**Investing for Success**

**Under this agreement for 2016**

**Darling Point Special School will receive**

$60,962*

**This funding will be used to**

- Identify, develop, and implement student preferred communication systems for *all* students including students with profound and multiple intellectual disabilities and non-verbal and verbal students with autism.
- Identify, develop and implement preferred literacy learning strategies for *all* students including those with profound and multiple intellectual disabilities and non-verbal and verbal students with autism.
- Refine student diagnostic data analysis to explicitly provide clear line of sight information regarding *all* students’ literacy journey. Baseline measures from existing literacy and numeracy assessments to be examined for basis to develop common data language.
- Develop instructional leadership capabilities of Literacy Lead Teacher and Speech and Language Pathologist through formal training and development and through coaching and mentoring of class teachers.

**Our initiatives include**

- Speech and Language Therapist to focus staff ability to complete a comprehensive school-wide audit of the communication systems used by students. Audit to include a preference measure for non-verbal students.
- Literacy Lead Teacher to focus staff ability to complete a comprehensive school-wide audit of the literacy strategies used by students. Audit to include a preference measure for non-verbal students.
- Literacy Lead Teacher and Speech and Language Pathologist to be formally trained in evidence-based coaching/mentoring processes with a view to effectively provide mentoring of all teachers requiring it.
- Identification, agreement around, and implementation of a diagnostic tool that delivers clear literacy data across learning phases. The tool must be one that teachers understand, can use, and is easily learnt.

**Our school will improve student outcomes by**

- Maximising student communication through a deep understanding by staff of their chosen communication system/s. This will have been achieved by the engagement of a Speech and Language Pathologist to embed the School’s Communication Options Policy and to provide a comprehensive audit of preferred communications systems for all students.
- Maximising student literacy through deep understanding by staff of the most effective individualized literacy learning strategies for each student at the school. This will have been achieved by the engagement of a Literacy Lead Teacher to provide a comprehensive audit of preferred literacy strategies for all students.
- Maximising teacher capacity to implement student preferred communication systems and literacy strategies to students by being formally mentored and coached by Literacy Lead Teacher and Speech and Language Pathologist.
- Student learning journey visibly and precisely mapped through precise diagnostic literacy assessment data taken for every student. This has been achieved through the investment in a tailored diagnostic assessment tool, including training, piloting and finally up-scaling.

*Funding amount estimated on 2015 data. Actual funding will be determined after 2016 enrolment data are finalised.

**Charmaine Driver**
Principal
Darling Point Special School

**Marco Rodella**
School Council Chairman
Darling Point Special School