

# Annual Report 10

THE KOORALBYN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



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# PRINCIPAL'S FORWARD :

## INTRODUCTION :

TKIS is a small school and as such, it has its advantages and disadvantages.

The advantages of being 'small' include ...

- Being able to offer more 'personal' attention to your child's education. With student-to-teacher ratios well below 10:1 - students are not simply names or numbers to us ... They're young men and women with passions and ambitions, with strengths and weaknesses and with a shared goal to 'be the best that they can be'. Since our average class size is around 14 or 15 students, it's impossible for a child to 'slip through the cracks' or have problems go unnoticed.
- Being able to avoid many of the perceived 'problems' often associated with larger schools like bullying, drugs, gangs, crime, truancy, etc. In a small community like ours, these sorts of problems can't be hidden. As such, they're dealt with immediately.
- We can build our educational programs around the specific needs of our students.
- We can change and adapt quickly, for example, the school is currently applying to have 'Distance Education' added to our mode of delivery, to meet a community need that has developed in the last six months.

The disadvantages of being 'small' include ...

- We don't have the seemingly inexhaustible funds of larger private schools. We don't have the Olympic pools, the massive theatre complexes, the endless manicured lawns that wealthier schools can boast.
- We have difficulties offering a wide range of team sports ... We barely have enough students to field ONE team in any sport let alone two teams to practice and play against each other. For this reason, we tend to specialise in 'solo sports' like golf, tennis, equestrian, athletics, etc, where we have found some success.
- As our NAPLAN and OP Results for the last two years would indicate, a small school with excellent student-to-teacher ratios like ours, will tend to attract either the gifted and talented students or those who are struggling academically ... Both of whom seek a greater level of personal attention than is otherwise available in larger, more traditional schools.

To summarise ...

If you're looking for a large, traditional school with a wide range of team sports and vocational education options - then TKIS is probably not going to be suitable. If however, you are looking for a school with high academic standards that will take a 'personal' interest in the education of your child ... Where the quality rather than the quantity of options is important ... Where your children can develop and flourish in a safe, secure and friendly environment ... then TKIS is certainly worth considering.

## **FUTURE OUTLOOK :**

The immediate objectives of TKIS are to enhance the benefits provided by the school to its students and its community.

Our potential areas for growth are based around the school's focus on academic excellence and its successful range of specialised Mastery Programs including Golf, Equestrian, Athletics, Aviation, Drama and Swimming.

The school's mission over the next three to five years is ...

- to maintain and improve its already fine record in Grade 12 OP Scores
- to continue to focus on academic fundamentals in its primary school and
- to continue to support the amazing achievements gained by our students in sporting pursuits.

## **SCHOOL PROFILE :**

Number of students enrolled :	232 (as at June 2011)
Year Levels Offered :	P-12
Coeducational or Single Sex :	Coeducational
System :	Independent / Non-religious
Day or Boarding School :	Both Day and Boarding School

## **CURRICULUM OFFERINGS :**

Apart from the 8 Key Learning Areas in Years P-9 (English, Maths, Science, Arts, SOSE, Technology, LOTE and HPE) the school offers a range of twenty (20) Senior School subjects in Years 10 to 12: English, English Communications, ESL, Maths A, Maths B, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Science 21, Visual Art, Arts in Practice, Film TV and New Media, Drama, Music, IPT (Information Processing & Technology), Physical Education, BOM (Business Organisation and Management), German and Japanese. This range of subjects is being constantly added to each year with Chinese, Maths C and Economics currently being added

## **SPECIALISED CURRICULUM OFFERINGS :**

The school also offers a unique range of specialised programs integrated into our weekly timetable, including ... Golf Mastery, Athletics Mastery, Equestrian Mastery, Aviation Mastery and Tennis Mastery. In 2012 a specialised university support program for high school is being added.

## **SOCIAL CLIMATE :**

Being an International School located in a small, rural community, TKIS has the benefit of being able to draw on both a rich multi-cultural background and a small friendly rural community background. The blend of these two give the school its unique character.

As a small Boarding and Day School, TKIS also has the luxury of building a 'family' atmosphere among students and staff.

Events like our 'International Food Festival' and 'The International Fun Games' combined with several Students v Staff sporting events, help to mesh the small close-knit community of TKIS.

The school has a very high approval rating among students, staff and parents. In a recent survey of staff, 100% indicated that they believed the behaviour of students at the school was 'of a high standard'.

## **THE INVOLVEMENT OF PARENTS :**

The school's P&F (known as PALS - Parents, Alumni and Local Supporters) group, meet monthly and help raise valuable funds for consumables and resources.

Since local families qualify for a Bursary Scholarship at TKIS, the involvement of parents in Working Bees and various fund raisers and exhibitions (like our Open Days, Awards Ceremonies, Book Fairs, etc) is exemplary.

## **QUALIFICATIONS OF ALL TEACHERS :**

Of the twenty-three (23) FTE teaching staff employed at TKIS, the breakdown of qualifications is as follows ...

Doctorates	9%
Masters	13%
Bachelors	78%
Diplomas	0%
Certificates	0%

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT :

The total school funds expended on Teacher Professional Development in 2010 was \$29,810 which included five (5) full timetabled days for all available staff and a large number of staff seconded from classroom duties to attend specialised training and PD activities. In all, 100% of teaching staff were involved to some capacity in Professional Development throughout the year.

The major professional development initiatives are as follows: There are three major strategies for Professional Development employed at TKIS...

1. **Australian Curriculum Implementation** : Ensuring staff are kept up-to-date with the latest developments in syllabus and curriculum changes.
2. **Workplace Strategies** : Ensuring all staff receive suitable workplace, health and safety training....First-Aid, Fire Equipment training, etc.
3. **Professional Strategies** : Ensuring senior staff are supported with Leadership Development. Ensuring new teachers and Provisionally Registered teachers are mentored and supported through their early experience and work successfully towards full registration.

## AVERAGE STAFF ATTENDANCE :

For permanent and temporary staff and school leaders, the Staff Attendance Rate for 2010 was 91%.

## PROPORTION OF STAFF RETAINED :

The proportion of staff that were retained in January from the previous December was 92%.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE :

The attendance rate of students at TKIS throughout 2010 was 97.1%

# KEY OUTCOMES :

## NAPLAN RESULTS 2010 :

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) results - our reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

		Year 3	Year 5	Year 7	Year 9
<b>READING</b>	TKIS Mean	364	425	534	549
	State Mean	393	468	537	564
<b>WRITING</b>	TKIS Average	373	421	541	553
	State Average	402	472	531	564
<b>SPELLING</b>	TKIS Average	340	417	552	533
	State Average	371	468	535	573
<b>GRAMMAR &amp; PUNCTUATION</b>	TKIS Mean	332	444	538	552
	State Mean	398	483	529	573
<b>NUMERACY</b>	TKIS Mean	354	445	511	555
	State Mean	378	474	546	577
<b>OVERALL</b>	TKIS Average Overall	352.6	430.4	535.2	548.4
	State Average Overall	388.4	473	535.6	570.2

## OP RESULTS 2010 :

	State	TKIS
% of OP eligible students with OP of 15 or better	64.4%	82%
% of OP eligible students who were offered University places	67%	100%
Number of OP eligible students completing Year 12	NA	12

