

2017 CONTEXT STATEMENT

Seaview Downs Primary School has 9 classes Reception to Year 7 with an enrolment in 2017 of 241. It has a reputation for motivated students, committed staff and highly interested parents and grandparents.

There is a close community feel in the school where students are well supported and there is an educational emphasis on Inquiry Based Learning which promotes problem solving, deeper thinking and genuine engagement in learning.

Governing Council is focused, positive and actively contributes to the achievement of many initiatives.

The **Canteen** exemplifies Healthy Eating best practice and offers online ordering through *Munchmonitor*. The **OSHC** program is vibrant and well supported and offers Vacation Care.

Established in 1969, the school continues to provide a positive learning environment.

	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
Enrolment	213		227		222		229		241	
School Card	46	22%	43	19%	42	22%				
ATSI	4		4		4		3			
NEP	15		19	8%	17	7%	30	23%		
EALD	20		19		16		22			

TOGETHER - INQUIRE - INSPIRE

Our view for the future

This vision statement was developed by the community in 2014 and firstly reflects the commitment to working **together** with parents, staff and students, and more recently with the 15 schools in the Marion Coast Partnership, of which the school is an active member. The school enjoys a strong community feel, with second and third generations of families still happily connected to the school.

The teachers are all experienced specialists in **inquiry teaching** and have for many years implemented the Australian Curriculum through units of inquiry which integrate the knowledge and skill expectations at each year level. Teachers plan backwards from the mandated student outcomes to organize learning activities that will lead students to deeper understandings of big ideas and concepts. A typical inquiry cycle starts with *tuning in* and then proceeds forwards and back, between *finding out*, to *sorting out*, to finally *taking action*, where hopefully students feel compelled to take some sort of action as a result of their learning. This usually includes helping others, improving the environment or writing to a politician or the principal or working with others in raising money for a charity.

Specialist Performing Arts, PE and Japanese programs enhance the classroom experience. Maths and Literacy intervention programs support individual students accelerate their progress in these essential aspects of the curriculum. Performance of all students is carefully monitored with individual mid-term progress checks undertaken by teachers and support staff. Anti-Bullying and Play is the Way programs, supported by our Counselor and Pastoral Care Worker, promote student safety and well-being.

Through positive modeling of lifelong learning, respect for others, a generous caring spirit, the staff hopes to **challenge and inspire** students to think for themselves, take risks, act creatively and to ultimately take responsibility for themselves and their world. A focus on growth mindsets aims to inspire students to approach challenges with confidence, and the knowledge that mistakes and intellectual struggle are necessary parts of deep and meaningful learning. Teachers support students to never give up, but instead relish learning challenges and problem solving.

All Year 6 & 7 students have exclusive access to a personal iPad and use this extensively to support their learning across the curriculum. DECD will invest \$1m this year to establish 3 *next generation* STEM teaching and learning classrooms and a large flexible area and adjoining covered courtyard, where all classes can undertake age appropriate hands-on challenges in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. All Year 1-5 students this year during Terms 2 & 3 will also undertake 20 workshops in basic coding, leading later to the creation of apps, robotics and website design.

We are already well into the 21st century so we are also focused on important work skills like collaboration, communication, critical thinking, team work and problem solving to ensure our students are forward thinking and optimistic about the future.