EDUCATION QUEENSLAND



Wellbeing for learning and life

Mitchell State School commitment to learning and wellbeing

Mitchell State School is a co-educational P-10 school located in South West Queensland. Mitchell is a small rural town and has historically relied upon the rural sector as its main primary industry. The school aims to provide a quality education by maximising access, participation and outcomes for the full range of students through the use of effective teaching practices and provision of an inclusive curriculum within a supportive school environment. Our school community beliefs are that all people should be treated with respect, we are responsible for our own behaviour, we are all participants in learning; and all people are unique and our differences should be accepted, respected and valued.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

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

Mitchell State School does this by:

- embedding core values of "My Job, Society, Safety" through implementation of the School Wide Positive Behaviour Support program
- providing pastoral care through Breakfast Club, Friends program, Form Class (Jnr Secondary), Chaplaincy, interagency support, MiWellbeing Program (outdoor education & community service), cybersafety programs
- setting high expectations for learning and behaviour, the "A" standard, through explicit teaching and positive acknowledgement
- developing and implementing Personalised Learning Plans for all students recording targets and goals for reading, attendance & behaviour
- incorporating differentiation and inclusion in curriculum plans including extracurricular activities focussed on positive peer & community interaction & engagement
- fostering student leadership
- engaging all staff in PD contributing to a safe & supportive, positive learning environment: SWPBS, ESCM, FiSH, Understanding Poverty Framework, DoTL, Student Protection, Code of Conduct, WPH&S
- providing physical surrounds that maximise staff & student safety & wellbeing

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.

Mitchell State School does this by:

- incorporating the gradual release of responsibility and explicit teaching models in English & Maths, Literacy & Numeracy
- implementing SWPBS and explicit teaching of expected behaviours
- · focusing on Higher Order Thinking Skills
- differentiating curriculum, embedding Indigenous perspectives and social & emotional learning programs into curriculum (Friends, Peer Skills)
- employing specialist staff: Head of Curriculum Literacy, Teacher Aide – Social & Emotional Learning, Community Engagement
- transitioning students to Prep through parentbased Early Learning Group
- actioning Personalised Learning Plans stating targets & goals for reading, attendance, behaviour
- using data effectively and providing quality feedback
- providing fully equipped facilities with modern technology & resources for accessing curriculum
- providing extra curricula events such as camps, excursions, music, sport, community service, volunteer work for students
- engaging all staff in PD relating to Australian Curriculum, SWPBS, differentiation, pedagogical practices, social & emotional learning



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POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

Mitchell State School does this by:

- promoting philosophies & practices of SWPBS to community through meetings, newsletters, postcards, Open Days
- empowering student leadership team to assist in school decision-making
- involving students & parents in review & implementation of school policies such as "Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students", mobile phone policy, school rules, Smart Moves, Smart Choices
- encouraging students to take active steps in tackling bullying: "Bullying No Way"
- ensuring alignment of policy & curriculum from Prep-10
- communicating attendance expectations, procedures and actions to school community
- encouraging excellence in learning & behaviour through school assemblies, celebration for success, school publications and positive postcards
- encouraging interactions and the establishment of positive relationships between students, teachers and parents through school events such as Open Days, extracurricula activities, Paint the Town Read, art, sport, social, cultural events
- involving, consulting and supporting parents as key partners to a student's school life
- engaging all staff in PD to enhance understanding of learning and wellbeing, example, Understanding Framework for Poverty

PARTNERSHIPS

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

Mitchell State School does this by:

- encouraging parent participation in the school through Open Days, Family Nights, extracurricular events, Parents & Citizens Association, Playgroup & Early Learning Group, indigenous focus group, fundraising, sport, art, culture, social activities
- building strong positive relationships with cluster schools and other feeder schools in the region to ease the transition from primary to secondary school
- developing strong relations with local business & industry groups through community service/volunteering, traineeships, apprenticeships & Year 9/10 work experience program
- accessing School based Youth Health Nurse, Chaplain, Guidance Officers, Youth Support Coordinators, Mental Health Officers, Adopt-a-Cop
- maintaining strong links with indigenous community: Nalingu, Gungarri Language program
- engaging all staff in PD: Parent & Community Engagement, Reconciliation Qld

