

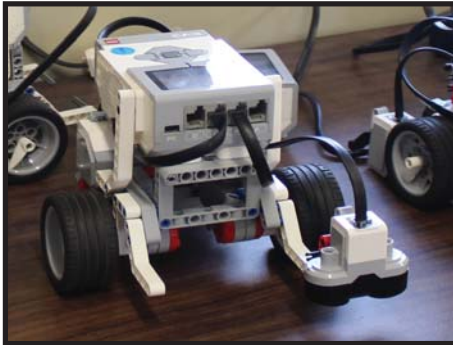


**Principal:** Mrs Ida Pinese  
**Deputy Principal Curriculum:** Ms Andrea Chiesa  
**Assistant Principal Religious Education:** Mrs Laura Gilbert  
**Assistant Principal Administration:** Ms Anja van Hooydonk  
**Business Manager:** Mr Hadyn Flynn  
**College Leader - Pastoral Care:** Mr Matthew Draper



## - BEYOND THE CLASSROOM -

Students are provided with enrichment opportunities in the areas of chess and robotics, to enhance their creativity and develop higher order thinking skills.



Right: Deagen Walsh, Aaron Bryce and John Milner attend Robotics Club at recess break.



Left: Caleb Shorey, Aaron Bryce, Hunter Liebold and Brandon Osborne finished in second place at the recent Gardiner Inter-School Chess Competition. Below: Mr Harnischfeger and Gordon Yates during Chess Club.



# NOTICES



## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Thursday 30 March

Year 9 Drama at St Thomas' School

### Friday 31 March

Easter Liturgy / Stations of the Cross

### Wednesday 19 April to Friday 21 April

Year 12 Retreat

### Friday 21 April

Year 10 Real Talk

### Monday 24 April

ANZAC Day Commemoration

### Tuesday 25 April

ANZAC Day Public Holiday

### Wednesday 26 April

Parent Teacher Interviews

### Friday 28 April

13-19 Years District Cross Country

### Tuesday 9 May to Thursday 11 May

NAPLAN for Years 7 and 9

## TERM DATES 2017

Term 1	23 January - 31 March
Term 2	18 April - 23 June
Term 3	10 July - 15 September
Term 4	3 October - 24 November
	Year 12 - 17 November

## ENROL NOW FOR 2018

All new students must have an enrolment interview; this includes those who already have siblings attending St Stephen's Catholic College. Contact the office for more information. Phone: 4086 2523

## ABSENTEE E-MAIL

If your child is absent, please email  
[absentee@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:absentee@sscc.qld.edu.au)

## DATE CLAIMERS

Year 10 Work Experience Dates

Term 2 - 19 to 21 June

Term 3 - 11 to 14 September

*Further information will be sent in due course.*

## CHESS CLUB

with Mr Harnischfeger (Mr H)

**Room: S5 - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
and Friday at Recess 2 and Thursday  
morning before school.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



## SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

Second-hand uniforms donations are greatly appreciated. Please leave at Student Services.

## COLLECTION OF STUDENTS BY PARENTS

Please note: collection of student by parents during the school day:

- Parents are to report to reception
- Students are to report to student services
- Students sign out before meeting parents at entrance to reception.

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Please inform the college if your child has achieved success in an extra-curricular activity not directly related to school, so that the college community can celebrate these achievements. Please email Mrs Pinese ([principal@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:principal@sscc.qld.edu.au)) with any information and photos.

## CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS?

To ensure communication is received, please advise the college if you have changed your email address.

Please email the office  
[office@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:office@sscc.qld.edu.au) or phone 4086 2500.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Friends of St Stephen's

***"Education is the most powerful weapon we have to change the world."*** (Nelson Mandela)



### **Term one in focus:**

"Every child in every classroom, every day" is what the inclusive nature of Catholic Education implies. As term one draws to a close and our teachers are preparing interim reports which indicate a student's progress, work ethic and behaviour, we are reminded that every single student matters, regardless of the academic and social challenges they bring to the classroom. Effective communication between the school and the home is essential if, as educators, we are endeavouring to progress students to the next level, which may be different for each student. The support which we receive from parents is instrumental in obtaining the best possible outcome for their children, as is the dialogue which occurs between parents and teachers, informally throughout the term, and at the scheduled parent/teacher interviews in early term two. I ask that parents take advantage of these interviews which provide valuable feedback and also establish strong relationships between the school and the home.

