2023 Annual Report

Vasse
Primary School
EST^D 1869
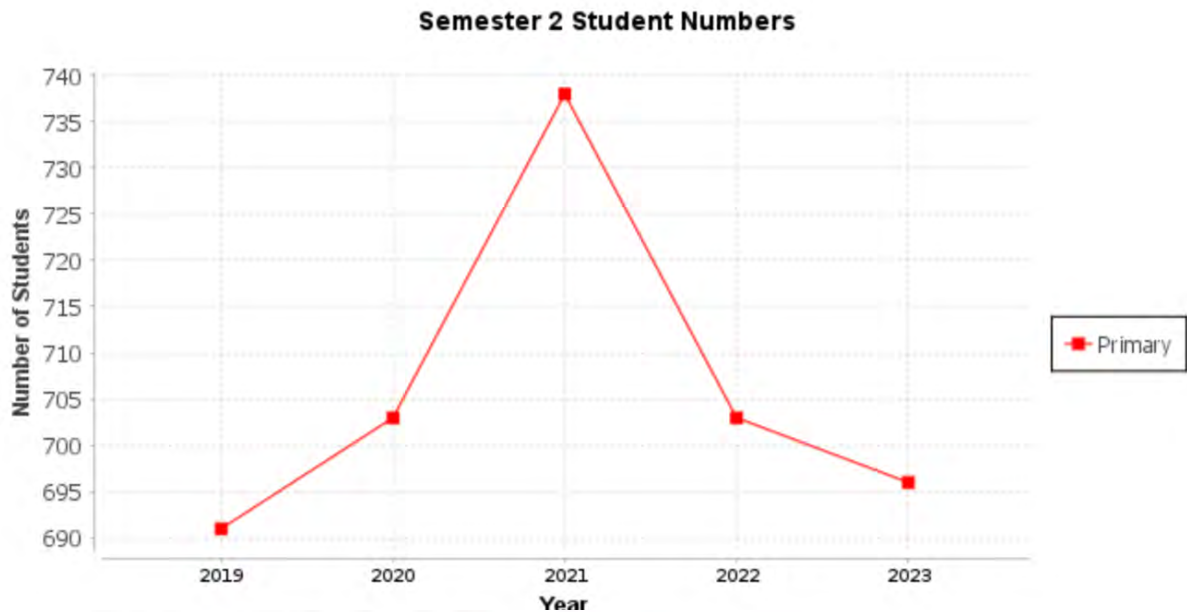
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School Overview

Vasse Primary School, an Independent Public School, retains a distinctly rural character in a semi-suburban location. This is a school with clearly articulated values and its particularly pleasing rural ambiance which contributes significantly to a 'sense of place' for students.

Learning is more than an academic pursuit; it is a 'total picture', which provides a balance between a student's intellectual, physical, emotional, and relational needs. To support this approach, we create an environment where People (relationships), Place (belonging) and Pedagogy (learning and teaching) are prioritised. Teachers use a mix of explicit and inquiry/ play based teaching strategies so students not only have an opportunity to develop their academic abilities, but their curiosity and questioning skills are also developed in a rich and engaging environment. To further enrich our students' learning we provide a wide range of specialist areas to complement the core learning curriculum. The school offers unique programs in Music, Art, Science and Physical Education. The school actively promotes inclusive pastoral care and fosters the development of social and emotional well-being.

Student Numbers and Characteristics

In Semester Two 2023, we had 790 enrolments. 696 students from Pre-Primary to Year 6 and 94 Kindergarten students.

Semester 2 Student Numbers

Student and School Characteristics Funding - At Census

	Funded Student FTE	Amount
Student Characteristics		
Aboriginality	24.00	$53,674.00
Disability	140.37	$1,241,233.69
English as an Additional Language or Dialect	12.00	$32,090.00
Social Disadvantage	229.54	$212,521.12
Sub Total		$1,539,518.81
School Characteristics		
Enrolment-Linked Base		$0.00
Locality		$0.00
Sub Total		$0.00
Total		$1,539,518.81

Comments:

Fulltime student numbers have fallen by about 42 over the last 3 years. This could be due to several reasons, that are outside our school's control such as housing availability and affordability. Student numbers are expected to drop again in 2024 but are anticipated to rise again in the future with land releases and new building taking place across the region. Vasse has a high proportion of students who are funded due to Disability.

A goal for 2024 is to investigate better school wide processes and teaching practices in this area.

Student Attendance

Attendance of students at Vasse is generally pretty good and are at or above the WA Public Schools average in 2023.

