

2012 Annual Report to the School Community

Hamilton Special Developmental
School

School Number: 5283



Hamilton Special Developmental School

Hamilton Special Developmental School is located in the Barwon South Western Region on the outskirts of the rural city of Hamilton. The school is the only special education setting in Hamilton and caters for students aged from 5 to 18 years. All students have a wide range of additional learning needs. Sixty percent of our students have the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder and our school uses a holistic approach to behaviour management and group structure.

Our school uses a team approach and recognises the benefits of working closely with parents, mainstream schools, therapists and carers to provide a broad comprehensive education for every student. Our school runs special programs such as Art, Music, Ridability, Sailing and we manage our own Active After-Schools Communities program. The curriculum is determined by each student's individual needs and we use our own dedicated curriculum document based on the VELS as a reference for Individual Learning Plans. We have spaces dedicated for our art and music programs with additional areas for professional meetings. This year we intend to continue to participate in some innovative student activities such as martial arts and cooking at the Hamilton and District Skills Centre using their state-of-the-art kitchen. We will also be accessing Certificate I programs provided by SW TAFE in the areas of Horticulture and Work Education.

The school has 5 classroom teachers (EFT 5.0), 1 Principal (EFT 1.0), 2 specialist teachers (0.12 Music, 0.2 Art), 6 Education Support Staff (EFT 4.32) and a Business Manager (EFT 1.0).

Student Learning	Student Engagement and Wellbeing	Student Pathways and Transitions
<p>This year we increased student use of iPads, using these devices to improve their ICT and communication skills in an accessible and engaging way. ICT use has already shown increased engagement from our students.</p> <p>We have continued to use and evaluate our curriculum documents in the areas of English, Mathematics and the Physical, Personal and Social Learning strand. These documents will continue to be evaluated as we implement a number of other programs and in preparation for the National Curriculum.</p> <p>Our numeracy co-ordinator has continued to participate in network professional development programs facilitated by Andrea Hillbrick to improve the quality of numeracy teaching in the school. Mathletics and Reading Eggs have been valuable online teaching tools that many students engage in on a daily basis.</p> <p>We have also begun a more rigid</p>	<p>This year the school has been engaging in a variety of activities targeted at developing community links and social skills development. We have involved our older boys in Inspire Boys, a self-esteem program run by South West Sports. Our students were also involved in archery and boccia through this organisation.</p> <p>Through the Southern Grampians Shire we have attended a number of activities including a 'Party with the Ponies' raceday with inclusion in the community as its main focus.</p> <p>We continue to provide therapists for students with additional requirements. We employ speech pathologists, occupational therapists and physiotherapists from the local hospital to cater for these needs.</p> <p>In order to improve student attendance, our students will continue to engage in school-based community programs such as Advance, Bridge, Duke of Edinburgh, and Compass. These programs are</p>	<p>Much planning takes place during our students' last few years of schooling to provide the best possible post school pathway. The school is always actively involved in seeking Work Experience placements within our community to provide extended time in the workplace for our senior students. This year we have been successful in placing students at Nigretta Furniture and are looking to increase our work placements in 2012. The ultimate outcome for our more able students is ongoing employment or access to further studies. Our senior students have been completing elements of horticulture TAFE Certificate I and have been a part of a taster for a Certificate I in Workplace Education through Southern Grampians Adult Education (SGAE). For 2013 we will be replacing the TAFE course for the full SGAE course.</p> <p>New prep aged students have an extensive transition program to assist with settling in to their new</p>

<p>assessment schedule aimed at informing our teaching and learning practices as a student level.</p>	<p>targeted at involving students in community activities whilst attaining skills in a variety of areas.</p> <p>We pride ourselves in continuing to provide programs that are not only engaging but shared by students from other schools. We have participated in footy days, with guest speakers, PMP programs, the eisteddfod, sailing, Daffodil Day, literacy/numeracy day, and school concerts just to name a few.</p>	<p>school environment and students also have transition sessions when they are moving to a different group within the school. This is generally in the form of visits to their new setting, as well as scripts and timetables generate prior to full integration.</p> <p>Many of our senior students move to the Mulleraterong Centre for programs after they leave the SDS. This transition is also carefully organised so that each student makes this move towards an adult environment with the least anxiety as possible. We are developing this program more extensively for 2013.</p>
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For more detailed information regarding our school please visit our website at