Upon reflection, term one has been a very positive experience for teachers and students. Not only have the year seven students settled into secondary schooling remarkably well, but there have been many instances where our students have embraced opportunities for growth, whether undertaking academic challenges, doing battle in the sporting arena or participating in extra-curricular activities. I would like to sincerely thank both teaching and non-teaching staff for their commitment to excellence and also acknowledge the many parents who have assisted with term one's activities.

### **Future plans and updates:**

From humble beginnings of 40 year eight students in 2006, the college has grown to the current enrolment of 557. In the years between 2005 and 2016, there has been a strong focus on capital works to accommodate the increase in numbers. The original master plan draws to a close with the proposed building of a dedicated Music Block this year to cater for the exciting growth of this area. Funds have been set aside in reserve for its construction. Not only do students who study instrumental music and music as an academic subject benefit from this latest project, but the whole school has been enhanced by the presence of music, especially as an extra-curricular activity at recess time.

Once this latest project is completed, it is essential that the college considers a second master plan for the next decade and all our stakeholders will be invited for consultation. What has become evident, however, is the need for a multi-purpose hall which can accommodate, not only our annual Awards Night and Senior Formal, but also numerous signature events on the college calendar which we are currently challenged to organise. More information about the process of consultation will be provided towards the end of 2017 and I look forward to valued input from all interested parties.



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As a leader, it is very important that I keep abreast of changes in education so that the vision of the college mirrors what is required for students in the 21st century. In 2017, I am very fortunate to participate in the Executive Development of Educational Leaders programme run by QELi (Queensland Education Leadership Institute). With four others from the Cairns Diocese, we are joining thirteen leaders from other states in a benchmarking tour of schools in New York and Ontario, Canada, during a two week period in May. Reflection on the best practices that are evident in the schools we visit will inform our future direction.

As educators, our focus is on continuous improvement which assists students to progress to the next level. On the horizon for 2019, is the change to senior schooling which I have included in past editions of newsletters. To provide time for our teachers to prepare for this change in the Queensland system since 1973, an extra student free day has been allocated to secondary schools. At St Stephen's, we have chosen Monday 24 July. This allows students and their families to effectively have a four day weekend, as Friday 21 July is the Cairns Show holiday. I appreciate that it is not always easy to plan supervision for your children on such days, and I thank you in advance for your understanding and support. Our teachers will definitely need more than one day to prepare, but this allocation of the extra day in 2017 is an acknowledgement by Catholic Education Services of the enormity of the task.

At St Stephen's, Friday 31 March is a normal school day where scheduled lessons will occur. In keeping with our Catholic identity and tradition, there will be an Easter Liturgy during the day. Your support is greatly appreciated and I thank you for ensuring that your child is in attendance until 3.00 pm on this day.

Often at the end of a term, students and teaching staff relocate. I wish students who are leaving St Stephen's to move south or to another school, the very best. We also farewell Ms Natalie Leo and thank her for her valued contribution to St Stephen's in term one.

I thank you for your support of our teachers in this first term. Best wishes for a safe holiday break and a Holy Easter with your family and I look forward to working with you in term two.

With Trust in the Lord

**Mrs Ida Pinese | Principal**  
principal@sscc.qld.edu.au

The Principal and College Staff  
invite you to attend our  
**ANZAC COMMEMORATION**

Monday 24 April 2017  
9.00 am

St Stephen's Catholic College



## FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CURRICULUM

By the time this article goes to print, assessment for term one is complete and interim reports have been prepared, in readiness for posting on the last day of term. It is to be remembered, however, that the comments on these reports are based on a teacher's observations and testing for a short period of approximately nine weeks. In some cases, students may be submitting their first piece of assessment for this year, at the start of term two. Therefore, the report is general in nature, while still providing parents with an indication of their child's academic progress, work ethic and behaviour during term one.



Parent teacher interviews will take place on Wednesday, 26 April from 3.30 pm to 7.30 pm. The college uses an online system called Parent Teacher Online for parents to make the necessary appointments with the student's subject teachers. All the relevant information, including usernames and passwords, will be posted home with the interim report. The parent teacher interview session is an opportunity for feedback to be provided about a student's progress and all parents are strongly encouraged to attend. Time slots are limited to five minutes per subject. Parents wishing to have a longer discussion about a specific issue may arrange another meeting with the relevant teacher at a date which suits both parties. Please adhere to the allocated time, so that other parents are not inconvenienced. If you have specific availability requirements, please ensure you book early.