Primary Attendance Rates

	Non - Aboriginal			Aboriginal			Total		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
2021	92.7%	92.5%	92.4%	81.2%	84.1%	76.8%	92.5%	91.9%	91.0%
2022	87.8%	88.2%	88.3%	85.0%	79.8%	69.5%	87.7%	87.7%	86.6%
2023	90.0%	90.5%	90.3%	84.7%	79.7%	74.3%	89.8%	89.7%	88.9%

Attendance Category				
	Regular	At Risk		
		Indicated	Moderate	Severe
2021	74.2%	20.1%	4.7%	1.1%
2022	49.2%	36.8%	12.5%	1.5%
2023	58.9%	31.6%	8.0%	1.4%
Like Schools 2023	62.2%	26.4%	9.0%	2.4%
WA Public Schools 2023	61.0%	25.0%	10.0%	4.0%

Comments

COVID related issues have continued to impact student attendance rates in 2023. Many families reported more sickness than previous years and were more cautious, keeping them home more often. There was an increase in regular attendance in 2023 when compared to 2022, but it has not reached the rates it was prior to COVID. The importance of attending school is promoted through the newsletter, teacher/parent meetings/ contact and assemblies. Vasse introduced an SMS system to advise parents of absence without explanation in 2023. It is followed up by teachers through Dojo messages, phone calls and meetings. Schoolwide monitoring of attendance is done by a Deputy Principal and attendance letters are sent out twice a term. Attendance plans are developed for those in the severe category.

In 2024 a focus could be to increase regular attendance at the school and to continue reminding parents of the importance of attending, as well as implementing some practices to target those not attending regularly.

Workforce

	No	FTE	AB'L
Administration Staff			
Principals	1	1.0	0
Associate / Deputy / Vice Principals	4	3.2	0
Total Administration Staff	5	4.2	0
Teaching Staff			
Level 3 Teachers	3	1.6	0
Other Teaching Staff	45	34.0	1
Total Teaching Staff	48	35.6	1
Allied Professionals			
Clerical / Administrative	4	3.0	0
Instructional	1	0.2	1
Other Allied Professionals	40	27.6	0
Total Allied Professionals	45	30.8	1
Total	98	70.6	2

Comments:

All teaching staff meet the professional requirements to teach in Western Australian public schools and can be found on the public register of teachers of the Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia.

The school has experienced significant staffing changes over the last few years with many of the permanent staff retiring and younger staff members taking their place. In 2023 there were many (approximately 17) staff on fixed term contracts due to leave- prominently maternity leave. There were three level 3 teachers. The leadership team saw a number of changes in 2023 with 6 Deputies working in job share roles due to sickness.

In 2024, a target is to stabilise the leadership team and to further investigation into how we can encourage more of our staff to become middle leaders and/ or level 3 teachers would be beneficial.

Student Achievement and Progress - NAPLAN

Due to the new measurement scales in NAPLAN, comparisons between 2023 and previous years are not made.

Number of students with a Test Score

	School Year 3 Numeracy			School Year 5 Numeracy			School Former Year 6 Numeracy		
	2023			2023			2023		
Total Students			104			120			104

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Percentage of students in each Proficiency Level

include School Student Numbers ☐

Proficiency Level	Year 3 Numeracy			Year 5 Numeracy			Former Year 6 Numeracy		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Exceeding	6%	8%	11%	3%	6%	11%	6%	0%	12%
Strong	49%	54%	50%	52%	53%	53%	55%	0%	49%
Developing	28%	27%	24%	33%	28%	23%	29%	0%	24%
NAS	17%	12%	14%	13%	13%	12%	11%	0%	13%

In 2023 Numeracy Naplan scores in Years 3 show Vasse PS proficiency levels with a higher percentage of students in the NAS and Developing levels. In Year 5 there are less Vasse students exceeding but similar levels in the other categories.

Number of students with a Test Score

	School Year 3 Reading			School Year 5 Reading			School Former Year 6 Reading		
	2023			2023			2023		
Total Students			104			120			106

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Percentage of students in each Proficiency Level

include School Student Numbers ☐

Proficiency Level	Year 3 Reading			Year 5 Reading			Former Year 6 Reading		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Exceeding	9%	14%	16%	5%	14%	18%	11%	0%	17%
Strong	36%	47%	45%	57%	54%	51%	60%	0%	45%
Developing	37%	26%	24%	28%	21%	18%	21%	0%	22%
NAS	19%	13%	14%	11%	10%	11%	8%	0%	14%

Year 3 Reading proficiency in 2023 shows a high percentage of Vasse students in NAS and Developing levels. Year 5 proficiency levels are closer to like schools but have less in the exceeding category. An area of focus was on improving Reading in 2023 through consistent use of the whole school reading program PLD and targeted intervention in the Early Years

Number of students with a Test Score

	School Year 3 Writing			School Year 5 Writing			School Former Year 6 Writing		
			2023			2023			2023
Total Students			104			120			100

