



## Girraween Public School, NSW

### About us

We are a large, metropolitan, co-educational, K-6 public primary school located in Sydney, NSW. Over 96% of our students have a language background other than English (LBOTE).

### Our approach

We focus on *Targeted Early Numeracy* (TEN). This involves activities that build numeracy skills through small group instruction and explicit teaching differentiated to student need. Students reflect on the learning process and the strategies used to solve problems. This is explicitly taught in K-2 and students are required to explain thinking both verbally and in written form. We have well-equipped classrooms that give students access to a variety of manipulatives that allow for engagement in meaningful mathematical tasks.

Our mathematics committee trains grade representatives who cascade professional development to grade teams in turn. Our *Number Talks* initiative is one example whereby teachers develop the skills to hold short regular conversations with students to encourage number sense, computational thinking, visualisation of problem-solving and the articulation of thinking processes out loud.

The mathematics committee continually reviews the Mathematics scope and sequence to ensure optimal teaching of complementary units of work.

We prioritise formative assessment and use *Learning Intention and Success Criteria* (LISC) to do so. We analyse pre- and post-test data to inform teaching and provide immediate feedback to students on learning goals and progress.

We use a range of digital resources including: *Essential Assessment*, *Rainbow Maths*, *Targeting Maths* and *TeachStarter*. *TopTen Math Teaching Resources* are used for picture books, lesson plans and activities. Our classroom resource kits include whiteboards, dice, dominoes, playing cards, counters and specific resources for measurement and geometry activities.

Our approach to extension work is 'outward not up' because we want teachers to ensure students explore the breath of the curriculum. We set real-world problem-solving activities requiring multi-step answers and our students respond by applying number knowledge to measurement, geometry, space and data.

We use *Nrich Maths* to help develop engaging open-ended tasks, and *Math Olympiad* for challenging problem-solving questions.

### Our profile

ENROLMENTS **1,273** LBOTE **96%** INDIGENOUS **0%** ICSEA **1116**