



# Thangool State School



## Prospectus

Updated March 2026



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Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to ThangoolState School. We hope that by choosing our school, you gain every satisfaction with what State Education can offer to preparatory and primary school students.

The contents of this booklet provide a brief response to most questions that parents have when their children enrol at our school. By making yourself familiar with these contents, you will be helping your child settle in at Thangool.

We aim to assist each child to achieve in a caring and secure environment. We will also use our professional experience to provide an education to suit your child.

We place the interests of children first and will always be fair and honest with you.

We work on the assumption that parents want the best for their children and this is more likely to be achieved if you accept our invitation to work in partnership with us.

If you require any more information, we would be delighted to meet you at a mutually convenient time. We will do everything we can to help you.

We look forward to working with you and your family and hope you find your association with Thangool State School rewarding and fulfilling.

Best wishes

.....  
Mrs Fiona Byrne  
Principal



## **SCHOOL PROFILE**

Thangool State School is set in a rural environment, where primary industries have traditionally provided the chief form of income for families attending our school.

The school opened as a Provisional Railway Camp School in 1926, but was moved to its present location in 1927. During the fifties and sixties our school grew as a result of the closures of a number of smaller schools in the area, and bus runs established to feed them to Thangool. Therefore, we service a significant area of the southern and south-western end of the Banana Shire and the Gladstone Educational District.

As a State School, we offer educational programs to the whole spectrum of preparatory and primary school children. Thangool has developed a reputation for being a community school and we continue to foster and value these school-community links. School-community links have been well-founded over time and will continue into the future.

Today, our school endeavours to follow its traditions, whilst accommodating the changes demanded globally, as we transit from an industrial society to an information technology society. Our school has a staff of dedicated teachers, teacher aides and administrative staff. We have solid parental interest and support, a body of quality students, and a community, which concerns itself with providing a positive and supportive educational environment.

## **MISSION AND PURPOSE**

Our Mission Statement:

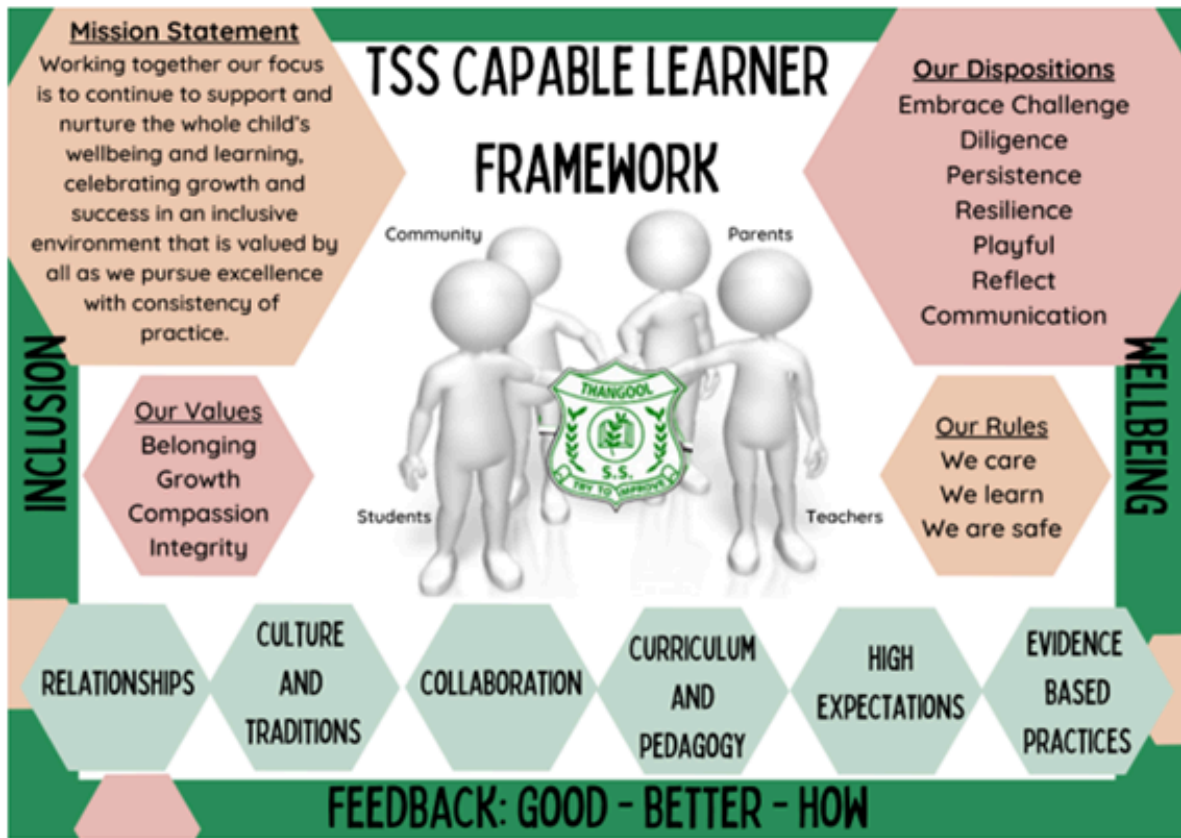
Working together our focus is to continue to support and nurture the whole child's well-being and learning, celebrating growth and success in an inclusive environment that is valued by all, as we pursue excellence with consistency of practice.

