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COOMERA STATE SCHOOL

“Striving For Excellence”
Learning and Living



WELCOME

On behalf of our school and community I warmly welcome you to Coomera State School. This handbook is designed to inform you about our school so that your time associated with our school is really special as we work together to support your child's growth and development during the formative years between 4 and 12 years of age. Our clear focus and purpose is to provide exceptional learning for your child every day at school. We aim to achieve this in a safe, caring and supportive environment. Please take the time to make yourself aware of what we have to offer, read the information and ask questions. Your choice of school is an important decision and we are focused upon being the school of choice for families in the northern Gold Coast. You may have arrived at Coomera with some knowledge of Coomera from current or previous families or word of mouth. We are happy to receive your feedback which will help us to improve and continue to strive for the best for your young child.

Chris McMillan
Principal

DIRECTORY (as at March 2012)

Principal:	Mr Chris McMillan
Deputy Principal:	Mrs Mary McCallum
A/Deputy Principal:	Mrs Sharon Cummings
Deputy Principal:	Mrs Shiree Salazar
Head of Curriculum:	Mrs Anne Hansford
Head of Special Education:	Mrs Jo Eastman
Business Services Manager:	Mrs Ann Arthur
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VISION

“Every child, every day, exceptional learning”

At Coomera, every child will learn in exceptional ways every day at school. We will make a real difference for every child. Our success criterion for every child is sustained, well above national rates of learning growth.

Our learning vision for every child is unlimited.

This will be guided by the Coomera BFG.

Is this the **best** thing for Coomera kids?

Is this a **fair** thing to do?

Are we going to **gain** from this?

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Coomera State School exists to provide exceptional learning for every child every day at school. This will occur in a safe, caring and supportive environment. We are committed to achieving the best educational outcomes for every student in our school. We provide high quality education that assists Coomera State School students to love learning, develop judgement and a sense of responsibility, understand the past and prepare them to embrace the future. We will equip young people for the future to enable them to contribute to a socially, economically and culturally vibrant society.

BELIEFS

Our school community believes:

- learning is lifelong
- all individuals have the capacity to learn but at different rates and in different ways
- quality curriculum programs, interpersonal relationships and school organisation contribute to worthwhile academic and social outcomes for all
- individuals learn best in an environment that is safe, success-oriented and which reflects the principles of equity and social justice
- positive, proactive approaches promote the achievement of quality learning and social outcomes
- everyone has the right to feel safe, cared for and respected and to learn and play without disruption
- everyone is expected to be responsible for their own behaviour and respect the rights of others
- school policies should include proactive steps to promote self-worth and self-discipline and graduated reactive steps to deal with various situations that may arise
- responsibility for individual development is cooperatively shared among students, staff and parents
- our school community provides appropriate social role models.

VALUES

Our school values guide everything that we do. These are:

Learning
Achievement
Challenge
Balanced opportunities
Caring
Respect
Creativity
Nurturing
Leadership
Thinking
Responsibility
Effectiveness



ABOUT COOMERA STATE SCHOOL

Coomera State School is a well-established P-7 school located in the growth corridor adjacent to the M1 Motorway near Dreamworld. Our location, size, history, traditions, teaching and learning programs make the school a school of choice for parents of young children from early childhood until twelve years of age.

Location: The school is located close to major transport hubs of the M1 Motorway, Gold Coast Railway, Foxwell Roads and Beattie Roads which makes it convenient for families who travel to work or live locally. Located close to the Coomera River and nestled between Tamborine Mountain and the Bay, it is an ideal locality to raise children where you can find all services. Families enjoy the 'feel' of the local community whilst being able to access Brisbane, Gold Coast and further afield. The school is very accessible and is immediately south of the Dreamworld and White Water World theme parks. Many families travel some distance to enable their child to attend Coomera and services such as Outside School Care programs located on campus support families with these arrangements.

Size: Coomera State School has the benefits that come with a reasonable size whilst maintaining a smaller school 'feel'. The school size means that we are able to run a number of specialised programs and children have a choice of groups of children to play with. Visitors to the school are surprised when they find out that over 950 students attend school here although the trees and the layout means that children only mix within their own age group for play. We also utilise the neighbouring sporting fields on a daily basis to support children in their play.

History: Coomera is the oldest continuously operating school in the suburb being established in 1873. The school has evolved as the community has evolved from farming to lifestyle acreage and now to modern residential community. Over time, the school has increased and decreased in size many times as the local population has increased and other schools have opened up. The school is now many times larger than its original size in 1873 and things are very different from the years gone by. In recent times, we have had fifth generation students and our past students have included all of the early pioneering families and many who have gone on to achieve success in many different fields of endeavour. The school is proud of its history and of those who have gone before.

Traditions: The school has been part of our community and has established long traditions which continue today and more recent evolving traditions which support modern families. School sport days, ANZAC Day, student leadership programs, award and reward programs and a well-established student support and positive behaviour program are all part of what we do at Coomera. The school has a strong uniform 'Dress Code' and children are encouraged in a wide range of extracurricular programs from dance to chess. We are also proud of our focus upon 'learning and living' our school motto. Our children achieve high academic standards within a supportive school environment. Expect your child to be excited about coming to school to learn and achieve beyond your expectations!

Teaching and Learning Programs: Our school has implemented all national curriculum programs in English, Mathematics and Science and provides a strong focus upon outstanding teaching and learning. We focus upon improvement in teaching and learning is strong and relentless and our teachers are well known for working hard for our children. Teachers work within year level teams on units of work based upon Curriculum into the Classroom, a world standard Education Queensland curriculum program. Our school provides a comprehensive program of specialised programs such as Instrumental Music, Physical Education, Dance and Drama, Music and Japanese LOTE. We also have a range of support programs to assist children with specialised needs.



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