

Executive summary:

This proposal outlines the current attributes and planned innovations for Wondall Heights State School that positions our school community as an ideal candidate for the IPS initiative. Our school is committed to supporting improved students outcomes in all areas of education including academic, sporting and the arts domains. Wondall Heights State School currently offers a strong and innovative dance program along with a strong coaching and pedagogical program for academics and student engagement.

The autonomy afforded as an IPS, will provide Wondall Heights State School with the opportunity to position our school as an even greater school in the future. Embracing a strategy that enables our community the ability to contribute to and make decisions about matters that directly affect them will ensure an ongoing, long-term commitment to the provision of a rigorous and balanced education for our students.

Wondall Heights State School context

Wondall Heights State School has been an integral part of the Wynnum-Manly community since 1966 and thus celebrates 50 years of education in the community in 2016. Wondall Heights State School is a band 9 school with a current enrolment of 680 students. The schools population is predominantly Australian with an Indigenous population of 6% and a Special Education Program that is approximately 10% of the population.

Wondall Heights State School has a strong, supportive community that achieves great outcomes for students. The school has a culture of high expectations in learning and behaviour.

Three areas focus our school – academic achievement, sport and performing arts.

Academically the schools performance is outstanding, performing above other Queensland state schools and the nation in domains of NAPLAN. The school provides a wide range of opportunities for extension such as writers group, science enrichment and ongoing extension in class through differentiation and support programs. The school has a strong belief in early intervention and focusses great attention through the application of strategies such as Read it again, Reading Sparks, Champs and Stars programs and Perceptual Motor Programs.

We regularly take part in district, state and national programs in the academic, performing arts and sporting arenas. Teams and individuals are active participants at inter-school, district and state level sporting activities. Our very strong dance group of 100 students participate and succeed in state competitions such as Wakakiri and perform at many local events. Our schools purpose-built Performing Arts centre showcase our talents through school performances shared with our school community.

Parents enjoy a close association with our school and their support through the P&C provides additional human and educational resources across the school. The P and C provides an Out of School Hours Care program and has strong governance over this program.

Independent Public School Proposal

Moving Wondall from Greater to Greatest focuses our efforts. The purpose of programs is to create successful learners and provide them success in and love of their learning, setting them up for ongoing future success.

We want students to:

- **think and act creatively and critically** collaborating in the local and world context
- communicate effectively across multiple media
- have strong foundations in literacy, numeracy
- be problem solvers

Early childhood Proposal: IPS funding would be used to

- Create an early childhood precinct: outdoor learning environment incorporating creative outdoor play, art and environmental projects.
- Build the Pre – Prep program. In 2016 Wondall has worked to develop partnerships with local Pre-Prep providers. Funding would be used to enhance this program to enable Prep teachers to build outreach programs to ensure community relationships and greater preparations for student entering our Prep Program.

Creation of Maker Space: Our school mission Strive to Excel aims to push our students to achieve their utmost. We want students to:

- work on a project of their interest incorporating cross curricula capabilities
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Health and Well-being
 - Cultural identity and diversity

IPS funding would allow the flexibility and ability to create a suitable space and provide additional human resources.

The arts: Successful IPS application would allow

- continued growth and sustainability of performing arts programs
- exploration of partnerships with local dance schools
- growth and further development connections with Queensland Ballet

Pedagogy: The funding under IPS would allow a deepened focus on pedagogy and student engagement by

- extending and enhancing the coaching program with student engagement strategies (Anita Archer) to include reflective practice. Reflective Practice is the process of teachers reflecting and evaluating their own practice through observing self and identifying areas for development and growth considering teacher and student reactions to learning and engagement.

Staff Professional Development: IPS will allow:

- further enhancement of Learning Teams through lead teachers and case management
- Development of teacher centred learning projects based on action research model and teachers education passion

