	<i>PO address</i>	<i>PO Box 8109 Gladstone South 4680</i>
	<i>Phone</i>	<i>(07) 4971 4333</i>
	<i>Fax</i>	<i>(07) 4971 4300</i>
	<i>Email</i>	<i>the.principal@toolooashs.eq.edu.au</i>
	<i>Website or Contact Person</i>	<i>www.toolooashs.eq.edu.au</i>

## *Principal's foreword*

### *Introduction*

Our school's aim is to provide a safe, supportive and academically challenging environment which maximises the pathways for transition for all students from primary school into high school and from school to work, training and tertiary study.

Toolooa's role in the community is to help our young people fulfil their potentials and to transition into adult life as happy, healthy and productive citizens. We provide a broad academic and vocational curriculum allied to innovative and high quality programs, expanding our students' educational experiences through links to the Central Queensland University, TAFE and large, medium and small enterprises in the Gladstone area.

### *Future outlook*

While continuing with the many outstanding programs and initiatives already implemented, the following broad strategies and themes emerged from the Triennial School Review to direct Toolooa State High School in continually improving its performance in achieving its aims through to 2009:

- Developing a strong culture of continual improvement of student results by teachers and students
- Maximising each student's academic potential in the Middle and Senior Phase of schooling and valuing and celebrating their successes
- Improving Year 12 exit results in OP, QTAC offers, QCE and Vocational Certification
- Maximising and supporting informed student choices in academic and vocational learning in the Senior and Middle schools
- A Middle Phase 'Common Assessment and Planning Strategy' across all faculties
- Implementing intra- and inter-school moderation and program accreditation practices in the Middle Phase of Schooling linked with QCAR implementation
- Providing timely and effective professional development and training for staff in Essential Learnings, curriculum development, assessment, reporting and moderation practices
- Linking with feeder schools to attract a the full range of academically and vocationally orientated students to Toolooa SHS

## School Profile

2006 saw Toolooa still growing strongly, up from 900 students in 2005 to 975 in 2006 and 1000 in 2007 across years 8 to 12 – a sure sign that more and more parents recognise the range and quality of our curriculum, the strong ethos of pastoral care and our commitment to getting them a start on adult life as confident and capable young men and women.

## Curriculum offerings

Our distinctive curriculum offerings include offering electives in Year 8, with English, Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and the Study of Society and the Environment as the core subjects in Years 8, 9 and 10. Distinctive subjects and programs include:

- Dance (Junior)
- Media (Junior)
- Film and Television (Senior)
- The Gladstone Schools Engineering Skills Centre (Senior)
- The Flexible Learning Centre (Junior)

Extra curricula activities include:

- All Port Curtis sports
- Chess Club
- Rifle Club
- Fishing Club
- Instrumental Music
- Amnesty International
- Environmental Sustainability Student Group
- Maths, Science and Robotics competitions

Toolooa has over 300 computers, with many based in 6 computer labs to assist learning in ICT specialist subject, including Information Technology Systems, Information Processing and Technology, Film and Television, Media and Graphics, Business Computing and Technology. Others are based in pods throughout the school's buildings and the Resource Centre to facilitate individual student research and learning. Others are located in staff rooms and linked to multimedia projectors in classrooms to facilitate innovative teaching practices.

## *Social climate*

Toolooa's very happy, safe and challenging environment is based on the core value that:

***"Every member of our school community, whether staff, student, parent or visitor, will act at all times with the safety and dignity of themselves and others in mind".***

