



Wellbeing for learning and life

TOOGOOLAWAH STATE HIGH SCHOOL IS COMMITTED TO THE LEARNING AND WELLBEING OF ITS STUDENTS

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

A positive school ethos and rich learning environment that is open, respectful, caring and safe optimises learning through a commitment to wellbeing.

Toogoolawah State High School does this by:

- Priding itself on offering 'the small school difference' where *all* students are known and catered for by *all* staff.
- School wide recognition of Positive behaviour through: 'Stamp Champ' rewards program, student reward activities and acknowledgement of 'Effort' and 'Behaviour' success along with 'Achievement' success on Report Cards.
- Being a School wide Positive Behaviour School (SWPBS) with high expectations - ***Being Respectful, Being Responsible and Being Committed to Achievement.***
- Operating a SWPBS Committee to ensure there is a shared responsibility for student wellbeing. The Committee is made up of a cross section of our school community eg staff representatives, support staff (eg School Based Youth Health Nurse), parents and administration.
- Operating the Student Welfare Organisation Team (SWOT) dedicated to supporting and monitoring the welfare of all students. The Team is made-up of the Head of Department for Student Services, Year Coordinators, School Based Youth Health Nurse, Youth Workers, Guidance Officer and school staff. The Team works together to case manage a wide variety of student wellbeing issues.
- Involving student leaders who are identified as Students Offering Support (SOS students). Students have been 'Peer Skills' trained and provide 'peer support' to aid student wellbeing.
- Canvassing student opinions through the Student Council and surveys and to provide students with a sense of identity and belonging to the school and its decision making processes.

CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY

Curriculum that enhances wellbeing equips students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and strategies to understand and manage themselves and their relationships. Pedagogy that enhances wellbeing builds positive relationships.

Toogoolawah State High School does this by:

- Embedding the Apprenticeship Model as our school wide Pedagogical Framework and documenting it in 'The Toogoolawah Way'. It incorporates all aspects of 'best practice' to engage and improve student outcomes.
- Incorporating cooperative learning activities across all subjects to provide students with opportunities to build respectful relationships and learn from each other.
- Offering both Vocational and Academic pathways through our junior and senior curriculum.
- Providing student leadership opportunities through - Students Offering Support (SOS), Student Council Executive as well as Personal Development Program (PDP) representatives from each class and grade in the School, School Captains, House Captains.
- Senior leaders in our School attending specific training opportunities such as 'Peer Skills' training and the GRIP Student Leadership Conference.

- Delivering a dedicated Personal Development Program (PDP) for years 8-12 which delivers curriculum that develops and supports student welfare and includes evidence based support programs. Such programs include 'Cyberia' - cyber bullying drama presentation, 'Love Bites' – a program that increases student awareness of issues associated with domestic violence.
- Engaging with our primary feeder schools to provide a Transition Program to improve the student wellbeing associated with the transition from Primary School to High School.
- Embedding classroom management practices associated with School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) to focus on building and maintaining positive relationships between staff/adults and students.
- Encouraging students to become involved in a wide variety of extracurricular opportunities that foster respectful relationships with others and provide a sense of belonging within the school and wider community eg Musicals, Cattle Club, Equestrian, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, sporting teams and school camps.
- Providing students with regular opportunities to reflect on their achievement and individual goals set through 'My Education Plans'.
- Providing students with opportunities to engage in community service by volunteering: Show Society, Toogoolawah Lionesses and Student Council initiatives supporting charities eg World Vision, Glen McGrath Foundation, Cancer Council

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy intentions are transformed into action by school staff, students and the wider community.

Toogoolawah State High School does this by:

- Identifying as a School Wide Positive Behaviour (SWPBS) School and operating with the following mission statement:

To lead and monitor design and implementation of school-wide, classroom, non-classroom and intervention systems that will achieve a safe, supportive and disciplined learning environment. This will be evidenced by students achieving both academically and socially. This will be achieved through school-wide and community consultation and the use of evidence and data based decision making.
- We know this is important because:
 - Wellbeing is central to learning (students who feel well will function well).
 - Student achievement is personal/individual.
 - Students are expected to participate actively in the learning program and take responsibility for their behaviour and learning.
 - 'Working Together' relies on respecting others and their rights.
 - Effective teaching, inclusive and engaging curriculum and respectful relationships are the foundation for effective learning environments.
- Ensuring that our Responsible Behaviour Plan articulates our Positive Rewards Program along with our school wide behaviour expectations.
- Encouraging staff to attend a variety of Professional Development workshops associated with supporting student welfare eg 'Code of Conduct Training', 'Child Protection Training', 'Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives Training', Essential Skills of Classroom Management Training, Understanding Poverty Training and Suicide Intervention Training.
- Providing two Year Coordinators. The Junior Coordinator oversees the welfare of students in years 7-9. The Senior Coordinator oversees the welfare of students in years 10-12. The coordinators play a major role in the positive recognition of students for attendance, effort and behaviour as well as academic performance. Year Coordinators organise extracurricular activities that enrich the experiences students have at school:
 - academic experiences eg University experience days, work experience
 - community orientated experiences eg Lions Youth of the Year, ANZAC services
 - social experiences eg senior formal
- Employing a Student Services Head of Department who drives the Student Welfare Organisation Team (SWOT) and School Wide Positive Behaviour Support Committee (SWPBS) which meet regularly (fortnightly and monthly respectively) to review practices and procedures and evaluate and reflect on student welfare programs.

PARTNERSHIPS

Productive partnerships expand the knowledge, skills and resources available in the school.

Toogoolawah State High School does this by:

- Building productive working relationships between staff and students through:
 - the delivery of the Personal Development Program (PDP)
 - the relationships developed during student camps
 - the setting of goals and career pathways with the preparation and ongoing review of student goal setting plans eg *My Education Plans (MEPs)* and *Senior Education and Training (SET) Plans*.
- Encouraging parent contact with all staff through phone calls, emails, welcome BBQs as well as formal parent-teacher interviews (held twice a year as part of our reporting schedule).
- Actively seeking working partnerships with personnel representing the following external support services:
 - School Based Youth Health Nurse (SBYHN) through Queensland Health.
 - Youth Support Coordinator (YSC) through Ipswich Community Youth Service (ICYS)
 - Child and Youth Mental Health Service (CYHMS) through Queensland Health.
 - 'Our House' (a local community and respite centre)
 - Youth Connections Support through Campbell-Page
 - Guidance Officer through Education Queensland
 - School Chaplain through the Local Chaplaincy Committee and Scripture Union
 - Indigenous 'Yarning Circle' support by a Youth Health Workers (Young People's Health Team in the Ipswich Health Plaza).
- Actively working with local community members/organisations, for example:
 - Male mentors work with the Chaplain to deliver the 'Rod Riggers' Fishing Rod Program.
 - Community members provide assistance and mentoring for the 'Cattle Club' show team.
 - Local business provide support for Student Council events and support through donations to our annual Awards Night
 - The local Lions Club actively supports senior students to enter the Lions Youth of the Year Quest
 - Members of the P and C volunteer to proofread our fortnightly newsletter
 - ALKIRA (a local aged care facility) worked with our Art students to enable a mural to be painted for the residents