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Percentage of students in each Proficiency Level

include School Student Numbers ☐

	Year 3 Writing			Year 5 Writing			Former Year 6 Writing		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
Proficiency Level	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Exceeding	0%	8%	9%	3%	6%	10%	9%	0%	11%
Strong	69%	69%	65%	54%	55%	54%	55%	0%	45%
Developing	22%	16%	14%	30%	25%	22%	30%	0%	28%
NAS	9%	8%	10%	13%	13%	12%	6%	0%	14%

Writing in Year 3 and Year 5 shows Vasse proficiency levels are close to those of like schools although there is a lower percentage of students in the exceeding proficiency levels.

Number of students with a Test Score

	School Year 3 Spelling			School Year 5 Spelling			School Former Year 6 Spelling		
			2023			2023			2023
Total Students			104			119			106

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Percentage of students in each Proficiency Level

include School Student Numbers ☐

	Year 3 Spelling			Year 5 Spelling			Former Year 6 Spelling		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
Proficiency Level	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Exceeding	5%	12%	15%	6%	13%	20%	14%	0%	22%
Strong	42%	46%	42%	50%	49%	48%	58%	0%	49%
Developing	42%	31%	28%	32%	24%	20%	15%	0%	18%
NAS	11%	11%	13%	12%	14%	11%	12%	0%	10%

Spelling proficiency in Years 3 and 5 are similar to those of like schools although again there is a lower percentage of students in exceeding proficiency.

	School Year 3 Grammar & Punctuation	School Year 5 Grammar & Punctuation	School Former Year 6 Grammar & Punctuation
	2023	2023	2023
Total Students	104	119	106

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Percentage of students in each Proficiency Level

include School Student Numbers ☐

Proficiency Level	Year 3 Grammar & Punctuation			Year 5 Grammar & Punctuation			Former Year 6 Grammar & Punctuation		
	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools	School	Like Schools	WA Public Schools
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023
Exceeding	2%	6%	8%	4%	10%	13%	2%	0%	13%
Strong	31%	43%	42%	40%	43%	46%	55%	0%	44%
Developing	52%	34%	30%	34%	32%	26%	36%	0%	25%
NAS	15%	16%	18%	21%	16%	14%	8%	0%	16%

Year 3 Grammar and Punctuation is similar again to Like schools again with less students in Exceeding proficiency. Year 5 results show more students in NAS category as well.

Comments

2024 focuses could be to continue the whole school PLD Reading program across classrooms to increase proficiency levels and to further investigate teaching of comprehension and decoding in middle and upper primary levels.   Investigate how to extend our students writing/ spelling skills across the school. Strengthen the consistent approach to teaching Mathematics through the whole school program Maths Trek and to include warm-ups across the school.

Student Achievement and Progress - ACER

SNAPSHOT OF ENTIRE Vasse Primary SCHOOL - Reading Comprehension

Grade	Oct 2022 Vasse Median (same cohort)	Oct 2023 Vasse Median	Normed Median	Difference	Expected Growth	2022- 2023 Growth
1		74.1	84.2	-10.1		
2	76.2	96.9	101.1	-4.2	+16.9	20.7
3	92.3	107.1	113	-5.9	+11.9	14.8
4	98.6	115.6	120.9	-5.3	+7.9	17
5	113.4	120.9	125.8	-4.9	+4.9	7.5
6	121.6	125.1	128.8	-3.7	+3	4.1

English ACER Target - All Year levels 2-6 will match or exceed the normed median reading level in ACER by the end of the year.

SNAPSHOT OF ENTIRE Vasse Primary SCHOOL - Spelling

Grade	Oct 2022 Vasse Median (same cohort)	Oct 2023 Vasse Median	Normed Median	Difference	Expected Growth	2022- 2023 Growth
3	Not tested	100.5	97.0	3.5	-	-
4	92.8	111.9	112	-0.1	+15	+19.1
5	111.9	128.1	124	+4.1	+12	+16.2
6	126.2	135.6	132	+3.6	+8	+9.4

PAT Vocabulary Skills

Year	Normed Median	Feb 2023 % above the normed median	October 2023 % above the normed median	2023 Growth
1	94.3	Not tested	Not tested	
2	105.3	16%	57%	41%
3	110	14%	39%	25%
4	116	20%	36%	16%
5	121.1	23%	39%	16%
6	127.8	34%	47%	13%

Vocabulary Goal - By the end of 2024 - all classes will have 60% above the normed median

Growth in our ACER results at the end of 2023 showed that although we have not met our growth targets yet, there was a marked improvement in Reading comprehension across the year levels with between 25% and 122% growth. Spelling and Vocabulary also exceeded expected growth in all year groups.

