



Raymond Terrace

Return To School Centre

TERM 4 2011

IN BRIEF:

- Term 2 - 10 students placed in the RTSC
- Term 3 - 10 students placed in the RTSC
- Parent Afternoon Teas / Sessions
- Engagement Programs
- Links with Raymond Terrace Community Agencies to support students and families

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Students who are 'at-risk' but not on long suspension can also be referred to the RTSC for a Pro-active Intervention

The RTSC Program

The Raymond Terrace Return To School Centre is a Department of Education and Communities initiative to support the successful return to school of students from Year 5 to Year 9 on long suspension.

Students receive support with:

- Managing their own behaviour
- Programs to help with understanding their behaviour and its impact in school
- Support structures at school
- Study, planning and work habits
- Their successful return to school.

The program:

- Assists students to reflect on and understand their behaviour and its consequences and develop a positive attitude towards schooling;
- Develops the student's capacity and understanding to re-engage at school and minimize the recurrence of inappropriate behaviours; and
- Provides skills development opportunities and support for parents/carers.



SCHOOLS SUPPORTED:

Irrawang High School
Irrawang Public School
Grahamstown Public School
Medowie Public School
Wirreanda Public School
Hunter River High School
Raymond Terrace Public School
Salt Ash Public School
Tanilba Bay Public School
Karuah Public School
Seaham Public School

Supporting Students and Families

The Raymond Terrace Return To School Centre has supported 10 students during Term 2 and 10 during Term 3. Many students have re-integrated to their mainstream classes. Four students were successfully referred to local DEC ED/BD settings.

FAER Project

Parents and Carers have also been supported through parent information afternoon teas /sessions facilitated by Wendy Birrell (FAER Project). These sessions will continue in Term 4.

Counselling Support

Students and families can also be supported by School Counsellors and referrals to the Port Stephens Adolescent and Family Counsellor can also be made if the need arises.



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HOW TO REFER A STUDENT

- Ring the Raymond Terrace Return To School Centre to determine if a vacancy exists.
- School discusses suitability of the student with the head teacher of the Return To School Centre and nominates a staff member to be the student's mentor.
- Email / Fax to RTSC completed Appendix 5 of the *Suspension and Expulsion Procedures*, Referral Form, Risk Assessment and school counsellor's Suspension Report.
- A date is set for the mentor to accompany the student and parent/carer to the Return To School Centre for a meeting to set up the program.

Engagement Programs

Term 3

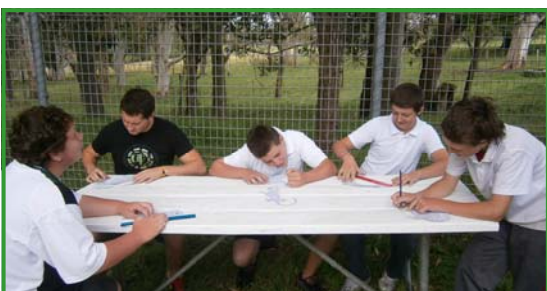
During Term 3 students in the RTSC restored a fish tank that was donated to the centre. Students were involved in wood work lessons to restore the broken stand as well as cleaning and resealing the tank. Once the tank and stand were ready, students went on an excursion to the local aquarium to purchase supplies and fish for the tank.

The restored fish tank



Term 4

Current students are enjoying our major project for Term 4 - restoring a picnic bench and then painting it with an original design that the class has produce as a team .



DRUMBEAT

This term students have been participating in an 8 week Drumbeat program facilitated by Matt Breen of the Raymond Terrace Youthie.

Drumbeat promotes social understanding and connection through a team drumming experience. It is fun, safe and creative. The Program explores issues such as:

- Peer Pressure
- Bullying
- Dealing with Emotions
- Identity
- Social Responsibility
- Teamwork.

