b Building practice excellence	Develop teacher efficacy in data literacy to support point of need teaching
Key Improvement Strategy 1.c Evaluating Impact on Learning	Develop feedback processes between students and teachers to enhance evaluation of teaching and learning

Goal 2	To improve learner agency and voice, creating high levels of self-efficacy.
Target 2.1	By 2024 to increase the percentage of positive endorsement on the Student Attitudes to School Survey in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student voice and agency from 77% (2019) to 85% positive endorsement in 2023 • Sense of confidence from 86% (2019) to 90% positive endorsement in 2023
Target 2.2	By 2024 to increase the percentage of positive endorsement on the Parent Opinion Survey in: Student voice and learner agency from 88% (2019) to 90% positive endorsement in 2023
Target 2.3	By 2024 to increase the percentage of positive endorsement on the Staff Opinion Survey in: Academic emphasis from 83% (2019) to 90% positive endorsement in 2023
Key Improvement Strategy 2.a Building Practice Excellence	Build teacher capacity to activate student voice, agency and leadership in the classroom
Key Improvement Strategy 2.b Intellectual engagement and self-awareness	Develop a whole school strategy for students to manage, communicate and monitor their own learning goals and progress
Key Improvement Strategy 2.c Building Communities	Enhance opportunities for authentic learning partnerships between students, teachers and parents

Goal 3	To further improve student engagement and deep learning connected to the wider world.
Target 3.1	By 2024 increase the percentage of positive endorsement in the Student Attitudes to School Survey in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of connectedness from 87% (2019) to at least 90% positive endorsement in 2023 • Resilience from 80% (2019) to at least 90% positive endorsement in 2023 • Stimulated learning from 89% (2019) to at least 90% positive endorsement in 2023 • Motivation and interest from 85% (2019) to at least 90% positive endorsement in 2023
Target 3.2	By 2024 increase the percentage of positive endorsement in the Parent Opinion Survey in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student motivation and support from 91% to 95%
Target 3.3	By 2024 increase the percentage of positive endorsement in the Staff Opinion Survey in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent and community involvement from 90% to at least 93%
Key Improvement Strategy 3.a Building Practice Excellence	Improve teacher capacity to integrate learning areas and capabilities of the Victorian Curriculum into a cohesive learning sequence
Key Improvement Strategy 3.b Curriculum Planning and Assessment	Develop a schoolwide approach to inquiry learning
Key Improvement Strategy 3.c Global Citizenship	Investigate and develop learning opportunities with the local and wider community