Focus for 2024 should be to continue with our whole school PLD Reading and Vocabulary focuses and to analyse Maths Brightpath data across the school (ACER was dropped in 2023 as a measurement tool by the committee).

2023 Financial Summary

INCOME - Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)	Current Budget ($)	Actual YTD ($)
Carry Forward (Cash)	126,811	126,811
Carry Forward (Salary)	271,652	271,652
STUDENT-CENTRED FUNDING		
Per Student	6,391,797	6,391,797
School and Student Characteristics	1,459,243	1,459,243
Disability Adjustments	86,040	86,040
Targeted Initiatives	245,339	245,339
Operational Response Allocation	4,973	4,973
Total Funds:	8,187,392	8,187,392
TRANSFERS AND ADJUSTMENTS		
Regional Allocation	0	0
Transition Adjustment	0	0
School Transfers – Salary	(408,536)	(408,536)
School Transfers - Cash	408,882	408,882
Department Adjustments	0	0
Total Funds:	346	346
LOCALLY RAISED FUNDS (REVENUE)		
Voluntary Contributions	30,875	30,875
Charges and Fees	101,195	101,194
Fees from Facilities Hire	1,171	1,171
Fundraising/Donations/Sponsorships	17,224	17,224
Commonwealth Govt Revenues	0	0
Other State Govt/Local Govt Revenues	1,130	1,130
Revenue from CO, Regional Office and Other scho	0	0
Other Revenues	10,727	10,728
Transfer from Reserve or DGR	12,950	12,950
Residential Accommodation	0	0
Farm Revenue (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Camp School Fees (Camp Schools only)	0	0
Total Funds:	175,272	175,272
TOTAL	8,761,473	8,761,473

ONE LINE BUDGET - Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)	Current Budget ($)	Actual YTD ($)
Carry Forward (Cash):	126,811	126,811
Carry Forward (Salary):	271,652	271,652
INCOME		
Student-Centred Funding (including Transfers & Adjustments):	8,187,738	8,187,738
Locally Raised Funds:	175,272	175,272
Total Funds:	8,761,473	8,761,473
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries:	7,774,465	7,774,465
Goods and Services (Cash):	724,826	600,892
Total Expenditure:	8,499,291	8,375,357
VARIANCE:	262,182	386,116

Goods and Services vs Salary expenditure — Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)

Locally Generated Revenue - Budget vs Actual — Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)

Goods and Services Expenditure - Budget vs Actual — Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)

EXPENDITURE - Dec 2023 (Verified Nov Cash)

	Current Budget ($)	Actual YTD ($)
SALARIES		
Appointed Staff	6,831,302	6,831,302
New Appointments	0	0
Casual Payments	940,595	940,595
Other Salary Expenditure	2,568	2,568
Total Funds:	**7,774,465**	**7,774,465**
GOODS AND SERVICES (CASH EXPENDITURE)		
Administration	40,300	37,546
Lease Payments	93,250	80,856
Utilities, Facilities and Maintenance	189,630	151,523
Buildings, Property and Equipment	42,540	34,494
Curriculum and Student Services	340,773	278,747
Professional Development	14,012	13,489
Transfer to Reserve	0	553
Other Expenditure	4,321	3,685
Payment to CO, Regional Office and Other schools	0	0
Residential Operations	0	0
Residential Boarding Fees to CO (Ag Colleges only)	0	0
Farm Operations (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Farm Revenue to CO (Ag and Farm Schools only)	0	0
Camp School Fees to CO (Camp Schools only)	0	0
Total Funds:	**724,826**	**600,893**
TOTAL	**8,499,291**	**8,375,358**

2023 Identified School Priority	Planned actions
Create a more stable leadership team, including a plan for distributed leadership improvement.	• Develop our middle leaders. • Continue with existing leadership structures to allow for regular meeting. • Further develop the Student Services Team structure.
Continuation of explicit teaching and the use of whole school programs in Reading, Spelling and Numeracy.	• Continue to focus on PLD in Reading across the school. • Regularly analyse results of PLD in teams. • Further develop whole school warm up strategies in Numeracy.
Increase regular student attendance rates	• Implement attendance goals for Year 6 leadership positions. • Continue to communicate importance of attendance with families. • Review attendance processes and include extra information for those dropping below 90% on a regular basis.
Improve grounds and buildings for students, staff, and community	• Investigate the extension of Hive. • Create a stage area in the Quad to improve the lack of grass. • Investigate improvement of the safety of playgrounds.
Investigate whole school strategies for improving the teaching of students at risk in particular those with special needs (funded and imputed).	• Engage PIVOT processes • Improve the Student Services team and processes. • Increase whole school awareness of SAER students and train.