

Recipient Details

Name of organisation or individual: [I] Yeo, Katrina

Reference Type: Parent university

State or territory: NSW

Serial Identification Number: 477486

Responses

Curriculum and assessment

Small class sizes makes it very difficult to find people of similar academic ability to discuss course content with . It is also difficult to do fieldwork, experiments for science, PDHPE group work when there are such small class sizes or classes are conducted via video conferencing.

Rating: 7

Teachers and teaching

Extra classes and study groups for senior students before and after school is so beneficial. This is not always available in very small rural schools as teachers and students may have to long distances home.

Our local small central has great teachers but they are not always trained in the subject they are teaching . This must put the student at a disadvantage compared to highly trained teachers in specific subjects in bigger schools

Rating: 7

Leaders and leadership

Leaderships roles are extremely important. It builds confidence, respect, independence and can have a positive impact on ongoing future opportunities.

Rating: 7

School and Community

This is .

When you live in a small rural community, there is great community support for people as everyone knows everyone . The downside is that there are not many people in each age bracket . This has been the case for my 4 children . There have not been many friends in their peer group sometimes only 1 or 2 and this is not an adequate number.

Sport is very limited as numbers are just not there to make a team.

Rating: 7

Information and Communication Technology

So important. We did not have any mobile phone service at our house until we paid ourselves for a booster to be able to receive any service.

We also have satellite internet which is expensive and very limited compared to the city .

Rating: 7

Entrepreneurship and schools

By having the opportunity to send our children to boarding school from year 9 we have opened up their world from only knowing a small community. They now have the opportunity to pick the friends they have something in common with. Can choose from a variety of sports and subjects not offered before.

They can open their minds to future careers and opportunities they didn't know existed. Only knowing farming before.

Rating: 7

Improving access – enrolments, clusters, distance education and boarding

Access definitely needs improvement. We are not able to receive isolated children's funding as we have met the criteria for educational disadvantage for our senior school students but since our school was not on the list because the list has not been updated for many years we could not be considered. It is extremely expensive to send 4 children to boarding school without any financial aid.

Rating for enrolments: 7

Rating for clusters: 7

Rating for distance education: 7

Rating for boarding: 7

Diversity

The world is made up of many types of people and we need to learn how to deal with this and not live in a bubble which sometimes small rural communities can be as good as they are in others ways.

Rating: 7

Transitioning beyond school

If you have never experienced anything apart from a very small safe rural community can be so overwhelming to go and face "the real world"

Rating: 7

Additional Comments

Not everyone needs to go to a bigger school with different opportunities but it should definitely be an option for people to have. It should not be up to someone to say that you cannot bypass your local school because they have not gotten around to adding that school to the bypass list yet.

We should have the same choices and opportunities for as children as people in larger communities.

Social, sport and future networking are all just as important as academic success.