

ETD Annual Report Hearings

Healthcare Access At School HAAS

Background

- Healthcare Access At School (HAAS) is based on healthcare at school models implemented with success in schools in other jurisdictions.
- HAAS is designed meet the complex and or invasive healthcare needs of students so they can attend school; through a nurse-led model of care.

Numbers of schools and students involved in HAAS

- There are ■ students currently on the HAAS program enrolled across ■ schools.
- By the end of the transition period in April 2015 there will be 36 students in the HAAS program attending 13 schools.
- See Table 1 for a breakdown of student and trained LSA numbers across schools.

Issues

How HAAS is operating in Specialist Schools

- At this point HAAS has been successfully implemented in 2 of the 4 Specialist Schools during 2014: Black Mountain School and the Woden School.
- At both Cranleigh School and Malkara School there are 6 students on each site eligible for the HAAS program. Students at Cranleigh will transition to HAAS over the coming months and Malkara students will transition in 2015.
- School staff members, usually Learning Support Assistants are trained by a Registered Nurse to provide the health care support to meet students' individual complex and invasive health care needs.
- Students with complex and invasive health care needs in Specialists Schools have been transitioning to the HAAS program over the course of 2014.
- Previously a nurse attended to these students' needs.
- The process under HAAS is that the registered nurse works with the family and with other health professionals to agree on a school health care plan for an individual student.
- The HAAS registered nurse then trains the learning support assistant who is working with the student in the classroom. Three LSAs are trained for each child; this allows for people to take leave during the school term eg sick or LSL leave.
- The LSA undertakes training in the health care procedures required by a particular student. This training may take at least two days or more to complete. Training is tailored to the student's health care needs.
- LSAs then complete health tasks for the student in the classroom under the direction of a registered nurse following a period of training.

- The HAAS Nurse supports the LSAs until they feel comfortable to take on this care. If further support is required the HAAS Nurse provides it.
- The healthcare procedures undertaken by the LSAs are similar to those that parents, carers and siblings undertake for these children at home, overnight, in after school care, on the weekends and during holiday periods. Family members undertake these procedures without necessarily having any nursing qualifications.
- LSAs are trained in the correct procedures to follow and have the support of the nurse if required.
- The role of the nurse has changed in the Specialist School.

Cranleigh School

- Eligible Cranleigh students are transitioning to the HAAS program during term 4 in 2014.
- Some parents were wary of the shift to HAAS and to LSAs undertaking the procedures.
- A meeting was held with Cranleigh parents in mid October 2014 to discuss the transition to the new program.
- The Minister for Health has received feedback from one parent about their concerns with the transition to HAAS at Cranleigh and earlier consultation with parents in 2012.
- The consultation that took place in 2012 was seen as inadequate by some parents who indicated they were unaware of the consultation.
- Further advice from Health and Education was sought by the Minister for Health to make sure that those concerns are addressed, with the best interests of the child at heart.

Malkara School

- Malkara School will transition to the HAAS program in Term 1 of 2015.

Benefits of HAAS

- Parents, LSAs, and the school more generally see the benefits in terms of the school's ability to care for the complex needs of these children.
- On going communication with parents
- Students are spending less time waiting for the Registered Nurse to attend to their needs. More classroom time can be devoted to education and learning.
- Trained HAAS LSAs can attend to regular scheduled health care needs of the students and monitor students and undertake healthcare procedures as needs arise.

Training

- To date 66 LSAs have been trained in the HAAS role by the HAAS

Registered Nurses.

- As each student requires up to 3 LSAs to be trained to undertake their healthcare, 109 training and credentialing sessions have been finalised.
- Some LSAs are 'back up' support for a number of students.
- The average length of training for an LSA is 15 hours. This comprises formal training, 'buddy' time with the Registered Nurse and credentialing. This time does vary according to the complexity of the student's needs, staff experience and staff confidence.
- The very positive outcome is that students with complex and invasive healthcare needs can attend their regular mainstream school and receive the healthcare they need in that environment rather than miss school.

Support provided to LSAs and schools

Black Mountain School

- During Term 3 2014 the HAAS team from ACT Health held weekly meetings at Black Mountain School with the LSAs and other staff.
- The LSAs at Black Mountain School indicated that in term 4 fortnightly meetings would suffice to meet their needs, indicating their growing confidence and competence in the HAAS support role
- The Nurse will remain at BMS until the end of the school year to assist with the transition.
- A number of information sessions have been provided to teachers regarding: the general health needs of the students; and an outline of the LSAs role in supporting health care needs of HAAS students in their class room.

The Woden School

- Daily RN visits to the Woden School. Some days the nurse may visit twice.

