



## Hornsby North Public School, NSW

### About us

We are a large, metropolitan, co-educational K-6 public primary school located in Sydney, NSW. Approximately 70% of our students have a language background other than English (LBOTE).

### Our approach

Our success can be attributed to the following processes:

We have a whole-school focus on explicit teaching and professional development to build teacher capacity. Teachers state the reasons for learning concepts and provide students with clear explanations, interesting examples, and opportunity to refine knowledge and ability over time. Explicit teaching is discussed, developed, refined and practised by our staff repeatedly throughout the year as this teaching style is the stated priority of our school.

Our executive team are skilled in data analytics and they work with their teams to design learning programs informed by assessment data and tailored to the needs of each class and student. Students receive feedback and learning goals are formed to direct student learning to key focus areas.

Visible learning strategies are key. Students know what they are learning and why they are learning it. Students in K-6 are provided with lesson goals and success criteria and this produces engaged students who understand what success looks like and receive meaningful feedback based on success criteria. Students are provided with examples of excellent work, based on the acronym WAGOLL (what a good one looks like) and this ensures students are clear about our expectations.

A strong mentoring program targets early career teachers and builds capacity in the first years of teaching. The program involves weekly meetings with mentees and the use of the *Strong Start, Great Teachers* program which allows for customisation based on teachers' needs. Classroom observation forms a large part of the program and feedback is provided on a regular basis. The observations are two way and mentees can observe their mentors' lessons and provide feedback too.

Our *School Excellence Framework* contains the learning culture theme; 'high expectations', which is understood as demonstrating aspirational expectations of learning progress and committing to student excellence. Our success criteria are challenging and students are given scaffolds and samples of work to show the level of work expected. Students love the challenge and teacher and students set learning goals specific to the individual's learning needs together.

### Our profile

ENROLMENTS **949** LBOTE **70%** INDIGENOUS **0%** ICSEA **1158**