Its purpose is to build on achievements, which include:

- Meeting the developmental needs of young children;
- Encouraging parent interest and participation;
- Providing access to our campus for as many young children as possible;
- Effective teaching and learning delivered by teachers with the skills and attitudes to teach within a socially just framework;
- A quality curriculum which meets the needs, interests and abilities of students and
- A supportive and inclusive school environment for all students.



## CAPABLE LEARNER FRAMEWORK



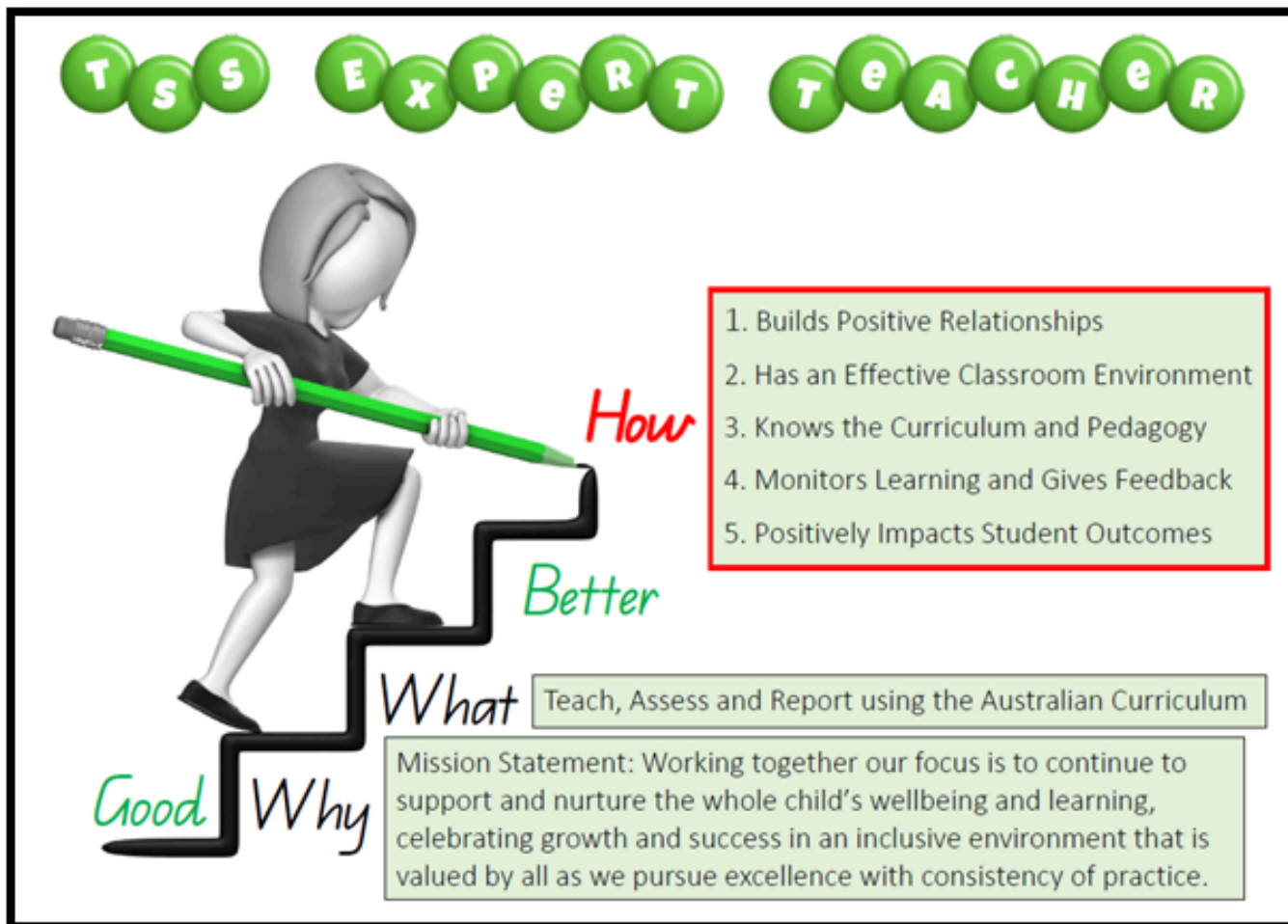
At Thangool, our focus is to support and nurture the whole child, their wellbeing and learning. To achieve this, we offer a balanced program that focuses on using a blended approach of inquiry, project, event, direct, explicit and play based learning and investigation. Our focus is that your child will become a capable life-long learner through the dispositions of:

