Background:
Ayr East SS is a rural school located in the Burdekin Region, approximately 95 kilometres south of Townsville, within the North Queensland education region. The P – 7 school has a current enrolment of approximately 630 students. The Acting Principal, Des Gribbin, was appointed to the school at the beginning of the 2013 school year.

Commendations:
- The school has established a positive approach to behaviour management that maintains a clear focus on improved student learning.
- The Principal and other school leaders have developed a wide range of positive reward systems that include whole school, class and individual student awards.
- Respectful, caring relationships are evident between staff members, parents and students. The Department’s annual School Opinion Survey (SOS) results reflect the high levels of confidence in the school.
- Teaching staff are routinely entering behaviour records, both positive and inappropriate, in OneSchool following agreed protocols.
- The school has ongoing partnerships with parents, local businesses, government and community agencies with the express focus on student engagement.
- School leaders are closely monitoring student attendance data and take action as required. The school provides regular newsletters, whole school and class attendance data and related articles. There is also follow-up with individual families and individual attendance plans as required.

Affirmations:
- The school uses the Developing Performance Framework (DPF) process to inform the Professional Learning Plan and engage all staff members with Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) priorities.
- Transition to Junior Secondary for Years 6 and 7 students is being managed through a cluster approach with the local high school. There have been ongoing opportunities for pedagogical sharing, monitoring student welfare and transition of two teachers to Junior Secondary.
- The Guidance Officer, Chaplain and Behaviour Teacher work closely with the Leadership Team to provide a range of support programs for individuals and small groups of students.
- All staff members undertake regular behaviour professional learning, including Essential Skills for Classroom Management, and induction for new staff members.
- The school provides parents with regular information on high quality locally available parenting courses and loans positive parenting books to individual families on a needs basis.
- The revision of the school values and reduction to four school values: Safety, Learning, Respect and Discipline, has provided the platform for explicit teaching.

Recommendations:
- Develop school protocols for the explicit teaching and communication of the four school values on assembly, in weekly class lessons and through the school’s newsletter.
- Update the student enrolment booklet to reflect the revised school values.
- Review the consequence set with all staff members and monitor the consistent application of consequences and behaviour data entry to ensure that the behaviour data truly reflects current school functioning.
- Routinely review the full set of academic, behaviour and attendance data to monitor student learning and the effectiveness of behaviour processes.