



Annual School Report 2011 (Based on 2010 data)

About the School

*We are the children of the crystal river that springs clear from the source.
We speak in trickles and in waterfalls. We are the river's voice.*

The River School was given its name by children who attended the original pre-school on the school site, who while playing in the beautiful Bridge Creek called the pre-school the "Wet and Wild River School". The school is an independent Co-educational primary school setup as a company limited by guarantee by Ananda Marga Education. The Ananda Marga River School is located in a valley at the bottom of Bridge Creek Road in Maleny in the hinterland of the Sunshine Coast. The school opened in 1995 with 23 students and one teacher. It now operates a Long Day Child Care Centre for PreKindy and Kindergarten Children and offers Primary School classes from Prep to Grade 7.

The table below identifies the total number of students who were enrolled at Ananda Marga River School during the 2010 year, including breakdowns on the number of Indigenous students, and how many were male and female students.

	Total Students	Indigenous	Female	Male
Prep – Year 7	177	1	87	90

Distinctive Curriculum Offerings

The River School's Primary School is divided into eight classrooms some of which include multi-age groupings. Many activities in the school are collective, with mixtures of ages, to encourage a sense of unity. The mixing of ages helps older students learn leadership and responsibility, whilst young children benefit from the guidance and help of the older children.

The school undertakes a variety of distinctive curriculum and innovative programs including:- Morning Circle, Edward De Bono's Six Hats, Language Programs, Body Awareness, Meditation & Yoga, Virtues Program, and Enrichment Music.

Learning Support: Students who experience difficulties in the areas of literacy and numeracy receive additional one on one support to supplement their learning and enhance the classroom program.

The school also provides a variety of extra-curricular activities including: School camps, Arts / Crafts and Performances, Video-making, Lead-lighting, Puppetry, Stilt Walking, Cooking, Kitchen Garden, Outdoor adventures and dance, varies elective programs.

Social Climate

The River School's social climate is based on the aims and ideals of Neo-Humanist Education which include:-

- To develop the full potential of each child: physical, mental and spiritual
- To awaken a thirst for knowledge and love of learning
- To equip students with academic and other skills necessary for higher education
- To facilitate personal growth in areas such as morality, integrity, self-confidence, self-discipline and co-operation
- To develop physical well-being and mental capabilities through yoga and concentration techniques, sports and play
- To develop a sense of aesthetics and appreciation of culture through drama, dance, music, art
- To encourage students to become active and responsible members of society
- To promote an awareness of ecology in its broadest sense: i.e. the realisation of the inter-relatedness of all things, and to encourage respect and care for all living beings
- To encourage a universal outlook, free from discrimination based on religion, race, creed or sex
- To recognise the importance of teachers and parents in setting an example

Parental involvement & Satisfaction

Our parent body continues to be very supportive of our school and the student body as a whole, and engage in a range of activities. Parents are encouraged to fully participate in their child's education, the school operates a very active energy levy program where parents have the opportunity to give some of their time to enrich the school. Their involvement includes classroom support, parent meeting, volunteer parent programs and school rainbow cafe. Whilst an official survey has not been conducted during 2010, strong support for the school and its programs is evidenced by the strong parental attendance at school events.

Staffing information

In 2010, Ananda Marga River School employed:-

Teaching Staff

10.0 FTE Equivalent teachers

Non-teaching staff

0.8 FTE Specialist Staff

8.6 FTE Admin/Clerical/Aides

2.4 FTE Building/Grounds and Other

The school currently does not have any indigenous staff.

Teacher Qualifications

100% of our classroom teachers hold a Bachelor Degree.

Professional Development

All classroom teachers (100%) participated in Professional Development opportunities. Ananda Marga River School expended \$11,883 on Professional Development during 2010.

Staff Attendance and Retention

Average staff attendance for the school, based on unplanned absences of sick and emergency leave periods of up to 5 days.

Number of Staff (FTE teaching staff)	Number of School Days	Total Days Staff Absences	Average Staff Attendance Rate
10.0	187	32	98.3%

Proportion of Staff retained from the previous year

Number of permanent teaching staff at end of 2009	Number of these staff retained in 2010	% retention rate
10.0	3	70.0%

Key Student Outcomes

The average student attendance rate as a percentage in 2010 was 91.5% (2009 93.3%)

The average student attendance rate of each year level is calculated in the table below:

Year Levels	Average attendance rate for each year level as a percentage
Preparatory	91.5
Year 1	92.1
Year 2	92.1
Year 3	87.5
Year 4	88.4
Year 5	93.2
Year 6	94.6
Year 7	91.4

Student Attendance and Management

All students of Ananda Marga River School are expected to be in attendance on all school days unless they are sick or absence has been prearranged with the school principal. The School records all attendance and absenteeism by marking of class rolls twice daily and reporting all absences immediately to the Office.

Should a student be absent from school, the parent/guardian is expected to contact the school to inform them of the students absence. If the college is not notified of an absence, a phone call is made to the parent/guardian by administration staff. All prolonged absences or repeated lateness are reported to the school principal for actioning.

Benchmark Data 2010 – Years 3, 5, 7

READING			
Year	Average School Score	Average State School	% Above Benchmark
Year 3	424	393	100%
Year 5	484	468	100%
Year 7	561	537	100%

WRITING			
Year	Average School Score	Average State School	% Above Benchmark
Year 3	398	402	88%
Year 5	463	472	90%
Year 7	559	531	100%

SPELLING			
Year	Average School Score	Average State School	% Above Benchmark
Year 3	360	371	94%
Year 5	456	468	95%
Year 7	516	535	95%

GRAMMER AND PUNCTUATION			
Year	Average School Score	Average State School	% Above Benchmark
Year 3	397	398	88%
Year 5	502	483	95%
Year 7	546	539	90%

NUMERACY			
Year	Average School Score	Average State School	% Above Benchmark
Year 3	388	378	100%
Year 5	470	474	95%
Year 7	563	546	100%