Information about NAPLAN testing will be inserted in the year seven and nine students' reports. Students in these cohorts will participate in national numeracy and literacy tests on 9, 10 and 11 May. Parental co-operation is sought in ensuring that students attend school on these days, and that any medical or other appointments are scheduled outside of these dates. Students will be given a list of materials which outlines what they require for the tests, and have been undertaking various practice activities to ensure that they are well prepared to undertake this national test.

I encourage our year ten students to begin actively seeking work experience. Information and forms relating to work experience was mailed home to all year ten parents recently. Participation in the programme

is voluntary with arrangements varying from a few days, a single day, or for only part of the day. As the work placement programme is the first step toward students selecting their educational pathway in year eleven and twelve, we strongly encourage students to access the voluntary programme and seek their own work experience in an area that is related to their career aspirations. While work experience usually occurs during the school week in some cases, students can work on weekends or on school holidays. The most suitable term time to schedule work experience would be in one of the following periods.

- Term two, Week 10 / 19 to 21 June. Students will not be given permission to attend work experience on 22 and 23 June, due to the Athletics Carnival.
- Term three, Week 10 / 11 to 14 September. Students would be expected to return to school on 15 September, to join in the celebration of St Stephen's Day.

Year eleven and twelve students should use the holidays for reflection. Subject changes can only occur up until the end of week three of each semester. After that students are required to remain in the subject for the duration of the semester. If students are changing later than this, then they get too far behind the other students in work commitments. It is not possible to credit a full semester's work for the QCAA's calculations, when students swap mid-semester. Poor performance or disappointed expectations can lead to rash decisions about changing courses of study, future procrastination or no effort at all. Overcoming barriers is the key to continuing progress. Five important strategies for dealing with obstacles are:

- Focus on the goal
- Identify the steps that need to be taken
- Acknowledge and learn from the past
- Plan and identify strategies for overcoming barriers
- Remain optimistic

I wish you all a very safe and relaxing time with your children over the Easter holiday break.

**Ms Andrea Chiesa**  
**Deputy Principal Curriculum**  
*achiesa@sscc.qld.edu.au*



# FROM THE MIDDLE LEADER - E LEARNING

Dear Parents and Friends

Last year the college initiated a digital survey to assess the technology needs of the college. It was decided that the appointment of an E-Learning Leader was necessary for the continued enhancement of digital pedagogy at St Stephen's. I am pleased to announce that I am the new E-Learning Leader for St Stephen's Catholic College.



My role includes steering the future needs of the college in terms of digital resources and devices, as well as providing professional development to students and staff for their e-learning needs. To this end I have introduced a digital resource for students and staff; Lynda.com. This is a website with thousands of video courses and tutorials, teaching you skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, as well as soft skills such as game design, photography and coding.

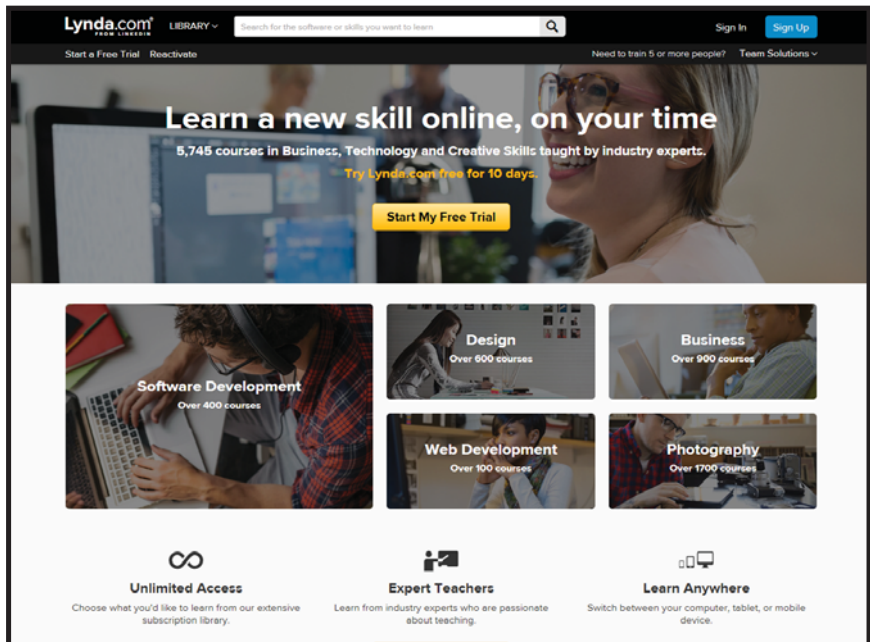
Each staff member and student has a private account where they can log in and learn at their own pace, receiving a certificate of completion when they complete the course; or you can just dip in and out of one or two tutorials if you just want to learn something specific. Students wanting their log in details can email [rbaker@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rbaker@cns.catholic.edu.au) for more details.