- Diligence
- Embracing challenge
- Effective communication
- Persistence
- Resilience
- Reflection
- Playfulness

At Thangool, we endeavour to provide a quality general education which meets the needs, interests and abilities of students by emphasising the development of appropriate and relevant knowledge, skills and attitudes, while preparing the student for further education and for a valued role in society. Students will:

- Develop literacy and numeracy understandings
- Imagine, design and create through the Arts, Science and Technology
- Develop their physical skills and health
- Develop their understanding of their community and environment
- Interact with others to develop social learning, emotional regulation and wellbeing
- Investigate interests through curriculum and extra curriculum activities
- Make choices

## EXPERT TEACHER FRAMEWORK



Every teacher in Australia is certified by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) as either a Graduate, Proficient, Highly accomplished or as a Lead Teacher. In Queensland, there are currently 8 Lead Teachers, and 287 throughout Australia.

AT Thangool SS, we have two AITSL nationally certified Lead Teachers: Mrs Fiona Byrne (Principal) and Mrs Ellen Brewer (Preparatory Teacher).

All staff at Thangool participate in regular professional learning activities. This ensures that we continue to improve our knowledge and skills to provide the best educational outcomes for our students.

Our school has also been recognised by AITSL as demonstrating high quality teaching practices. We work closely with our Regional Office and have also been invited by the Grattan Institute to participate in research that will shape future educational policy across Queensland and Australia.

## **ADMISSIONS TO OUR CAMPUS**

Primary enrolments (including Preparatory) are conducted through our administrative team and the Prep teacher.

It is a requirement of Queensland Department of Education that all visitors and volunteers to our school (including parents) present at the administration office and sign in electronically.

Copies of our Prospectus, Behaviour Management Plan, Operational Plans and Enrolment Forms can be found on our school website or are available on request. Meeting times can be arranged to discuss our policies and curriculum.

## **TRANSFERS**

Parents wishing to transfer to Thangool State School from another state, private or independent school are required to make an appointment to meet with our Principal. You are also encouraged to inform your existing educational facility of your impending departure.

Once you begin at Thangool SS, our administration will request a 'Certificate of Transfer' and arrange for student files to be transferred from your previous school. As you depart your previous school, please ensure you collect all your child's personal belongings, books and stationery supplies.



