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## Towards 2020: Renewing Our Schools SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

**Please complete and submit this form with your submission to:**

Towards 2020 Submissions

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Email [2020Submissions@act.gov.au](mailto:2020Submissions@act.gov.au)

**Organisation:** *Kaleen High School P&C*

**Submission subject/issues:** *Implementation of 2020 – Middle Schooling & Technological Focus at Kaleen High*

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## **Kaleen High School – Response to Towards 2020**

### **1. Introduction**

The parents of Kaleen High School see the introduction of middle schooling as an opportunity to embrace a different educational model which will better cater for the changing needs of young people in the ACT. This is of particular importance given the proposed technological focus within Kaleen High School. Parents also considered that if properly implemented these initiatives will attract more students to Kaleen.

### **2. Clustering and Linkages with Priority Enrolment Area Primary Schools**

The purpose of middle schooling is to provide seamless educational and social transition from primary school to high school and to cater to the needs of an age group which often falls between the cracks educationally and socially. It is planned in 2007 that Kaleen High School will formally consult with Giralang Primary School to explore various models of linkages between the two schools. It is also envisaged that the non-binding consultation process will include both Kaleen Primary School and Maribyrnong Primary School.

### **3. Middle Schooling**

For effective establishment of a middle school the following resources will be required:

- Additional staffing points to provide a spread of abilities necessary in middle schooling i.e. teachers who can teach across a range of ELAs;
- Additional staffing points to write and implement the fledgling middle school programs;
- Additional learning aids, equipment and resources e.g. books, multimedia, computers and peripherals for the expanded age group;
- Reconfiguration and refurbishment of areas to accommodate the specific needs of middle schooling;
- Additional counselling points to address the complexity of needs of Kaleen Students.

### **4. Funding for Consultation and Middle Schooling**

Effective consultation requires a defined process with appropriate administrative support in order to achieve meaningful outcomes. Unfortunately, schools including Kaleen High currently do not have the capacity to provide the necessary administrative effort which will be required for some six months. If formal consultation processes are to produce useful outcomes then appropriate resources will need to be provided. Further, the implementation of middle schooling will need the allocation of additional resources including staff and physical infrastructure.

### **5. *Promotion of KHS Middle Schooling and Clustering***

There is a distinct lack of knowledge among parents about the social and educational benefits of middle schooling. Extra resources are needed to educate parents about the benefits of this educational model. The introduction of clustering would also need promotion, as does Kaleen High School in general. Advertising materials cost significant amounts of money and staff time. Most schools, including Kaleen High do not have the resources to successfully promote themselves and public education in general.

### **6. *Increasing Priority Enrolment Areas available to Kaleen High***

Kaleen High School has only three primary schools in its priority enrolment area: Giralang, Maribyrnong and Kaleen. Our school community considers this restrictive as we cannot market to schools outside our priority enrolment area. Schools will not distribute invitations to open nights and other promotional opportunities and forums for attracting enrolments if they are in another school priority enrolment area. At this point in Kaleen's revitalisation the school needs to be in a position to have a competitive advantage in order to grow its programs. In comparison to Kaleen's three primary schools in the priority enrolment area, Belconnen High has 9, Lyneham 8 and Canberra High 5. It is suggested that Evatt and the new suburbs of Lawson, Crace and New Bruce should also be included in Kaleen's priority enrolment area.

### **7. *IT/VET Provision for Years 9 and 10***

Kaleen High School currently leases its student computers. There are 90 computers that are due for replacement in May 2007. In addition, the school has placed a high priority on the purchase of interactive whiteboards and there are currently five in use. To support the IT focus the school will need to expand the use of interactive whiteboards by providing them progressively throughout classrooms beginning with the middle school home rooms. The school also plans to install a wireless network combined with a class set of laptop computers. To offer graphics and computer aided design courses will require the provision of appropriate hardware and software. The school also plans to establish a physics laboratory with access to data loggers in a multipurpose room setting.

The school has staff capacity to teach Certificate 1 and 2 in IT, Business, Hospitality, Community Services, Building and Construction. The school is committed to implementation of these courses beginning in Semester 2, 2007. To implement these courses the school requires a commercial grade kitchen and the infrastructure for a café to deliver hospitality and business as a package. The department has indicated that the technology area of the school will be refurbished in the current financial year.



## **8. Conclusion**

**Kaleen High School continues to provide quality public education programs. The development of a middle school will further enhance both educational and social outcomes in our geographical area. With our new focus for the delivery of high quality public education utilising cutting edge IT and technology, we will be well positioned in the market to provide a range of program opportunities across all ELAs. These new Kaleen High School programs will be responsive to the expectations and needs of modern society. This however requires government to provide the appropriate level of resources to achieve these results.**