As an Office 365 school via Microsoft for Education, every student and staff member (whilst they are students or staff of Catholic Education) can download FOR FREE the Office Suite 2016 – including Word, PowerPoint and Excel – usually retailing for about \$100 per year. Just copy the following link into your browser and follow the instructions <https://products.office.com/en-AU/student/office-in-education?tab=schools&ms.officeurl=education>. This gives families struggling to obtain the latest software equity for writing reports and producing presentations.

I look forward to introducing new and exciting initiatives to enhance teaching and learning over the next year. Happy learning!

Kind regards,

**Mr Richard Baker**  
**Middle Leader E-Learning**  
[rbaker@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:rbaker@cns.catholic.edu.au)





## 2017 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN CONFERENCE

This year Catholic Education Services is excited to announce that their annual Safeguarding Children Conference theme is Every Child Matters. We hope that you are able to join us on Saturday 6 May 2017 at the Pullman Cairns International. Please note that there is no registration cost but places are limited. Conference information and registration details can be accessed via the conference website: [www.2017safeguardingchildren.weebly.com](http://www.2017safeguardingchildren.weebly.com).

If you have any further queries please contact Professional Standards:  
Ms Heidi Williams via email [hwilliams5@cns.catholic.edu.au](mailto:hwilliams5@cns.catholic.edu.au)



**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN CONFERENCE**  
2017

# Every Child Matters

**SATURDAY 6th MAY 2017**  
8.45am to 2.45pm  
Pullman Cairns International

**Presentations, practice workshops,  
parent sessions and resources expo**

**Registrations close: 2nd May 2017**  
Limited delegate positions available per session  
[www.2017safeguardingchildren.weebly.com](http://www.2017safeguardingchildren.weebly.com)



**Catholic Education**  
Diocese of Cairns  
*Learning with Faith and Vision*

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

What a great start to 2017 with over thirty students registering for VET in Schools Programmes in a variety of courses, from Health Support to Mechanical Engineering. We also have several students undertaking school-based traineeships and apprenticeships, kick starting their careers in their chosen industries.



There are currently a few vacancies available NOW for other students who may wish to pursue these worthwhile options whilst at school. See further details in this newsletter. Students are always welcome to register their interest for any programmes, or come and discuss career options with me. I am available on both Monday and Thursday.

We also have the Queensland Training Awards opportunity for our students to SHINE! Students can nominate themselves by answering four questions. It's that easy! Imagine winning an award for your efforts and skyrocketing your career! Students need to see me if they are applying for these prestigious awards, and we are always happy to assist in obtaining additional referee statements from the College, your Employer, and/or the training organisation. But get in super quick as nominations close 31 March 2017.

Lastly, year ten work experience is coming up in terms two and three! Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to test drive your chosen career, and potentially secure a school-based traineeship or apprenticeship for your senior schooling. Work experience paperwork and procedures have been posted. Remember all students can participate in work experience in the school holidays, but you must get the correct forms signed for the purposes of worker's compensation and insurance.

For any information or assistance with external study options or work experience, please see Mrs Goleby in the S Block Staff Room.

Keep up the great work students!

**Mrs Julie Goleby**  
**Vocational Education and Training Officer**  
[jgoleby@sscc.qld.edu.au](mailto:jgoleby@sscc.qld.edu.au)



### **School-Based Traineeships currently available - Fantastic opportunities exist below to combine school studies with gaining a qualification!**

#### **Business Administration - Legal Secretary (Legal Firm/Atherton)**

Secretarial tasks that are specific to the law field include writing legal documents, conducting research and reading legal articles, and standard secretarial duties; including answering phones and email, filing, creating and maintaining schedules for lawyers, ordering supplies, and photocopying.

