

Warrangal

Empower today-positive tomorrows



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Coonamble High School

Our story

Just over 200 students

160km north of Dubbo

68.7% of our students are of Aboriginal
background

Classified as a remote school

Part of the Connected Communities Strategy

What is the Connected Communities Strategy?

- A major initiative of the Ministerial Taskforce on Aboriginal Affairs, which was launched by the NSW Government in May 2012.
- The aim was to make a break from past endeavours and create a new strategy to drive improved educational outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people.
- An "Australian first" and will drive improved education outcomes for Aboriginal students and all students in 15 schools in complex communities throughout NSW.



Backdrop

Low socio economic town - ICSEA 776

High unemployment particularly among the youth

Many students within our school experience poor attendance, self esteem issues, learning needs, unhealthy lifestyles and disrupted home life

Drugs, alcohol, mental health and violence are challenges for our community.

2013 The beginning


Let me tell you a story



What did we do?

- Observed
- Listened
- Collaborated
- Researched

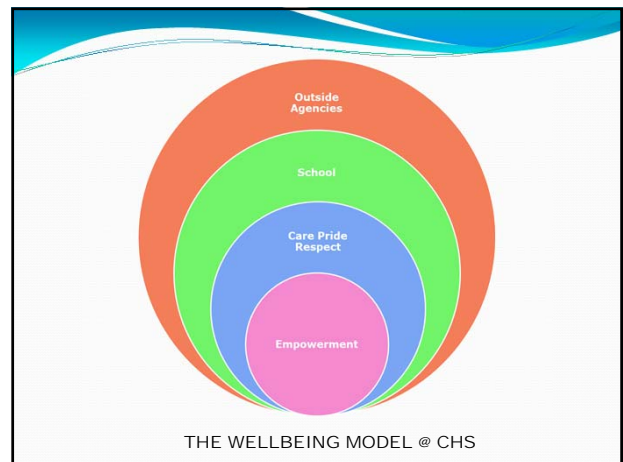
"Link up and learn."



[Download your ClassMovie \(.mp4 format\) HERE](#)

What did we need?
CHANGE

- A change in attitude
- High expectations
- A holistic framework based on research
- Data informed practice
- A whole school and community approach




What have we achieved?
Significant change

- Head Teacher Wellbeing
- Program of wellbeing across the school
- A wellbeing centre - a hub for community
- Outside agencies working with us
- All staff involved in wellbeing

- Restorative justice process central to the way we work with students
- Mindfulness ..daily
- SWiS
- Children's Advocate
- Enterprise Education
- Middle Years focus
-the list goes on!

Does it work ?

- Supporting your Friends case study conducted by the NSW Commission for Mental Health stated that 75% of our students felt comfortable seeking assistance from a teacher. This data was significantly higher than any other school who was involved in the study.
- our students expressed a high level of trust for adults in the school in relation seeking support around mental health issues. This was significantly higher than the other 176 schools who took part in the survey.

cont 

- 90% also agreed they "know who to go to get help with mental health and wellbeing issues" at school



TELL THEM FROM ME DATA 2014

Q- Students with a positive sense of belonging Students feel accepted and valued by their peers and by others at their school.

•66% of students in this school had a high sense of belonging; the NSW pilot norm for these years was 63%.

•70% of the girls in this school had a high sense of belonging. The NSW pilot norm for girls was 58%.

TELL THEM FROM ME DATA 2015

Year 8

- Advocacy at school has increased from 37 % to 43%
- Students planning to finish year 12 has increased from 64% to 76%
- Students planning to do an apprenticeship/TAFE course has increased from 28% to 58%
- Students planning to go to university has increased from 26% to 52%

Year 9

Only 58% of students from the current Year 9 cohort reported that they had positive relationships with friends at school in 2014, whereas in 2015 that number jumped to 71%.



Where to now?

From best practice to next practice
New Healing and Wellbeing Funding will allow us to employ a social worker and psychologist

Continue to seek external support for a nurse for each day in our school

Continue to advocate for improved access to counsellors/ social workers/ paediatricians for our community

Wellbeing for staff in our school.

Time to review ..what can we do better?

Tin Town Trackers

<https://youtu.be/fjow8hLqFieQ>



Contact and resources

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 @EYaiLL

Churchill Journey

<http://eyaiLL.wordpress.com>

Churchill Report

<https://www.churchilltrust.com.au/fellows/?page=2&cat=8>

<http://www.coonamblehighschool.com.au>