

Paluma Environmental Education Centre

2016 Annual Report



53 Mount Spec Road, Paluma

Ph: 4770 8528 (Paluma)

Ph: 4772 9555 (Administration)

email: principal@palumaeec.eq.edu.au

Facilities On Site

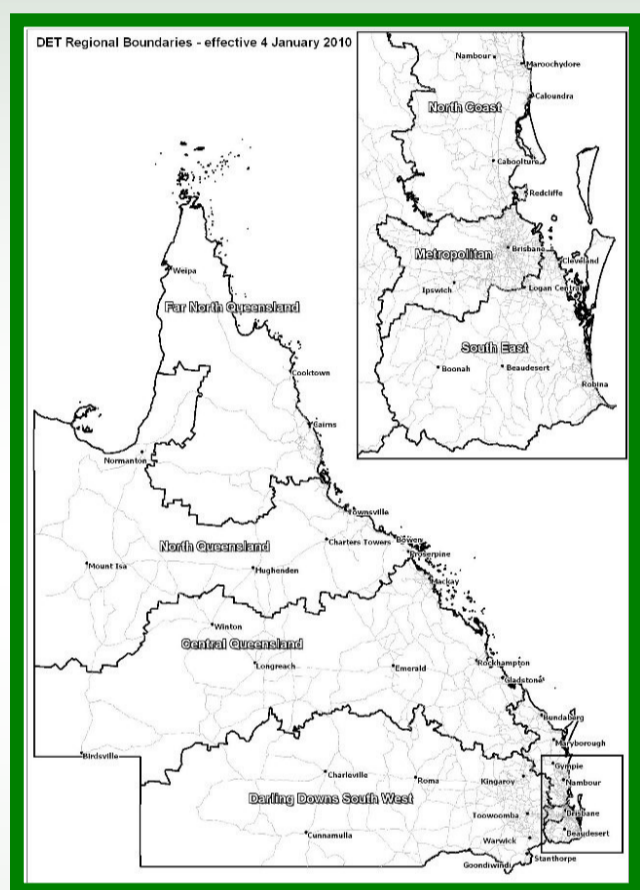
- Sleeping accommodation for 70 in three dormitories
- Commercial kitchen
- Cold room and dry store area for food storage
- Dining room
- Classroom
- Staff quarters & basic administration facility in old school building

Located in NQ Region

- In Paluma Village
- Surrounded by the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area

Natural Learning Areas:

- Tropical rainforest
- Freshwater creeks
- Tin-mining & timber-cutting relics
- Wartime heritage



Principal's Foreword 2016

2016 was a busy year, filled with change and new approaches to the work that we do with students. We experienced a change in leadership, with our previous Principal heading off for a well-earned retirement after 15 years in the role. We also had changes in our teaching staff, and had welcomed two new teachers to our Centre by the end of the year. Our kitchen also saw some changes, with members of our catering team taking on new roles due to the departure of our head cook early in the year. We wish those who have moved on to other things all the best in their new endeavours, and thank them for the great contribution that each of them made during their time at the Centre, whilst also looking forward to what can be achieved collectively with our new staff team.

Our focus for improvement during 2016 was increasing the amount of student instruction that we carried out over the year, which we achieved through increased excursion bookings, targeted delivery of science lessons in Townsville and throughout North-Western Queensland during Term One, and the introduction of new excursion programs and learning activities.

Highlights for 2016

- Continuing alignment of our excursion programs with the Australian Curriculum and classroom learning through consultation with visiting classroom teachers.
- Increased service delivery to 48 schools across our region and beyond, including 34 residential excursions (some of these with multiple classes visiting concurrently) at our Paluma site, 1 day excursion program at our Paluma site and a range of other programs delivered off-site at other locations, with a total of 4019 student contacts across all phases of schooling.
- Continued involvement in online lessons for students through the Supporting Small Schools Science project.
- A targeted regional program during Term One, visiting small schools between Charters Towers and Mount Isa to deliver science lessons to students.
- The introduction of an annual Writers' Camp, supported through the Investing for Success funding, where students worked collaboratively with a children's author and local artist to develop a story.
- A successful application for \$16,850 through Arts Queensland's Artist in Residence Funding to deliver environmental art lessons to small schools across the region during Term One, 2017.

