DISCIPLINE AUDIT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - WHITES HILL SC

DATE OF AUDIT: 18 AUGUST 2014

Background:
Whites Hill State College is located in the Brisbane suburb of Camp Hill, within the Metropolitan education region. The college was established in 2001 and has a current enrolment of 626 students from Prep – Year 12. The Acting Principal, Anne Lawson, has been in the position since 2014.

Commendations:
- The Principal and college leaders, together with the commitment of all staff members, have accepted personal responsibility for ensuring a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment. They demonstrate a strong conviction that student engagement and regular attendance are keys to improved student learning.
- The college has a small number of positively stated school wide expectations and appropriate behaviours based on the school values, Cooperation, Achievement, Respect, Enthusiasm and Safety (CARES) which are visible throughout the college, explicitly taught, known by all community members and reflected in the behaviour of students.
- The college is driving a strong agenda around developing a positive learning culture through the implementation of the Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) approach. SWPBS is a priority of the college’s Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan (AIP).
- The Student Welfare and Behaviour (SWAB) and the Student Needs Intervention Program (SNIP) teams work collaboratively to provide structured support to meet the social, emotional, learning and welfare needs of all students. The teams support students at risk of disengagement from learning through case management, support programs, and links with external agencies.

Affirmations:
- Expectations about students’ behaviour is enhanced in many ways, including presentations at college assemblies, year level assemblies, teaching staff explicitly teaching the college’s expectations, the development of college teaching videos, Facebook and in college newsletters.
- The CARES student awards recognise high standards of effort, behaviour and attendance, are closely aligned with the college values and are celebrated once each term.
- There is a strong focus upon student attendance across all year levels which has resulted in improved rates of attendance this year. Individual Attendance plans have been developed for some students and students are acknowledged for 100 percent attendance and better than 85 percent attendance.
- The college makes extensive and refined use of college data to inform and improve its attendance, teaching practices and behaviour management.
- The Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) endorses the college’s Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (RBPS). There is strong financial support from the P&C to implement SWPBS.
- College leaders and all staff members demonstrate a strong level of respectful and caring relationships for all school community members.
- The implementation of the pedagogical process The Art and Science of Teaching (ASoT) has seen the introduction of whole of college classroom management practices.

Recommendations:
- Enhance and extend the implementation of SWPBS by moving to Tier Two implementation in 2015.
- Review the implementation of the college’s Pastoral Care program to ensure a sufficient allocation of time to enable the explicit teaching of the CARES lessons.
- Review the use of the Responsible Thinking classroom to ensure it is responsive to staff member and student needs.
- Consider the development of a matrix for the application of standards for Effort and Behaviour to guide teacher comments on report cards.
- Develop the skills of parents by delivering high quality evidence-based training and information on effective behaviour strategies. Include a parent representative on the SWPBS committee.