

VERIFICATION OF JOANNE KEUNE'S APPLIED FOR REGISTERED PRIOR LEARNING

To Whom It May Concern,

Pimlico State High School engaged the services of Joanne Keune through her company, Speakeze, on a part-time basis in 2018. In 2019, Ms. Keune was engaged as a Communications Coach on a full-time basis to work with students and teachers at Pimlico State High School.

Pimlico High School utilized her skills to run four professional development workshops for teachers. The purpose was to provide training for speech and oratory education for assessment to the teachers. Ms. Keune was also employed to create the communications components of two units based around careers education. The first was for the school's Year 11 Certificate II in Leadership course involving twelve classes. This included the creation of a range of videos and support materials for use by the teachers. The second was a series of communication videos and activities for the Year 10 careers program to prepare students for work experience. The materials created for both units were designed to cater to the diversity of students across a year-level cohort.

Over the past 5 years, Ms. Keune has accessed materials for the Australian Curriculum and our school-developed curriculum to develop engaging activities to support students. Ms. Keune has successfully coached the Pimlico debating teams and public speakers for five years. As a result, our students have won every age section of the Townsville Eisteddfod for the past three years and won four North Queensland finals in the English-Speaking Union Competition. Many students have engaged with and been challenged by the public speaking activities. They have improved their communication skills and developed confidence in public speaking, which has resulted in increased self-esteem for many of the students.

In her role as the Communications Coach, Ms. Keune employs appropriate discipline in the workshops. I have witnessed the overall growth and development of her personal skills with a range of students from Year 7 to 12. This is demonstrated through her workshops with the Pimlico STARS program, which encourages First Nations girls to attend and remain engaged at school.

Ms. Keune has also worked closely with students from non-English-speaking backgrounds. This included coaching them in public speaking and supporting them to enter public speaking competitions and debating. Ms. Keune would work one-on-one with these students, focused on pronunciation, reading, and phonetics.

Ms. Keune has created her own public speaking competition, BLAH, that is aligned with the communications needs of young people. Ms. Keune worked with our students from Year 10 to develop a program based around their ideas and requirements in communication. The BLAH competition was held for the first time in 2023, and Ms. Keune was assisted by former Pimlico students who had participated in her communication classes. These students are now being coached by Ms. Keune and have set up their own non-profit incorporated association – The North Queensland Institute of Possibilities.

I encourage Ms. Keune to apply for Registered Prior Learning. Her work with our students, staff, and the school and local community fulfills the requirements for recognition of prior learning of diversity in educational contexts.

Yours sincerely,



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