2016 Staff

DET Allocation:

- Teaching Principal Band 6 = 1.0FTE
- 2 Teachers = 2.0FTE
- Unit Support Officer = 1.0FTE
- Administrative Officer AO2 = 0.8FTE
- Cleaners = 1.0FTE

Total allocated staff headcount 2016 = 5.8FTE

Purchased by Centre (Casual or Contract):

- Casual Cooks = 0.84 FTE (Term Time)

Total purchased staff headcount 2016 = 0.84 FTE

Professional Development

Strategic – conferences & workshops – OEECPA meetings, Band 5/6 Principals Forum, OEEC Admin Conference, Support Staff Conference, Australian Outdoor Education Conference

Operational – workshops – First Aid/CPR, Schools Officers meetings, SBMAQ meetings, Cleaners' Training, finance workshops

Visiting Teacher Feedback							
Question from Exit Survey	SD	D	SWD	SWA	A	SA	UC
This Centre was explicit about the alignment of the program to the Australian and Queensland Curriculums.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	38.9%	52.8%	5.6%
Students achieved the learning goals identified for this program.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	16.7%	80.6%	2.8%
Students received quality teaching from the Centre staff.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	19.4%	77.8%	0.0%
Students were highly engaged in the program.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	19.4%	80.6%	0.0%
This Centre has positively contributed to the overall education of students.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	91.7%	0.0%
Student safety was well managed by staff at this Centre.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.9%	86.1%	0.0%
Student behaviour was well managed by staff at this Centre.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	19.4%	80.6%	0.0%
This Centre is well organised.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	11.1%	86.1%	0.0%
This Centre is well resourced.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	88.9%	0.0%
This Centre is well maintained.	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	88.9%	2.8%
SD = Strongly Disagree; D = Disagree; SWD = Somewhat Disagree; SWA = Somewhat Agree; A = Agree; SA = Strongly Agree; UC = Unable to Comment							

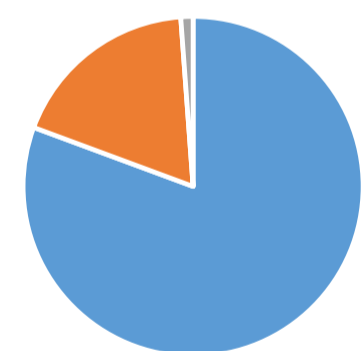
2016 Centre Income	
Agricultural Grant	16,000.00
School Groups	61,834.00
Non-School Groups	5,066.09
E&OEC Grant	33,200.00
Grounds Equipment	1,000.00
HR Transformation	1,584.50
ICT Schools Grant	3,803.00
Interest	3,919.12
Investing for Success	5,000.00
Minor Works	4,983.00
Other General Income	4,751.93
Catering Income	126,733.60
Staffing Resource Conversion	1,418.00
Teacher Relief Scheme	8,738.98
Utilities - Facilities	18,418.00
Utilities - Telecommunications	6,491.88
Maintenance	10,788.00
Cleaning - Non Labour	859.21
TOTAL INCOME	\$314,589.31

2017 Service Delivery Targets & Improvement Agenda

- Provide educational programs for 1500 individual students
- Continue to increase student instructional contact through a new model of excursion planning and service delivery, including regional visits during Term One of each year
- Explore opportunities and develop new program offerings in a range of new curriculum areas
- Continue to update and develop Staff Performance and Development Plans for all staff members
- Work with small, regional schools to develop and deliver multi-modal Science units aligned with the Australian Curriculum through the Supporting Small Schools Science Program
- Manage work/life balance for staff by scheduling access to ADO/TOIL for all staff members
- 2017 Explicit Improvement Agenda – Ensure that all excursion programs have explicit learning intentions and success criteria, aligned to the Australian Curriculum and developed collaboratively with visiting school staff.

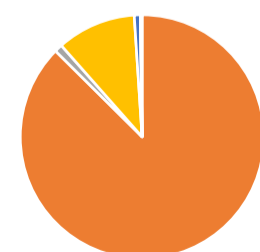


Centre Visitation



- Residential
- Day Visit
- E Learning

School Type



- Special Education
- State School
- State High School
- Non State School
- Interstate
- International
- Distance Education

Staff Opinion Survey Data	
Total Agreement (Aggregation of Positive Responses - 'Somewhat Agree', 'Agree' & 'Strongly Agree')	
	%
I enjoy working at this school.	100%
I feel this school is a safe place in which to work	100%
I receive useful feedback about my work at this school.	100%
Students are encouraged to do their best at this school.	100%
Students are treated fairly at this school.	100%
Student behaviour is well managed at this school.	100%
Staff are well supported at this school.	100%
This school takes staff opinions seriously.	100%
This school looks for ways to improve.	100%
This school is well maintained.	100%
This school gives me opportunities to do interesting things.	100%