Cranleigh School

- In term 3 a meeting was held between the HAAS team and the LSAs to outline the transition to HAAS and training

Other schools

- HAAS Registered Nurse responds to daily phone calls from LSAs from schools across the ACT for advice and support. This is the normal process and is at the heart of HAAS.
- HAAS Registered Nurse visits school sites daily to support LSAs as required.

Planning for 2015

- HAAS team is working with all the schools involved, in order to plan for 2015 so that HAAS program students have a smooth transition into the

new school year.

- LSAs who will be working with HAAS program students for the first time in 2015 will be identified and trained and credentialed before the end of 2014.
- It is anticipated that only refresher training will be required in early 2015 for LSAs.
- HAAS nurses will be based at ACT Health in Moore Street.
- Two nurses (working in the HAAS role) are located at BMS and Cranleigh until the end of this term when the transition phase will be completed.
- A nurse will remain attached to Malkara in term one 2015 to oversee the transition to the new model of care during this period.
- The RN will also be available to answer questions and support the school more broadly as they transition to the new model of care.
- It is anticipated that 2-3 full time registered nurses will be required to support the HAAS program in schools.

Feedback from parents

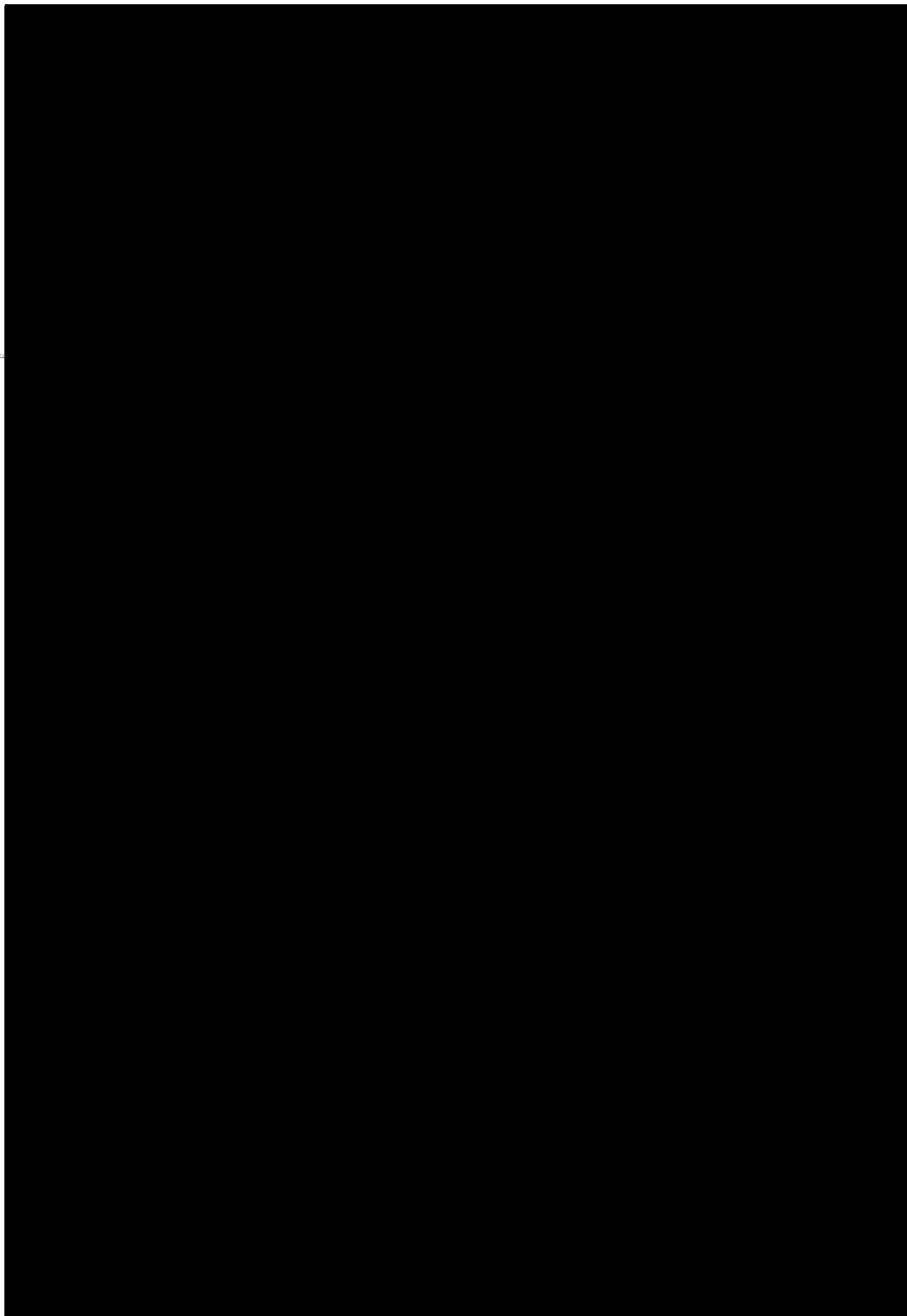
- Overall, feedback to HAAS has been very positive.
- Please see the attachment for parent and school community comments on HAAS.