## **SCHOOL TIMES**

To ensure that a full day's quality learning is maximised, the allocated school times will be followed. Break times are positioned to allow children to enjoy their eating and play times.

8.10am	Bus children arrive and sit under building.
8.15am	Town children start to arrive and sit. Staff supervise.
8:15am	Smart Moves/play
8:35am	Breakfast Club
8:50am	Morning Session
11.00am	Lunch Break
11.45am	Middle Session
1.15pm	Second Break
1.45pm	Afternoon Session
3.00pm	School dismissed and student depart for buses

Children should be at school before 8.45am in order for them to receive specific instructions regarding the day's events and possible changes to routine. Children **MUST NOT** arrive before 8.15am and are encouraged to move quickly and safely from the school environment at 3.00pm. All children are expected to behave sensibly on the way to and from school.

Entry to the school in the morning is via the office front gate.

Children who arrive late for school or are collected early from school must be signed in or out **BY THEIR PARENT OR GUARDIAN** at the administration office where there are specific registers for these purposes. Students are not permitted to sign themselves in or out. Children are not permitted to leave the school grounds during school hours unless accompanied by a parent/carer or other authorised adult.

## **TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL**

Thangool SS is located 13km from the main centre of Biloela. We have a high percentage of students travel daily to our school.



## **BUS RUNS**

We have 4 bus runs that service our school. Buses arrive at Thangool School in the morning at 8.10am to connect with buses taking students to Biloela State High School. In the afternoon, students wait until the buses arrive from Biloela bringing the High School students before departing Thangool State School around 3.25pm.

P1127 – Lawgi	49951265 / 0458 951265	Marg Stewart
P105 Clinker/Scoria	4995 8558 / 0427 703342	Valley Coaches
Biloela Town	0439 168 120	Debbie Munro
P78 Nine mile	4995 8558 / 0427 703342	Valley Coaches

Students travelling on the bus services should abide by the Department of Transport's Code of Conduct for School Students travelling on buses. If there is an incident involving your child whilst travelling to and from Thangool School please firstly contact the bus driver before contacting the school to ensure that everyone is aware of the situation.

## **PARKING**

Parents are encouraged to drop off and collect their children from the school side of the road.

When visiting the school parents should, at all times, respect the need not to have cars parked between the standards that mark off the bus parking zone, and also in between the no parking signs in the bus turn around area.

## **YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO PARK UNDERNEATH THE TREE ACROSS THE ROAD – IT IS DESIGNATED NO PARKING**

Dangerous situations can arise at bus pick-up times and this becomes aggravated when vehicle drivers park illegally, even if only stopping for a short time.

Parents and visitors to our school must adhere to the road signage at all times, when parking in the vicinity of the school.

Bike riders and pedestrians must be allowed clear footpath access past the school residence. Please ensure that you do not block the concrete path. Bike riders must not mount their bicycles until they have reached beyond the residence.



## **BICYCLES**

There is adequate bicycle rack space for the children's use. Bicycles must be walked in through the side gate and to the racks beside the administration block. It is advisable that security chains are used on bicycles. All students must wear a bike helmet when riding a bike. Bicycle safety is a dual responsibility of the parents and school. Children are reminded regularly about safety issues and parents are asked to support this on a regular basis

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

When you telephone the school, you will most likely be speaking with Mrs Roslyn Zischke, our Business Manager, or Carmel Davis, our Administration Officer, or one of our Teacher Aides. They will take and pass on messages or in the case of emergency, bring people to the phone for you.

We prefer that you try and contact teachers during out-of-class times, though respect your right to make contact for emergencies or serious reasons.

Our Principal is always willing and happy to meet parents and operates on an "Open Door" policy, although it is recommended that parents first telephone the school to make an appointment, to ensure the Principal is available to meet with you.

If you have any problems or concerns, we prefer that you let us know promptly. Be assured that we are always willing to meet with you and discuss issues.

