Dana Street Primary School

Dana Street Primary School has an enrolment of 184 and is located in the Ballarat central business district. The core purpose of the school is to provide a comprehensive education for all students through effective communication, strong teamwork and the application of a range of teaching and learning strategies within a climate of fun and enjoyment that enables students to reach their academic, social, emotional and physical potential.

We believe that education is a process of growth underpinned by the following community values: respect, care, responsibility, inclusion, tolerance, understanding and excellence.

The school is organized into 8 learning groups supported by specialist arts, library, health and physical education programs. Students are also supported through student welfare programs and strategies which are aimed at developing responsibility, resilience and social, emotional and physical potential.

The school was established in 1857 and has played a significant role in the education community of Ballarat. The Building the Education Revolution initiative will provide a refurbishment of our infant learning and administration areas as well as a new multi-purpose learning centre.

Student Learning

The students at Dana Street Primary School continue to achieve very pleasing results in their learning.

Relative to other schools with similar background characteristics, Dana Street Primary School is performing:

- at a higher level in English and mathematics according to VELS teacher assessments and at a higher overall level when taking into account all assessment measures
- at a similar level in reading and numeracy in Year 3 according to 2009 NAPLAN results
- at a similar level in reading and numeracy in Year 5 according to 2009 NAPLAN results.

Our student learning results continue to improve and reflect the wide range of programs that we implement throughout the school, such as support and extension programs, inquiry learning and the extensive use of eLearning technologies.

Our school will continue to focus on student improvement in literacy and numeracy with a specific emphasis on writing.

Student Engagement and Wellbeing

At Dana Street Primary School we strive to provide a welcoming, stimulating, caring and supportive learning environment for our students, teachers, parents and broader community.

We believe students must be at school to learn and to develop socially. We aim to foster a culture of fun and enjoyment, that enables students to reach their full potential.

Relative to other schools with similar background characteristics our student attendance results are higher.

We believe that students who are well connected to peers, teachers and school feel happy and safe.

Our Student Attitudes to School Survey results are higher relative to other schools with similar background characteristics. In 2010, we will continue to develop programs and strategies that fully engage all students in developing their learning pathway skills, such as Boys Education Programs, Better Buddies Prep and Year 6 Programs, Mates Programs for years 1 to 5, Personal Development Programs Prep to 6 and the extensive use of eLearning technologies.

Student Pathways and Transitions

Our school has a very comprehensive transition program. We believe transition should be as smooth as possible, it should be a positive experience and it should be an opportunity for students to build relationships.

Our Prep transition program has been very successful. The feedback we have received from parents has been very positive. Moreover, 2009 Prep student learning data demonstrates continuous improvement, thus reflecting the strength of this program. Activities have included Better Buddies and Kinder Gym.

When our students experience stages of transition such as moving up to the next grade level or moving on to secondary college, they are supported by a range of programs, initiatives and strategies. Also, our very welcoming school community provides new students and their families to settle in comfortably to our dynamic learning environment.

The feedback we have received from current and past students and their families has been very positive. We believe this is in part due to the strong sense of community that exists in our school which supports all students.

For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at www.danaps.vic.edu.au