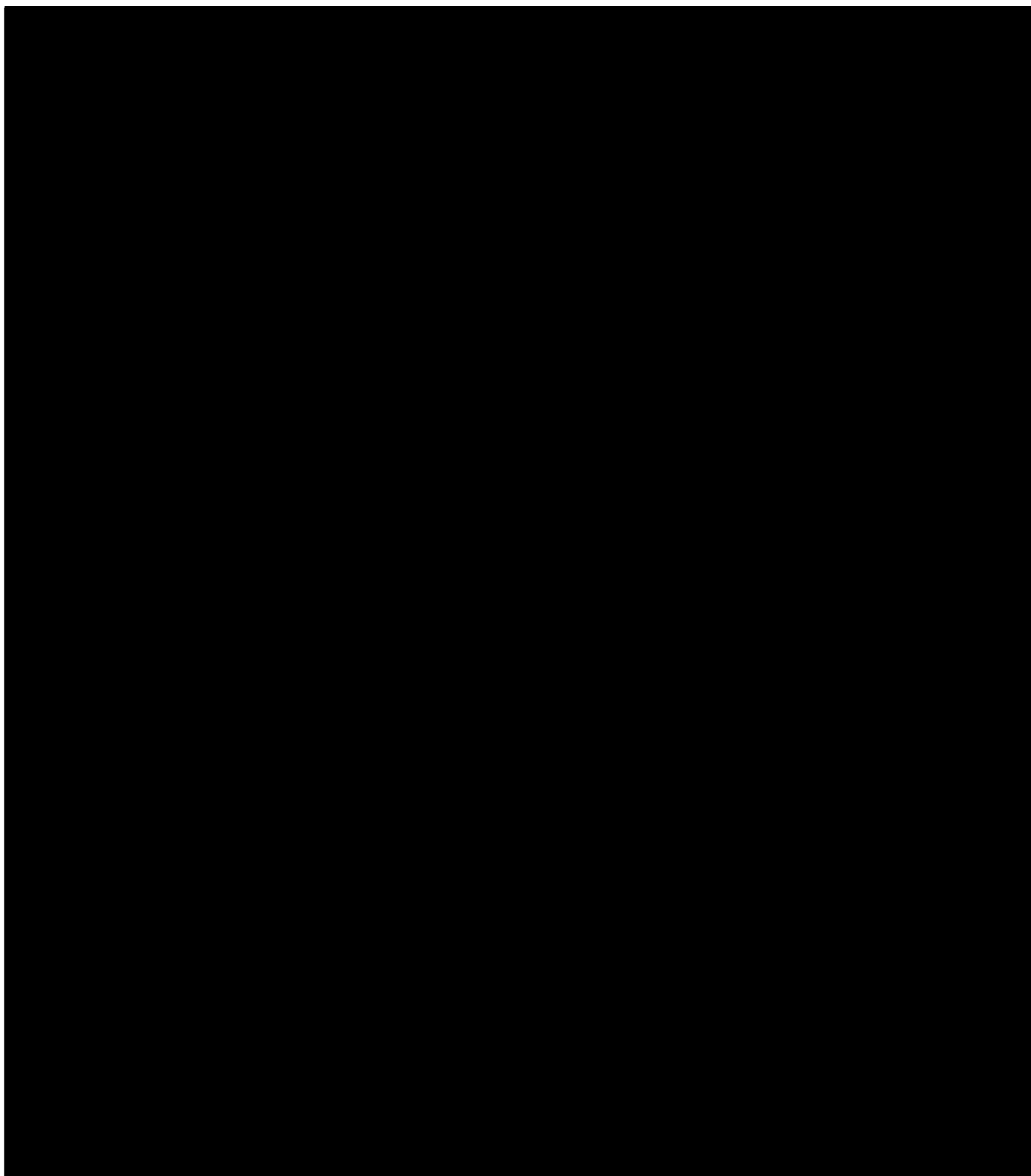
Table 1

HAAS student numbers and LSAs in ACT Public schools

School	Number of students	Number of staff trained by RN to assist in HAAS
Black Mountain School		
The Woden School		
Cranleigh		
Malkara		
Mainstream schools Eg Aranda, Amaroo		
Total		

NOTE: The bulk of students at Malkara transitioning to HAAS will occur in term one 2015.





(Attachment ...)

EVALUATION PILOT HEALTHCARE ACCESS AT SCHOOL (HAAS) PROGRAM

Preschool client, 1st semester, 2013

