Bell rings up honour for work

News > Education

City North News

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Page 14

By Erik De Wit

BRISBANE Girls Grammar School principal Amanda Bell clearly remembers the art teacher who inspired her during her student years.

Ms Bell credits the teacher from St George Girls’ High School in Sydney with partly moulding her as a teacher.

A nationally recognised teacher, at that.

Ms Bell received a highly commended in National Achievement Awards for Excellence by a Principal in Canberra earlier this month.

The honour not only recognised her work, but also the staff, the school board, the students and the parents, Ms Bell said.

“It recognises us on a national scale. It is very exciting,” she said.

“It acknowledges what we do is leading-edge and what we do for staff in professional development is a success.

“It is an endorsement of everyone’s work.”

The aim of school life was to shape girls into confident, responsible people who applied themselves to tackle “big things in life”, Ms Bell said.

“They should be proud of the fact that they are women and aspire to be career women, effective members of the community and mothers.”

Ms Bell said she had fond memories of her years at school.

“I had an art teacher there who inspired me.

“Most people say that they remember someone from school who inspired them.

“My teacher inspired me. I became an art historian.”

This link with the past has been retained, with Ms Bell no a trustee of the Queensland Art Gallery.