**DISCIPLINE AUDIT**
**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - BACK PLAINS SS**
**DATE OF AUDIT: 7 NOVEMBER 2014**

**Background:**
Back Plains SS was established in 1879 and is located approximately 50 kilometres south of Toowoomba, within the Darling Downs South West education region. The school has a current enrolment of approximately 25 students in Prep - Year 6. The Acting Principal, Craig Brims, was appointed to the position in 2013.

**Commendations:**
- The school is currently undertaking a consultative process to review the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students (RBPS) for 2015.
- The schools expected behaviours are based on an agreed set of school values and are enacted in three school rules: *Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible*. The reviewed RBPS has a matrix to describe the expected behaviours; and is the basis for explicitly teaching students what is expected.
- The school community has set high standards for all student behaviours and students’ adherence to the expectations is very high. Students are able to describe in some detail how they are expected to behave at school.
- The Principal and staff members maintain a strong focus on student engagement in learning and utilise a number strategies to achieve this engagement, including: personalised learning; vertical streaming in the small school context; as well as, a common teaching approach to introduce new knowledge for example: *Archer and Hughes: 16 Elements of Explicit Instruction*.
- Students report that the school is a safe place to learn and that they enjoy being challenged to learn more. They indicate that the learning they do is just right for them to be successful.
- The Principal is working closely with the local cluster of schools and local high schools and has trialled a transition program for students in Years 6 and 7 to successfully transition to Junior Secondary in 2015.

**Affirmations:**
- Parents acknowledge the great sense of community at the school and report that they highly value the small school culture, where students feel safe and are confident to engage with learning. Parents report that they are well informed about their child’s development; receive lots of feedback; and appreciate that any issues are dealt with promptly.
- The school’s Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) meetings are attended by almost all families in the school and the P&C is well informed about the RBPS review. The P&C works to ensure inclusivity for all students by financially supporting programs beyond the school to enable all students to take part.
- Students speak positively about their teachers and rate the behaviour of their peers very highly.

**Recommendations:**
- Further develop staff members’ knowledge, skills and usage of Class Dashboard in relation to data entry and analysis of academic performance data, attendance data, and diagnostic data.
- Progress further a well understood criteria for minor and major behaviours that are to be recorded as part of the school’s data set.
- Consider further the option of including positive behaviour records for students to reflect the high standards of behaviour displayed by students.
- Consider including Semester report card ratings for Behaviour and Effort; roles of student leaders; community engagement and representations beyond the school; as well as, excellence in those areas that reflect the school’s ethos.