

STUDENT LEARNING

ENGLISH (priority area)

Students were assessed through student outcome levels, the Department of Education and Training's Western Australian Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (WALNA) tasks and the Goldfields Oral Language Development program.

Care must be taken when comparing one year level with the same year level as the student groups are different; however, there has been significant value adding by the school.

WALNA Comparisons

2005 year 5 to 2007 year 7

Reading performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
93%	70.0%

Writing performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
79%	74.2%

Spelling performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
54%	60%

Generally, there were mixed results with a disappointing leaning towards a reduction in scores.

2005 year 3 to 2007 year 5

Reading performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
69%	92.3%

Writing performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
46%	64.3%

Spelling performance above national benchmark

2005	2007
54%	50%

The school has added value to these students' learning as there has been up to 23% improvement and spelling is nearly on par.

Year 3 students - WALNA

Reading performance above national benchmark

2007

89.5%

Writing performance above national benchmark

2007

57.5%

Spelling performance above national benchmark

2007

34.1%

From English student reports, teachers believe that the C grade (average) is where the majority of students are achieving.

A	B	C	D	E
1%	18%	46%	29%	5%

There are more students (29%) achieving a D grade than achieving a B grade (18%). It is felt that spelling needs improvement and a more direct teaching approach used in classrooms. Despite considerable individual intervention, the year 1 and 5 students were noticeably lower than other year levels in achievement in English. 11.5% of year 2 students achieved an E grade, which was related to lower attendance.

Outlook

- More direct approach to spelling with more rigorous testing to pin point teaching points in 2008.
- Getting It Right Literacy Specialist Teacher employed to help teachers improve the literacy of students
- Junior primary continue with the specialised speaking and listening program.