2016 Ashmore State School Explicit Improvement Agenda

**Literacy**

**Oral Language**
- Focus on developing four domains of oral language – Listening and Responding, Vocabulary and Concepts, Recounts and Retells and Building Talk for Thinking.
- Focus on oral language in different subjects across the curriculum enabling oral language to be woven into students’ learning throughout the day.
- Increase students’ talk time and reduce teacher talk time.

**Reading**
- Focus on building reading stamina & extending reading interests.
- Place emphasis on developing student knowledge and skills in inferential comprehension, reasoning and reflective practice.
- Provide opportunities to practise and integrate the strategies students learn during modelled, shared and guided reading lessons.
- Utilise authentic personalised reading rotations that align to the Link It! strategy in teaching Reading.

**Writing**
- Focus on cohesion, connectives, paragraphing, and sentence structure, punctuation, spelling and writing stamina.
- Build student skills in developing ideas that are interesting and important.
- Focus on organization of writing that is logical and effective.
- Develop student knowledge of the importance of formal and casual voice.
- Build student vocabulary to assist them in word choice that is specific and memorable.
- Develop student knowledge of the importance of formal and casual voice.
- Develop students understanding of the purpose of writing and the intended audience.

**Numeracy**
- Focus on pedagogy in the use of concrete materials to assist students to solve multiple step problems.
- Enhance student competence in the metalanguage of Math to ensure understanding of
- Mathematical concepts and literacies.
- Develop whole school approach to problem solving (POLYA)
- Focus on explicit teaching of problem solving strategies through the whole school PS program
- Utilise Mathematics to enhance mental computation, fluency and math reasoning.

**Science**
- Focus on identifying student’s strengths in scientific areas requiring improvement and teach accordingly
- Focus on pedagogy to develop students’ scientific knowledge, understandings and skills to make
- Informed decisions about local, national and global issues and encourage the pursuit of scientific-related careers.
- Utilise the expertise of teachers skilled in the teaching of science and build the capacity of staff to build student engagement in Science.

**Research Underpinning Pedagogical Practice**
- Choosing the Right Drivers - Building Collective Capacity: Fullan M. 2011
- The Six Secrets of Change : Fullan M. 2008
- Improving Learning: King & Kovacs 2015
- The Self-Transforming School: Caldwell & Spinks 2013
- The Art and Science of Teaching: Marzano RJ 2007
- Visible Teaching Visible Learning: Mattie J.2009
- School Reform – Inside and Out: Elmore, R 2004
- Gradual Release of Responsibility: Pearson & Gallagher 1993
- Inquiry Based Learning: University of Manchester 2012
- Personalising Education: Department of Education and Early Childhood 2007
- Fifth Discipline (Watching Others Work/Feedback Loops): Senge P. 2009
- Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences: Gardner H. 1991
- Higher Order Thinking: Bloom B. 1956
- Content Pedagogical Knowledge: Shulman L. 1987
- Choice Theory: Glasser W. 1998
- Beyond Discipline: Kohan, A.1996

**Priority Areas for Ongoing Development**
- Establishment of the Ashmore State School Council aligned to IPS requirements
- Aspirational, Personalised & Connected Teaching & Learning (Pedagogical Practice)
- Consolidation of Words Their Way spelling program
- Expansion of use of Exit Card strategy (MarzanoR- 2007) in Math and English to inform personalised learning
- Continuation of Student Personalised Improvement Plans (PIPS)
- Building Productive School & Community Partnerships
- Embed ICT embedded in Teaching & Learning
- Continue to refine Student Digital Portfolio Design
- Build Instructional Leadership capacity
- Focus on Well-Being (Kids Matter) and Teachers Matter
- Engage students in Project 600 & UniFY – University for You/Impact to extend learning
- Build teacher and student capacity in the teaching and engagement in of Science P – 6
- Continue Link It! – Literacy and Numeracy whole school intervention
- Continue Peer Observation & Feedback (W.O.W)/Collegial Engagement
- Extend the Gifted and Talented Program to engage and extend students in learning
- Extend Pre-Prep Program to 2 x half day sessions
- Extend LOTE from Prep to /Year2
- Extend Literacy Development Centre to include State, Independent and Catholic Schools.