Dalby South State School commitment to learning and wellbeing

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

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

Dalby South State School does this by:

- Promoting and encouraging our school values which emphasise being ‘Responsible, Respectful and Safe’.
- The development and ongoing review of the school’s Responsible Behaviour Plan, in collaboration with all groups within the school community.
- The employment of a School Chaplain who supports our pastoral care program and models and promotes our school values within the school community.
- Creating smaller staff communities through year level teams (i.e. Professional Learning Communities) and committees.
- Supporting an inclusive education program through our Early Childhood Development Program, Special Education Program, SNAC (Special Needs Action Committee) Coordinator.
- Building the capacity of our Student Leaders and School Council who regularly meet, present ideas and participate in leadership training opportunities.
- Embedding our school’s behaviour code of being ‘Responsible, Respectful and Safe’.
- Involving all new teachers in the DSSS Beginning Teacher Mentor Program.

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.

Dalby South State School does this by:

- Having a clearly defined Expectations Teaching Matrix which outlines consistency of behaviour for all students in situations inside and outside the classroom.
- Communicating and implementing this framework through modelled behaviour, use of common language and reinforcing positive behaviour.
- Reinforcing positive behaviour through a consistent system of recognition and rewards for both learning and behaviour.
- Offering staff training and mentoring in Essential Skills for Classroom Management.
- Demonstrating a commitment to pedagogical training, enhancement, focus and evidence of embedded practice of differentiation.
- Implementing weekly PB4L lessons, in line with Dalby South PB4L program, explicitly teaching students expected behaviours according to matrix, through modelling and demonstration (use of examples and non-examples).

*The mention of specific organisation, programs or resources does not imply that they are endorsed by the Department of Education and Training.
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

**Dalby South State School does this by:**

- Having a cohesive approach to learning and wellbeing by linking procedures and processes through the Dalby South PB4L (Positive Behaviour for Learning) approach, “To be a learner at Dalby South State School I will be responsible, respectful and safe”.
- Explicit teaching of skills associated with social and emotional learning: self awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making.
- Developing processes and frameworks, and implementing them using teams of people best suited to the task to ensure all students’ right to learn e.g. Special Needs Action Committee, PB4L Committee.
- Providing ongoing professional support for staff in the implementation of school policies and procedures.
- Having students progressively become more responsible for their personal goal setting, the monitoring and review in collaboration with teachers and parents.
- Using timely and explicit feedback as a critical element in guiding actions.
- Evaluating and assessing whole school, year level, class and individual performance against benchmarks and indicators, via interrogation of trend data.
- Working collaboratively with our School Parents and Citizens’ Association to develop and review policies and procedures.
- Utilising our School Opinion Survey to gain feedback on our policies and procedures.
- Encouraging students to take active steps in tackling bullying through whole school participation in PB4L bullying prevention program.
- Working closely with our teachers to align policies and curriculum through our established school planning model that involves all year level teachers and is maintained through school curriculum team.

PARTNERSHIPS

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

**Dalby South State School does this by:**

- Establishing a KidsMatter Action team to support staff training in Component One.
- Creating a significant sense of recognition and belonging among all groups within the school.
- Establishing meaningful partnerships both within and outside the school with a focus on providing the best education for all students.
- Working with relevant support and community groups to meet the needs of particular students and, if relevant, their families.
- Ensuring that teaching is connecting and respecting the life experiences and cultures of our students.
- Ensuring the school is a happy place and that students have a sense of belonging to the school.
- Acknowledging and valuing parents as an integral part of their child/children’s education and of the school community.
- Ensuring relevant and timely communication between the teacher, the child and the parent/s and/or caregivers.
- Maintaining strong relationships with family groups in recognition of diverse cultures through special events such as Harmony Day, NAIDOC day ceremonies on school parades.
- Monitoring school attendance and morale as indicators of social and emotional competence within staff and students at the school.
- Ensuring staff wellbeing is maintained by implementing initiatives through the PB4L committee and KidsMatter Action Team such as staff awards.
- Working with a variety of agencies to expand the knowledge, skills and resources available to the school and to best support students and families. Interagency connections include Child Youth and Mental Health Service, local Queensland Health Service, Indigenous Health Services through Goondir Health and Bushkids.