Gawa Christian School is a remote Indigenous Christian school situated on the northern tip of Elcho Island. Our school offers education for Transition – Year 10 students. We have a Transition – Grade 4 class operating and a Grade 3 - Year 10 class. We also have a preschool program running with volunteers. The school is supported by the community who encourage mainstream schooling in conjunction with the teaching of traditional languages and indigenous culture. We have a fluctuating enrolment of approximately 50 students.

Enrolments have continued to fluctuate during each term depending on shifting communities, funeral commitments and the capacity to house everyone in the four houses that are in Gawa.

The Australian Government requires that every school address specific areas they call performance items. This information is designed to ensure that parents and guardians of the students have an overall picture of the performance of their schools. In highlighting these specific areas we need to also be aware that this information doesn’t provide us with a full understanding of our school here in Gawa.

### Professional Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher qualifications</th>
<th>All teachers at Gawa Christian School are required to be registered with the NT Teacher Registration Board and have a minimum Bachelor of Teaching degree.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Workforce composition  | Non indigenous staff: We have 2 full time teachers employed, a part time preschool coordinator, a part time administration assistant and 2 full time support staff. 
Indigenous staff: Include one full time Teacher’s aide and one part time Teacher’s aide. |
| Funding sources        | Income statement for the 2009 school year 
PRIVATE INCOME: $47,685 
RECURRENT GOVERNMENT INCOME: $783,894 
CAPITAL GRANTS: $613,151 |

### Key Student Outcomes

| Student attendance. | During 2009 on average students where present 63% of the time. These figures don’t take into account that many students were present over 95% of the time whilst others were still enrolled and attended no school for extended periods. 
Primary Years: Average attendance – 62% 
Middle Years: Average attendance – 74% 
Secondary Years: Average attendance – 54% |
### Management of non-attendance

We have employed an attendance office for 10 hours a week to ensure that children get to school on time and are returned to their homes each night. We also ensure that children who attend school are given morning tea and lunch and those who do not come to school for the whole day miss out. If students are not present for a whole week – a visit to the family (two hours away) is made a priority. If a child is in Gawa – they will always attend school.

### Proportion of Yrs 3, 5 and 7 students meeting nation benchmarks in Reading, Writing, Spelling and Numeracy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yr 3</th>
<th>Yr 5</th>
<th>Yr 7</th>
<th>Yr 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that only 5 children in 2008 and 17 children in 2009 participated in the NAPLAN tests.

### Value added

There has been several specialised teachers visit Gawa.

Term 3 and 4: Enhanced literacy program was run with a literacy specialist employed for 12 weeks.

All year: Children were involved in creating, planting, growing and watering a vegetable garden. These sessions were run by support staff.

Early childhood program was introduced for mums and preschool children.

All students participated in art once a week with a trained specialist.

A nutrition program has operated to educate parents and students and supply children with morning tea and lunch each day.

Students are encouraged to participate in fishing, hunting and traditional cultural days run by elders.

Music lessons and sailing.

School camps.

### Senior secondary outcomes

**Not Applicable** – Gawa Christian School is a Transition – Year 10 school.

### Proportion of Yr 9 students retained to Yr 12

Secondary school students have enrolled in another NTCSA school in Darwin. They are part of the Indigenous boarding program at Marrara.

### Post school destinations

One student has taken up full time employment as a health worker in Galiwinku.
### Satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent satisfaction</td>
<td>A survey was sent to a selection of parents. Overall parents were very happy with the relationship that staff had with their children, believed the curriculum covered was appropriate and meaningful and were ultimately encouraged by what was happening in the classroom. Suggestions for improvement included making the curriculum more relevant to Indigenous learners, more community and parent involvement in class and setting curriculum and additional health education. Parents were extremely happy with the student outcomes through the Accelerated Literacy program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student satisfaction</td>
<td>All respondents to the survey were very happy with the School’s performance. The survey was sent to a selection of upper primary age and secondary students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General staff satisfaction</td>
<td>Of the 6 staff available to be surveyed everyone was very happy with the school direction and performance. Some staff don’t always feel supported in their roles and two staff members were also not happy with their jobs. Staff surveyed consisted of teaching staff, cooks, cleaners, administration staff and teacher aides. Despite initial challenges, all staff chose to remain in their current roles at the school in 2010.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>