#### **Rural Operations - Agriculture (Farm/Tolga)**

Tasks are related to growing and harvesting fruits and other crops; applying pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers to crops; fencing and other structural repairs, and farm equipment maintenance.

**See Mrs Goleby in S Block Staff room for further information and how to apply!**





The Annual Careers and Employment Expo is the only event of its kind for secondary students in the region. It is open to the broader community as well and attracts parents, job seekers and those with the desire to change career pathways. As per previous years, year ten students at St Stephen’s will have the opportunity to attend this event in term two, with the college. More information will be distributed to students closer to that date. Students in other year levels and parents are welcome to visit the expo from 3.00 pm.

### QTAC 2017

We have started the process of discussing tertiary options with our year twelve students in term one. It is important to be aware of potential cutoffs for courses and course prerequisites in order to lodge a successful QTAC application in September. Students have been briefed on what likely OP cutoffs will be for their desired courses based on last year’s data, as well as any pre-requisites that need to be met such as subjects studied, and additional portfolio and interview requirements.

In the case where there is a mismatch between the students predicted outcomes/senior subjects and course requirements, it is often necessary to find alternative courses as entry points for tertiary study. QTAC Guides for year twelve students and QTAC tertiary prerequisites for year ten students are due to arrive before the end of term two. Until that time students can research courses online at the QTAC website <http://www.qtac.edu.au>.

Students will need a total of six preferences when lodging online applications and an application planner will be handed out to assist students in narrowing down preferences. Individual interviews for senior students will take place again in term three to ensure students have made appropriate choices in light of their individual results and subject prerequisites.

**Mrs Havva Murat-Maksuti**  
**Careers Officer**

*hmuratmaks@sscc.qld.edu.au*



Q T A C



Pictured is year eleven VET student, Dylan Longbottom who is undertaking a Certificate III in Automotive Electrical Technology at Brad’s Auto Electrical on Chewko Road, Mareeba.

## PENINSULA SPORTING SUCCESS



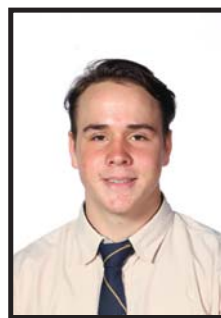
Nadia Falvo



Jenna Kerswell



Rhyanna Yow-Yeh



Riley Bell



Hunter Liebold



Ely Lynch-Simmons



Layton Osborne



Brandon Osborne



Abby Taylor

A number of students from St Stehen's have been selected in Peninsula Teams to attend Queensland State Championships and include:

Student	Peninsula Team
Nadia Falvo	Swimming
Jenna Kerswell	Netball
Rhyanna Yow-Yeh	Netball
Riley Bell	Rugby Union
Hunter Liebold	Rugby Union
Ely Lynch-Simmons	Basketball
Layton Osborne	Basketball (shadow)
Brandon Osborne	Basketball (shadow)
Abby Taylor	AFL

# KALLUM RAMSCAR

Year seven student, Kallum Ramskar participated in the “Will Swim Tri” held at the Tobruk Pool on Sunday 19 March and came first in his division. Kallum spends many hours and very early mornings training in swimming and also trains with his father running and cycling.



## TERM TWO - UNIFORM INFORMATION

Formal Uniform: GIRLS (Years 7 to 9)	Formal Uniform: BOYS (Years 7 to 9)
<b>Blouse:</b> Light beige tailored cut with deep hem and points at front with piping on sleeves and collar.	<b>Shirt:</b> Light beige polyester cotton out-style shirt. Piping on cuff.
<b>Skirt:</b> Tartan knee length skirt with inverted single pleat on both front and back. Skirt should be purchased with hem line just below the knee. As students grow, the hem line must be adjusted.	<b>Shorts:</b> Navy blue dress shorts worn with a navy blue or black belt.
<b>Socks:</b> Beige, standard school-length short socks.	<b>Socks:</b> Navy blue, standard school length short socks.
<b>Shoes:</b> Black, polished, lace-up, leather, low cut school shoes. No colouring or buckles. Heel height including sole should be between 2-3 centimetres.	<b>Shoes:</b> Black polished lace up leather low cut school shoes. No colouring or buckles. Heel height including sole should be between 2–3 centimetres.
<b>Jumper:</b> Royal blue college jumper.	<b>Jumper:</b> Royal blue college jumper.
<b>Hat:</b> Navy blue with college name.	<b>Hat:</b> Navy blue with college name.
<b>*Optional Term 2 and 3 only:</b> Plain black stockings (60+ denier).	
Senior Uniform: (Years 10 to 12)	
<b>As above with the following changes:</b> Short tie buttoned under shirt collar to be worn with above blouse.	<b>As above with the following changes:</b> Light beige, polyester-cotton senior shirt (piping on cuff) worn tucked in with navy blue dress shorts or dress trousers and a navy blue or black belt.  Long navy blue socks with two beige stripes must be worn with navy blue dress shorts. OR Navy blue, standard school-length short socks to be worn with trousers.  <b>Years 10 to 12: Tie worn in terms two and three.</b>





