

OUR ROAD TO DIFFERENTIATION: A PRACTICAL INSIGHT TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL-WIDE CHANGE

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We believe that change is imperative in many of today's classrooms with the focus on pedagogy, in order to maximise and celebrate our students' abilities. The rollercoaster to sustainable, school wide change in the direction of curriculum differentiation involves creating a vision, generating plans, and implementing professional development utilising powerful theories that support differentiation, unpinned by shared, well-articulated beliefs about intelligence and education. This has provided the foundation for a practical, innovative pathway that has enabled us to implement change at our school.

The importance of directing our energies simultaneously into the following areas cannot be underestimated; being responsive to learners' needs, thereby teaching them more effectively through a differentiated curriculum, and extending the number of classrooms in which this way of teaching is happening. Therefore, our approach at Kirwan State School in Far North Queensland, attends to these twin goals concurrently.

This presentation will offer snapshots of the model our primary school uses, including the planning and delivery of our professional development, which will furnish you with the tools you could apply to embark on an exciting journey for your teachers and gifted students.