



## Kurwongbah State School, Queensland

### About us

We are a mid-sized, co-educational, prep-6 public primary school located on the north side of Brisbane at the southern tip of the North Coast Region.

### Our approach

Our explicit reading improvement strategy prioritises learning expectations, expert teaching, coaching and feedback. This emerged from a review of the whole-school reading program in 2016.

Our teachers engage in a sustained program of professional learning aligned to the quality standards of modelled, shared, guided and independent reading experiences.

Pedagogical lead teachers are appointed to key learning junctures (prep-2, 3-4 and 5-6) to quality assure reading instruction through regular feedback aligned to co-developed quality standards. Pedagogical coaches induct new staff in whole-school reading practices, model and co-teach lessons with teachers and embed regular feedback to teachers and aides ensuring school-wide consistency. They also engage guided reading teacher aides in targeted professional learning, meeting fortnightly to build capability and understanding.

Teachers film reading lessons within a model of shared practice and these modelled samples are unpacked with year level teams to assist staff to see 'pedagogy in action'.

Executive leaders partner with pedagogical coaches to align annual teacher performance and development plans and conduct formalised teacher observations within the *Collegial Engagement Framework*.

A structured guided reading program aligns human resources to classrooms at a frequency of three times per week in addition to shared and modelled instruction thereby developing expert reading teams with the goal of school-wide consistency and frequency.

Guided reading resources are available for all texts including targeted reading strategy, learning goal, text type, vocabulary, pre-reading and prompt questions, independent work and reflection questions post-reading.

Year level term planners outline targeted comprehension strategies and differentiated resources ensuring a planned and explicit approach to whole school reading instruction responsive to all students.

The *Reading Behaviour Monitoring Tool* provides teachers with a clear outline of developmental decoding and comprehension behaviour students need to demonstrate their reading improvement with systematic data tracking to target early intervention response strategies.

As with any improvement strategy, continuity of expertise, sustained focus on core strategies and resource commitment continue to be our core challenges in reading improvement.

### Our profile

ENROLMENTS **869** LBOTE **7%** INDIGENOUS **6%** ICSEA **1004**