

# External School Review

## Elizabeth Grove Primary School

Across our education system, we seek growth for every student, in every class, and in every school. The external school review value-adds and supports schools to raise student achievement and sustain high performance by providing an expert external perspective on school performance by verifying or challenging:

- a school's improvement planning and processes and its impact on student learning
- the impact of previous external school directions
- the rigour of a school's improvement practices
- the school's capacity to achieve or sustain learning improvement over time.

The external school review lines of inquiry focus on:

- quality school improvement planning
- expert teaching
- quality leadership
- conditions for optimal learning.

The overarching question in every external school review is: How well does the school improve achievement, growth, challenge, engagement, and equity?

### Reported impact of directions from the previous External School Review in November 2019.

Since the previous review, the school has committed to providing students with regular opportunities to track and monitor their personal learning goals aligned with the school's improvement plans. Students are regularly encouraged to establish reading goals and their teacher tracks and discusses their progress with them. Staff have begun to explore and develop reading conferences empowering students to understand themselves as learners and how to keep growing and empowering parents as partners in supporting their children's learning. Through ongoing professional development, teachers gain a deeper understanding of the 'science of reading' and how to use data to guide their instructional practices effectively. The school's improvement planning processes now draw from student data at every step.

Teachers have developed a strong understanding of the curriculum requirements for their year levels. They plan and implement learning tasks, providing scaffolding and support for students to build their knowledge and stretch their thinking. The school's documented Teaching and Learning handbook provides a framework for consistently implementing explicit, direct instruction in English across all year levels. School leaders highlighted adapting this approach to enhance mathematics and other learning area instruction. All teachers work with school leadership within year-level professional learning teams to design units and lessons. The school has identified differentiated teaching practices for reading comprehension, spelling, grammar and writing as areas for further development, ensuring that all students have the opportunity to succeed and grow.

The school places great importance on student feedback and actively seeks it by collecting well-being, engagement, learning and behaviour data. Analysis of this data indicates that most students feel safe and supported in their learning environment. Further developments in the pedagogical approach of explicit direct instruction provide many opportunities for students to demonstrate their understanding, justify their thinking, consider other perspectives and receive timely feedback on their learning. House Captains and student leaders, who are a voice for their peers, were positive in their comments about support and were keen to have more say about their learning. Expanding rubrics linked to assessment pieces, reviewing student engagement in units of work and using technology to provide students with more specific and targeted feedback were considered the next development steps.

### Outcomes from the External School Review held in November 2023.

The principal will work with the education director to implement the following directions:

- Direction 1** Further develop effective differentiated practices as part of explicit direct instruction to meet the needs of all students.
- Direction 2** Further refine and develop consistent, evidence-based performance development structures and processes that provide effective feedback for improving practice.
- Direction 3** Empower students to take charge of their learning journey through self-directed goal setting and data-driven progress monitoring.

These directions are published on the school improvement plan and will support the school's ongoing improvement work. **Based on the school's current performance, Elizabeth Grove Primary School will be externally reviewed again in 2026.**



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