# EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW REPORT

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<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>STELLA MARIS SCHOOL, MAROOCHYDORE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Principal</strong></td>
<td>Glenda Morgan</td>
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<td><strong>Leadership Team Member</strong></td>
<td>Terry Grogan (APA)</td>
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<td>Judith Mellifont (APRE)</td>
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<td>Donita Sullivan (CST)</td>
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<td>Kelly Purssell (ST-IE)</td>
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<td>Christine Craig (GC)</td>
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<td>Alanna Curtis, Luke Parremann, Peta Neill (Teaching and Specialist Staff)</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>External School Review Panel</strong></th>
<th><strong>Name</strong></th>
<th><strong>Professional Position</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Panel Chair</strong></td>
<td>Paul Allen</td>
<td>Area Supervisor – South West</td>
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<td><strong>School’s Area Supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Damien Barker</td>
<td>Area Supervisor – North Central</td>
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<td><strong>Panel Member</strong></td>
<td>Tony Harkness</td>
<td>PEO – School Renewal and QA</td>
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**Panel Visit Date** | Wednesday 13 May 2009

**Attached Documentation**
- Validated Internal Review documentation inclusive of components 8.1 and 8.2
- Schedule of visit for the day
- Five year Schedule for Internal Review
SECTION A: SCHOOL CONTEXT

- Large primary school of 717 students with experienced and long serving staff.
- School has grown through a highly complex, challenging situation.
- Recent changes in leadership have assisted the school to re-energise and refocus.
- Evidence of enormous good will and energy amongst members of the school community.
- A recent refocussing of efforts towards learning and teaching through engagement in renewal and cyclical review.
- Significant commitment to an inclusive education and meeting the diverse needs of a wide range of students.

SECTION B
WHERE IS THE SCHOOL NOW IN ITS LEARNING IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY AND HOW DID IT ARRIVE HERE

The panel affirms:

- The very transparent engagement of the school community with the school cyclical review process.
- The highly strategic data collection that has informed the renewal process.
- The increasing collaborative approach amongst staff about a shared vision of learning and teaching.
- The use of internal and external consultants to support renewal and review in relation to staff professional development and staff professional reflection.
- The building of the leadership capacity of school officers within renewal and review.
- The manner in which the Parents and Friends Association and the Stella Maris School Board support and engage with renewal and review.
- The significant effort in aligning a range of key curriculum initiatives, student support, parent understandings and engagement.
- The very sophisticated and strategic approach for tracking student learning in order to inform learning and teaching and student progress (Internal Monitoring Program).
- The leadership of the Principal in building the leadership capacity of staff and the way in which the whole community has been engaged in collaborative renewal.
- The professional way in which the components have been reviewed and the strategies for improvement that have been developed. Namely:
  - 1.3 Prayer and Worship
  - 2.2 Curriculum
  - 3.3 Cultural Diversity
  - 5.1 Relationships with parents, caregivers and local community
  - 6.2 Leadership and management in ICLT
  - 8.1 Planning and reporting
  - 8.2 Accountability
SECTION C: LOOKING FORWARD: SCHOOL STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR IMPROVED LEARNING

The panel supports the following strategic directions:

- Integrating ICLT into the classroom environment.
- Continuing focus on the development of a professional learning community.
- The shared approach to the literacy and numeracy pedagogy.
- The way in which the school community is managing and addressing the pace of change and the sustainability of change.
- The focus on changing the paradigm from teaching to learning, particularly in relation to inclusive practices.
- The commitment of the community to stewardship and student welfare and learning.
- The alignment of all aspects of school life with the gospel, vision, mission, values and the Religious Life of the School.

SECTION D: FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

- The change management process undertaken is research based and has been well supported and set up for success.
- The panel recognises the difficult challenges the community has successfully met in journeying to become a healthy and professional environment for learning.
- The panel has sighted evidence to confirm that accreditation requirements in relation to components 8.1 and 8.2 have been satisfactorily addressed.
SECTION E: PANEL COMMENTS ON THE EXTERNAL SCHOOL REVIEW PROCESS

- The panel commends the school on the professional and thorough presentation of the external review documentation.
- The panel noted the importance placed by the school on the review process which was particularly evidenced by the level of participation of a wide selection of community members throughout the day.
- The panel commends the parish priest in his support and high level of engagement throughout the review process.
- The panel was appreciative of the welcome provided by teachers, staff and students in their visits to the different learning areas.
- The panel thanks Stella Maris for the welcome and hospitality afforded to the panel members throughout the day.

SECTION F
DATA MADE AVAILABLE TO THE EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL

The following data was provided to the Validation Panel
- School Profile including demographic and religious profile data
- Internal School Reviews of Components validated by area supervisor
- Internal school learning data verified by the school
- School student achievement data externally certified (Years 3, 5, 7, 9 NAPLAN data), Year 12 QSA exit data and Year 12 (Next Steps) transition data
- Current School Strategic Renewal Plan
- Annual Action Plans and Annual Reports

EXPERIENCES THROUGH WHICH THE REVIEW PANEL GAINED UNDERSTANDINGS OF THE SCHOOL AND ITS CULTURE:
- Meeting with the Principal and School Representatives, and listening to their articulation of the learning improvement journey
- Learning walks around the school (including visits to learning spaces)
- Other experiences as noted:
  - Attendance at staff prayer
  - Informal discussions with staff at morning tea and lunch

| External Review Panel Chair Signature | PM All
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<td>Date</td>
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