# *Daily Specials*

## **MONDAY**

Chicken Fillet Burgers - \$4.50

## **WEDNESDAY**

Lamb Wraps - \$5.00

## **THURSDAY**

Burgers - \$5.00

## **FRIDAY**

**Calzones - \$6.00**

Ham and Cheese  
Ham, Cheese and Pineapple  
Chicken and Cheese  
Vegetable  
Meat Lovers

## **MULTICULTURAL**

### **TUESDAY**

#### **AUSTRALIAN**

Weeks 3 and 7

Pies - \$4.50

Sausage Rolls - \$2.00

#### **AMERICAN**

Weeks 4 and 8

Hot Dogs - \$4.00

Hawaiian Hot Dogs - \$4.50

#### **CHINESE**

Weeks 5 and 9

Fried Rice - \$4.50

#### **ITALIAN**

Weeks 6 and 10

Spaghetti - \$4.50

**TERM 2 - 2017**



## CIRCULAR No: 2017/058

**TO: DIOCESAN DIRECTORS  
QCEC COMMISSION MEMBERS  
PRINCIPALS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTE SCHOOLS QUEENSLAND  
LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTE SCHOOLS QUEENSLAND  
OTHER AUTHORISED ADDRESSEES**

**FROM: DR LEE-ANNE PERRY AM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**TOPIC: MENINGOCOCCAL ACWY VACCINATION PROGRAM - UPDATE**

**DATE: 20 March 2017**

Dear Colleagues

The purpose of this circular is to provide an update to Catholic School Authorities on the roll out of the 2017 Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination Program (the program) for Queensland (Circular 2017/041). As stated in the previous Circular, the program will be offered to all Year 10 students through the Queensland School Immunisation Program and free vaccine will also be made available to young people 15 to 19 years of age through their doctor or immunisation provider.

QCEC has provided the list of schools with Year 10 students and student numbers to the Prevention Division of the Department of Health. QCEC has been advised that the roll out of the Year 10 vaccination program will commence late Term 2 and it would be very much appreciated if you could advise your schools that immunisation providers will begin contacting them to negotiate a mutually convenient date/time for the clinics.

More information about the program is available on the Department of Health [website](#).

Should you have any further questions about the program, please contact Scott Brown, Principal Public Health Officer, Immunisation Program via email [Scott.Brown@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Scott.Brown@health.qld.gov.au)

Regards

**Dr Lee-Anne Perry AM**  
Executive Director

# 2017 STUDENT RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS COLLECTION



Australian Government  
Department of Education and Training

## 2017 Student Residential Address Collection

This notice is from the Australian Government Department of Education and Training (the department), to advise you that the department has requested your child's school provide a *statement of addresses*, in accordance with section 21 of the *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (the Regulation).

A *statement of addresses* contains the following three pieces of information about students at the school:

- Students' residential address (**not student names or other identifying information**)
- Students' level of education (i.e. whether the student is receiving primary or secondary education)
- Students' boarding school status (boarders or day students)

### Authority for and Purpose of Collection

Consistent with previous practice, and following the *2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics National Census of Population and Housing (Census)*, it is timely that information held by the department is updated in order to ensure that Australian Government funding calculations for your child's school are accurate.

Under section 21 of the Regulation, a *statement of addresses* **must not explicitly identify an individual student**. Accordingly, all information in the *statement of addresses* provided by your child's school to the department is de-identified.

### Use and Disclosure of Information

It is important to ensure the *statements of addresses* are accurate, and the department may from time to time carry out audits of *statements of addresses* to verify their accuracy. In the event of an audit, the department's contracted auditors may seek to compare a school's *statement of addresses* with student enrolment information held by the school for the purpose of verifying the information. The department's contractors will not use the information for any other purpose.