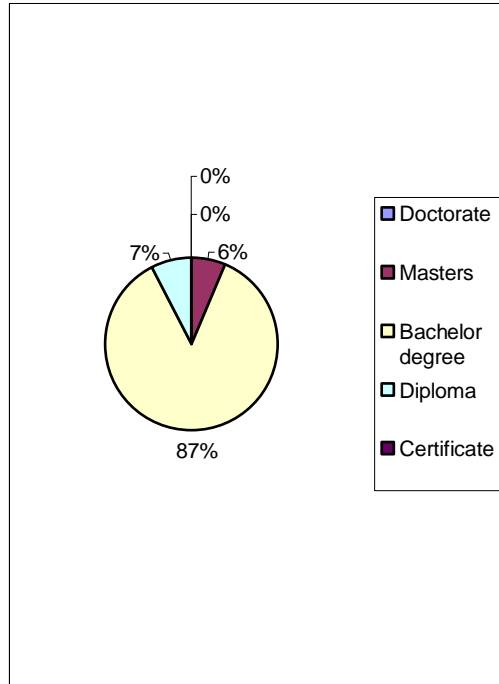
Toolooa High continues to expand its range of innovative and distinctive strategies that are responsive to our community and our student's needs in partnership industry, other government agencies and other schools. While down from a high of 100% in 2005 to 86% in 2006, our parent satisfaction that this is a good school and that it provides a good education remains very high, with reviews of our 'Keep Safe' policy ensuring that we continue to provide a safe, tolerant and disciplined learning environment for all of our students.

## *Involving parents in their child's education.*

Our "Families Matter" group continues to help us engage with a large and growing group of parents interested in their child's education – a process ably assisted by Mrs Debbie Bletchley, our Parent Liaison Officer appointed in 2006. Our P&C continues to offer strong support for the school in providing advice on our policies and practices as well as securing funding to complete the air-conditioned whole school in 2006, including staff rooms, the teaching and learning conditions will significantly improve over the summer months. The P&C meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the administration building.

## Qualifications of all teachers.

Highest level of Attainment	Percentage of classroom teachers and school leaders at the school
Doctorate	0
Masters	6
Bachelor degree	82
Diploma	7
Certificate	0



## Expenditure on and teacher participation in professional development.

The total funds expended on teacher professional development in 2006 was \$ Toolooa's teaching and non-teaching staff underwent a wide range of professional and training development activities in 2006, with 77% engaged in formal professional development activities external to the school and 100% engaged in training and development within the school. With 6% of the school's budget was allocated to formal training in systems and procedures, the inclusion of Project Plans approved for professional development, this figure rises to 15%, which will remain the target for 2007. While the School Opinion Survey shows that the satisfaction rate for that participation is still only at 73% this reflects an ever growing need for development and training as the school, Education Queensland and society experience increasingly rapid change.

The Priority Areas system was introduced in 2006 and was designed to engage more staff in school decision making and planning through developing and implementing project plans in key outcome areas and drew from a global development budget of over \$90 000. This system has delivered major leadership opportunities for many staff (teaching and non-teaching) and has delivered some improvements in coordinating teaching and learning with the management of human and physical resources, however further work is needed to streamline its functions and it will undergo a major review in 2007.

The involvement of the teaching staff in professional development activities during 2006 was 100% with key activities in the Middle Phase of Schooling, particularly around aligning curriculum, planning, assessment and reporting through the A3 Planner and Essential Learnings.

## *Our staff profile*

### *Average staff attendance*

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders the staff attendance rate was 94% in 2006.

### *Proportion of staff retained from the previous school year.*

From the end of the 2005 school year, 91% of staff was retained by the school for the entire 2006 school year.

## Performance of our students

### Student attendance

The average attendance rate as a percentage in 2006 was 92 %.

