

External School Review

Wallaroo Mines Primary School

Across our education system, we seek growth for every student, in every class, and in every school. The external school review value-adds and supports schools to raise student achievement and sustain high performance by providing an expert external perspective on school performance by verifying or challenging:

- a school's improvement planning and processes and its impact on student learning
- the impact of previous external school directions
- the rigour of a school's improvement practices
- the school's capacity to achieve or sustain learning improvement over time.

The external school review lines of inquiry focus on:

- quality school improvement planning
- expert teaching
- quality leadership
- conditions for optimal learning.

The overarching question in every external school review is: How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement, and equity?

Reported impact of directions from the previous External School Review in March 2019.

Since the previous ESR, staff have worked cohesively to analyse and refine data collection processes to inform teaching and learning. There are consistencies in record keeping with a data collection schedule and agreements. A range of data collection tools are used to track and monitor individual student progress. Staff are at the early stages of using multiple data sets to inform intentional teaching.

To strengthen teacher capability on curriculum delivery, there has been a consistent commitment from staff to embed the department units of work. The school has a whole school, consistent approach to literacy development through the Initalit program. Literacy progressions are used to identify individual reading goals for students and to track and monitor reading progress. An ongoing focus on assessment, reporting and the integration within learning areas continues to be an area of future growth.

The creation of contemporary pedagogy, through the use of collaboration, mentoring, observation and feedback, continues to be an area of ongoing development. Staff actively engage in professional learning communities, with agreed commitments to action, shared pedagogy and reflection. Learning sprints are embedded within the professional learning structure, with short, targeted cycles of improvement celebrated. Staff use current research and best advice papers as a basis to align their pedagogy for school improvement implementation. Teachers collaborate to align curriculum implementation in professional forums that promote collective efficacy. Feedback, both from colleagues and students as formative assessment, continues to be an area of development for staff.

Outcomes from the External School Review held in July 2023.

The principal will work with the education director to implement the following directions:

- Direction 1** **Strengthen feedback processes, that allow students to critically reflect on their learning against the intended success criteria.**
- Direction 2** **Strengthen collaborative processes that review and moderate student learning samples in order to promote high expectations on student learning output.**
- Direction 3** **Build and strengthen collective practices across the school that develop student agency to maximise learner engagement.**

These directions are published on the school improvement plan and will support the school's ongoing improvement work. **Based on the school's current performance, Wallaroo Mines Primary School will be externally reviewed again in 2026.**



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