

Canadian principals visit Castle Hill school

- [Education](#)

13 Aug 10 @ 01:45pm by VANESSA BRADBURY



Excelsior Public School principal Norm Nicholson (right) with the school's two visiting Canadian principals, Andrew McLachlan and Carina van Heyst

EXCELSIOR Public School was on its best behaviour when two Canadian principals had a 10-day stay.

Andrew McLachlan from Gledhill Junior Public School and his wife Carina van Heyst from Selwyn Public School in Ontario were part of a 29 principal contingent to visit NSW public schools for an exchange program between Ontario and NSW principals.

Excelsior Public School principal Norm Nicholson billeted the principals so they could study the NSW education system.

Mr Nicholson will head to Ontario in late September to visit their schools.

“The benefits of being a part of this exchange program is you can experience how a school in a different country runs from a day-to-day perspective,” Mr McLachlan said.

“It is interesting to see how whiteboards are starting to be used here too and the fact you don't use a public announcement system like we do.”

Mrs van Heyst also said they have a junior school for students from kindergarten to years 5 or year 6, a middle school for students from years 7-8 and high school for years 9-12.

“It is also interesting to see how the difference in climate also changes how a school is run,” she said.

“For us in winter it can get below zero and the students have to play and eat inside the whole time.”

The principals said they enjoyed participating in Excelsior's athletics carnival, its Education Week big community breakfast and open day.