Any further use and disclosure of information relating to the *statement of addresses* will occur in accordance with section 65 of the Regulation.

### Contact

If you have any questions regarding this notice, you can contact the department by:

- Email: [seshelpdesk@education.gov.au](mailto:seshelpdesk@education.gov.au)
- Phone (free call): SES helpdesk on 1800 677 027 (Option 4)

For further information about the department, including the department's privacy policy, please go to: <https://education.gov.au>.

*Opportunity through learning*

50 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra ACT 2601  
GPO Box 9880, Canberra ACT 2601 | Phone (02) 6121 6000



## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS FAMILY LAW ISSUES AND THE CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICES, CAIRNS

Cairns Catholic Education Services (CCES) and St Stephen's Catholic College recognises that some families are subject to family breakdown. In meeting its obligations to students and parents, Cairns CES and St Stephen's Catholic College relies on the following principles:

- the education of a child is primarily the responsibility of the child's parents;
- decisions should be made on the basis of ensuring the continued effective and efficient operation of the school; school decisions are based on what is considered to be in the best interests of the child;
- where parents cannot agree between themselves on what is in the child's best interests, it is the role of the court, not the school, to determine those interests;
- the school is not the appropriate place for family disputes to be resolved nor is it appropriate for school staff to resolve such issues;
- decisions will be made in an unbiased manner and as far as reasonably practicable, without favour to either parent;
- the obligations imposed by other legislation, such as the Commonwealth Privacy Act need to be considered when dealing with family law related issues; and
- the continued effective and efficient operation of the school and parents' obligations under the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 to ensure their children of compulsory school age attend school or received home schooling take precedence over any interests parents may assert they have under the Family Law Act 1975.

**Parents have a responsibility to advise the school immediately if any changes in family circumstances occur which have the potential to impact on the relationship between the school and the parents and/or students. If court orders are obtained by one or both parents, a copy of the orders should be provided to the school as soon as possible.**

**In the absence of any notification to the contrary (such as a court order), it will be assumed that both parents retain a shared and equal parental responsibility for their children. This means that the school will recognise that each parent has equal duties, obligations, responsibilities and opportunities in relation to matters involving their children's education at the school.**

Cairns CES and St Stephen's Catholic College have developed a detailed policy to assist schools to manage family law related issues. The main features of the policy are summarised below:

- in the absence of any court order to the contrary, generally either parent can enrol a child in a Diocese of Cairns Catholic school; except in specifically defined circumstances, a child will be enrolled using the name that appears on his or her birth certificate;
- in the absence of court orders to the contrary, each parent is entitled to know at which school his or her child is enrolled;
- generally, each parent will be given the opportunity to participate in school related activities, including teacher/parent interviews and can have access to school documentation relating to his or her child;
- unless specifically authorised by a residential parent, children will not be permitted to leave school during the course of a school day.



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We would like to offer your Student treatment from **St Stephen's School Campus to attend Mareeba School Dental Clinic Constance St, Mareeba or our Mobile Dental Vans situated on the Southern Tablelands.**

### **Queensland Health continues to offer free dental treatment\***

Cairns and Hinterland Oral Health Services would like to make you aware of some changes to our service. These changes are designed to improve access to our service and ensure we continue to be able to treat your children in a safe and supportive environment.

We have now introduced a Central Booking Service which will now make all dental appointments through a 1300 phone number. When it is time for your child/children to have a dental examination, we will no longer send out forms to complete and return. We will instead send out a postcard with the Central Booking Service phone number on it – 1300 300 850.

Call us on **1300 300 850** to make an appointment including emergencies.

To ensure we provide the best care in a safe and supportive environment, we now require a parent or legal guardian to attend every dental appointment for a child at primary school and at **least the first appointment for children at secondary school.** Your child's medical history will be completed at the first appointment.

\*Who is eligible?

- **All children from 0 years to 17 years old.**

Any child who is eligible for Child Dental Benefits Schedule will be bulk billed. This Medicare funded scheme helps to contribute to providing high level dental services to our community.

Call us soon !!

Thank you,

School Dental Staff  
Qld Health  
**Mareeba School Dental Clinic 40 921575**

**1300 300 850**

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm