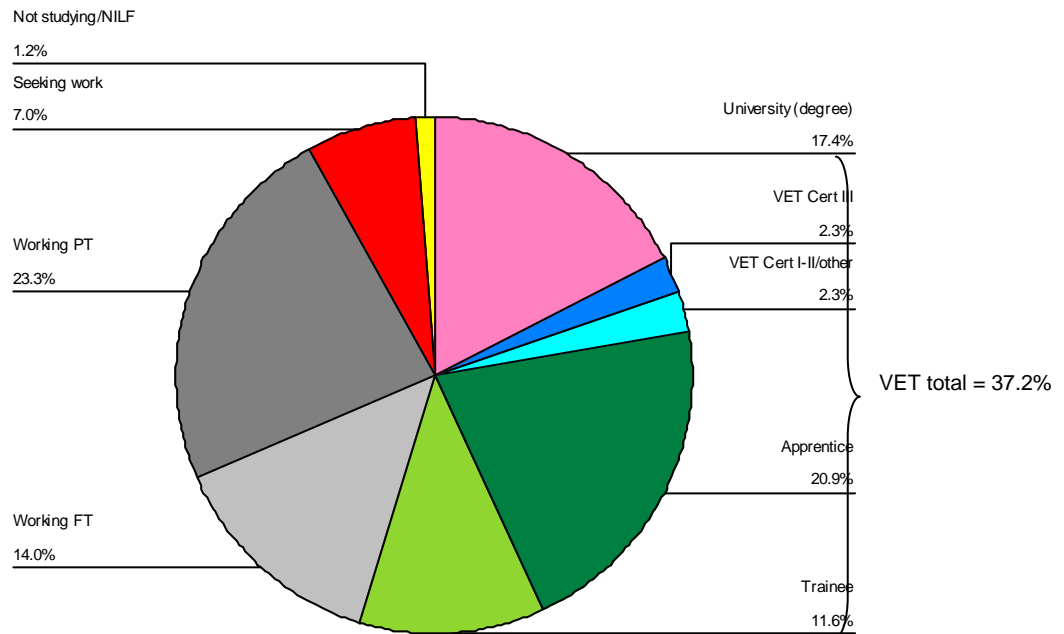
### Key outcomes in the senior phase of learning

Apparent retention rates Year 8 to Year 12.	
Year 12 student enrolment as a percentage of the Year 8 student cohort.	70.1 %

Outcomes for our Year 12 cohort of 2006	
Total number of Senior Certificates awarded	96
Percentage of Overall Position (OP) -eligible students with OP 1-15	60 %
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates and awarded a Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualification	31%
Percentage of students awarded Senior Certificates with OP-eligibility or awarded a VET qualification	74%
Percentage of Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) applicants receiving an offer	90 %

Post-school destination information

Main destinations of Year 12 completers



### Other Key Outcomes

#### *Value added*

Our School Accountability Data shows we are having significant success with one of our key strategies to improve literacy, numeracy and scientific skills in Years 8, 9 and 10 through the introduction of Essential, Recovery and Extension classes in English, Maths and Science. These classes are based upon accurate assessments of individual student needs (thought the Test of Reading Comprehension in Year 8, for example) and where we modify the curriculum, teaching and assessment to ensure that we meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs and the gifted and talented, by providing high levels of in-class support from teachers and teacher-aides. 2006 also saw the establishment of a Head of Department for Special Needs, which indicates the depth of Toolooa's commitment to the large (and growing) group of students with special needs.

A range of strategies to support Indigenous students are firmly embedded in practice, with 2006 seeing a greatly increased team of Indigenous support staff, the engagement of more teachers and teacher-aides in Indigenous teaching and leadership programs. Under the leadership of Joy Kopelke and her 'Partners for Success' team, a range of Wilderness Programs and boys education programs were conducted in partnership with the Indigenous community, targeting in particular our Indigenous students who were struggling to remain engaged with education. The success of these program and practices can be judged from the fact that 2007 will see the largest ever number of Indigenous students enter Year 11 and 12 at Toolooa.

#### *Parent, student and teacher satisfaction with the school*

The 2006 survey data indicates that the percentage of parents who believe that Toolooa is a good school is 84% while satisfaction that their child is getting a good education at Toolooa is 77% – 4% and 3% short of Destination 2010 targets respectively. 78% of students believe they are getting a good education at Toolooa, 2% short of the Destination 2010 targets. 79% of teachers were satisfied with morale in the school, 1% short of the Destination 2010 target in this area while 74% were satisfied with their access to learning opportunities that relate to school and systemic initiatives, 2% short of Destination 2010 targets.