<http://www.hamiltonsds.vic.edu.au>

or view our 2012 Annual Report online at <http://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/SReg>

Financial Performance and Position

Financial Performance – Operating Statement Summary for the year ending 31st December, 2012

Revenue	2012 Actual
Departmental Grants	\$342,282
Commonwealth Government Grants	\$11,424
State Government Grants	\$0
Other	\$6,468
Locally Raised Funds	\$213,984
Total Operating Revenue	\$574,158

Expenditure

Salaries and Allowances	\$37,209
Bank Charges	\$15
Consumables	\$21,892
Books and Publications	\$865
Communication Costs	\$1,789
Furniture and Equipment	\$26,980
Utilities	\$11,343
Property Services	\$38,001
Travel and Subsistence	\$1,716
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$4,587
Administration	\$4,419
Health and Personal Development	\$584
Professional Development	\$4,410
Entertainment and Hospitality	\$1,012
Trading and Fundraising	\$204,302
Support / Service	\$11,047
Miscellaneous	\$11,473
Total Operating Expenditure	\$381,644

Net Operating Surplus/-Deficit **\$192,514**

Capital Expenditure **\$0**

Please note that the above amounts do not include any credit revenue or expenditure allocated or spent by the school through its Student Resource Package

Financial Position as at 31st December, 2012

Funds Available	2012 Actual
High Yield Investment Account	\$86,733
Official Account	\$4,933
Other Bank Accounts (listed individually)	
MECU Investment Account	\$200,000
(insert)	\$
(insert)	\$
(insert)	\$
(insert)	\$
(insert)	\$
Total Funds Available	\$291,666

Financial Commitments

2012 Actual	
School Operating Reserve	\$62,415
Assets or Equipment Replacement <12 months	\$8,000
Capital – Building/Grounds including SMS <12 months	\$0
Maintenance – Building/Grounds including SMS <12 months	\$200,000
Beneficiary / Memorial Accounts	\$0
Co-operative Bank Account	\$0
Revenue Received in Advance	\$0
School based programs	\$18,000
Region / Network / Cluster Funds	\$0
Provision Accounts	\$0
Repayable to DEECD	\$0
Other Recurrent Expenditure (Accounts Payable)	\$3,250
Assets or Equipment Replacement >12 months	\$0
Capital - Building / Grounds including SMS >12 months	\$0
Maintenance - Building / Grounds including SMS >12 months	\$0
Total Financial Commitments	\$291,666


Financial performance and position commentary

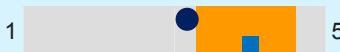
Our total Operating Expenditure for this year has increased (approximately \$164,000) since last year due to creating an investment account with MECU. As shown in 'Locally Raised Funds' (revenue) and subsequently in 'Trading and Fundraising', \$200,000 was invested into this account, showing a marked difference in the 'Total Operating Revenue' from 2011 to 2012. \$150,000 was cashed down from our SRP and \$50,000 was 'topped up' from our High Yield Investment Account. This account can be seen in the 'Funds Available' section, showing the \$200,000 in there at the end of 2012. Our total financial commitments has increased by \$200,000 which has been attached to 'Maintenance - Buildings/Grounds <12 Months' to fund our grounds upgrade. All other revenue and expenditure was very similar to the previous year. Student enrolments remained steady, increasing only slightly over 2012, but has increased again for 2013. Our school program financial commitments has increased by approximately \$5,000 to support our transition programs, including assisting families in paying for 15+ year olds accessing a Southern Grampians Adult Education Certificate course.

Hamilton Special Developmental School

School Profile

- Average level of parent satisfaction with the school, as derived from the annual *Parent Opinion* survey. The score is reported on a scale of 1 to 7, where 7 is the highest possible score.


- Average level of staff satisfaction with the school, as derived from the annual *Staff Opinion* survey. The score is reported on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is the highest possible score.


- Overall socio-economic profile

low	low-mid	mid	mid-high	high
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Based on the school's Student Family Occupation index which takes into account parents' occupations.
- 31 students (10 female, 21 male) were enrolled at this school in 2012.
- All Victorian government school teachers meet the registration requirements of the Victorian Institute of Teaching (www.vit.vic.edu.au).

For more information regarding this school, please visit www.vrqa.vic.gov.au