Background:
Beaconsfield SS, a co-educational Prep - Year 7 school, is part of the Northern Beaches cluster of schools in Mackay. There are currently 420 students in 18 classes, approximately 11 per cent Indigenous students and a Special Education Unit which supports 50 students. The school has a strong involvement with the Reef Guardian project.

Commendations:
- The school improvement agenda, focused on improving reading comprehension, spelling and problem solving in mathematics is clearly articulated by all staff members.
- All staff members are very committed to every student’s success.
- Since the previous audit, there has been a particular focus on improved teaching methods in reading through whole of school strategies, such as, Skim and Scan, Connect, Organise Your Thinking, Be the Expert (SCORE) and Reading on the Same Page. Teachers work cooperatively with the Literacy Coach who models lessons in reading and the Explicit Instruction model (Archer and Hughes), provides feedback to teachers and uses PATR data to monitor student progress and the effectiveness of the program.
- All teachers meet with a school leader every five weeks in focused improvement meetings to discuss school focus areas, such as, evidence of students’ progress, Curriculum into the Classroom (C2C), NAPLAN preparation, behaviour management plan and use of support staff.
- The school leadership team and teachers are optimistic about the positive effects of implementing School Wide Positive Behaviour Support.
- Teachers effectively use technology and learning spaces to maximise learning.
- Teachers are to be commended on their implementation of C2C in English, mathematics and science and essential learnings in other key learning areas.

Affirmations:
- Teachers are generally open to visiting each other’s classrooms.
- The school has implemented the Department’s Developing Performance Framework as the basis for professional discussions with school leaders and all teachers.
- The school’s induction program is seen to be supportive and the improvement agenda is made explicit.
- Teachers use a differentiation checklist with their unit planning.
- Teachers have discussions with the Head of Curriculum to ensure the curriculum plan is the reference against which flexible delivery (to meet the range of students within each year level) is designed.

Recommendations:
- Develop school and year level/class targets which are clear and accompanied by timelines.
- Ensure data analysis is used throughout the school to establish where students are up to in their learning, to identify skill gaps and misunderstandings, to tailor teaching to student needs and to monitor student progress. Use data on a regular basis to reflect and as evidence of successful teaching.
- Develop a strong collegial culture which includes mentoring and coaching, teachers visiting each other's classrooms and openness to critique by colleagues.
- Fully implement the explicit instruction model across the school. Extend the focus on improved teaching methods to include mathematics and writing.
- Fully implement School Wide Positive Behaviour Support.