Academic Success Guarantee
At Cairns West we fundamentally believe that Every student is capable of learning and therefore every student is expected to demonstrate ongoing progress. To this end we have implemented our Academic Success Guarantee program of student improvement.

Cairns West State School’s “Academic Success Guarantee” is a program that was developed in response to the challenge of continual low attendance, low performance and low expectations for indigenous students. As part of this guarantee the school implemented a continuous improvement strategy of performance targets and reviews as well as a reorganisation of support resources. Our guarantee states

Cairns West State School is committed to ensuring students who attend 95% or more of the school year will meet or beat their year level benchmarks.

In partnership with parents we are committed to doing whatever it takes at school; to individually case manage those students who do not meet these year level benchmarks.

We believe all students can be successful when we work together and are committed.

Culture and Accountability
Cairns West State School’s “Academic Success Guarantee” (ASG) is based on the creation of a model of service delivery to parents. The ASG program uses performance data to drive this improvement and therefore data is seen as a critical resource that we use to:

- Focus priorities and enable change
- Monitor and drive performance
- Set and achieve goals, benchmarks and targets
- Organise and utilise resources
- Build hope and a positive culture

At Cairns West we have used our internal monitoring assessment program of year level benchmarks, in concert with our signed guarantee, to drive the expectation of high performance. Our approach is to promote a culture of “whatever it takes”, to re-culture our school that there are “no excuses” for student failure. This ASG places the onus of accountability back onto us because once we have signed to guarantee success for students we must then ensure they achieve it.

The Academic Success Guarantee works as a simple two way message that drives both sides of the parent/school partnership. It communicates these expectations –

- for parents if you want your child to be successful – send them to school
- for teaching staff (teachers and teacher aides) – if kids come to school then we must do whatever it takes to make them successful.
- for administration it means supporting teachers, parents and kids by doing whatever it takes to ensure success.

This expectation provides for a situation, where educational success is a commodity bought through reward for attendance rather than punishment for non-attendance. The commodity that parents and students earn through attendance is not just a promise or aspiration but equates to increased learning support resources, increased school focus, awards for performance and improvement, continual celebration of success, increased achievement and attendance reporting and individual case management.