### **Telephone**

(07) 4990 0333

### **Postal Address**

PO Box 5  
Thangool Qld4716

### **Email Address**

[principal@thangoolss.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@thangoolss.eq.edu.au)

### **For Student Absence**

Text - 0429 607 081

[absences@thangoolss.eq.edu.au](mailto:absences@thangoolss.eq.edu.au)

The school website provides an excellent source of information and interesting articles It is regularly updated. [www.thangoolss.eq.edu.au](http://www.thangoolss.eq.edu.au). Our school Facebook page keeps you up to date with activities and reminders about things happening at the school. Facebook – Thangool State School.





## **QKR**

Thangool State School uses Qkr. Parents and carers of students at Thangool State School are able to pay for their child's tuckshop orders, uniform orders and other school payments via the Qkr app.

Qkr by Mastercard is the mobile payment app designed for Australian schools, delivering an advanced and competitive online payment solution. Qkr delivers convenience to parents, efficiency to tuckshop staff and excellent reporting to school office staff. It's the perfect choice for any school looking to streamline payments.

Signing up to Qkr is easy. Download the free app from the Google Play or Apple stores to your mobile device.

Simply create a profile for each of your children and one payment can be made, saving time for busy parents.

Tuckshop orders can be placed via the Qkr app 24 hours a day, 7 days a week meaning parents can place their child's order at any time. Orders will close at 8.15am each Friday morning to allow time for stickers to be printed and placed on the paper bag in the tuckshop. Orders placed after that time will still need to be placed with cash inside a brown paper bag.

Uniform orders can be placed via the Qkr app 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Orders will be filled each Wednesday and sent home with your child. Parents no longer need to fill out an order form when using the Qkr app.

Qkr accepts any credit or debit card (except American Express).

While we still accept cash, Qkr will now be the preferred method of payment for tuckshop, uniforms and school expenses.

## **MONEY**

All money sent to school must be in a sealed envelope. The child's name, grade, the amount of money enclosed, and the purpose for which the money was forwarded must appear clearly on the front of the envelope

## **INFORMATION TO PARENTS**

Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the day to day school activities. Assistance in reading groups, art programs or as a visiting specialist is encouraged. Parents are a valued part of our school, and can assist by:

- showing an interest in what and how your child is learning
- sharing a talent or skill with the children
- becoming involved in the classroom
- naming of all your children's property
- preparing and sending healthy food for morning tea and lunch.

A fortnightly (even weeks) school newsletter is issued and is aimed to keep you abreast of activities occurring in the classrooms, across the school, in the local community and the department. It is distributed on Wednesday via email. It also contains communications from the P&C and members of the leadership team.

A class newsletter is issued twice/term (usually week 1 and week 5) however it may be distributed more frequently depending on the upcoming classroom activities. Its aim is to inform families of specific class activities and learning. It is distributed on a Monday via email.

The Principal also shares a report at the monthly Parents and Citizens Association meeting.

The Principal and class teachers may also contact you if we are at all concerned about your child. This communication may occur by email, letter or telephone. Conversely, if you have any concerns, then please contact us.

## **QParents**

QParents is a free and secure online application that allows you to access and manage your student's information, complete administrative tasks and easily connect with us on your preferred device.

Using QParents you can:

- view upcoming events and report cards
- access and provide digital consent
- view and update attendance details (including future absences)
- view behaviour information
- make payments and view credit balances and payment history
- receive school announcements.

Creating your QParents account

To start using QParents, visit [qparents.qld.edu.au](http://qparents.qld.edu.au) and follow the instructions. Once you have created your account, download the app on your preferred device.



## **COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT**

During the course of your child's school years, you may have cause to make a complaint about an issue or concern you have with their education.

The Department of Education is committed to ensuring that all complaints are dealt with in a fair and equitable manner. There are processes and support networks in place to enable you and your child to work through any issues or concerns you may have.

To achieve an effective resolution for all parties, when making your complaint, you should ensure you:

- provide complete and factual information in a timely manner
- deliver your complaint in a calm and reasoned manner
- avoid making frivolous or vexatious complaints
- avoid using deliberately false or misleading information.

You should be aware that if you are making a complaint about a staff member that, in most instances, the staff member will be told of the complaint and offered the right of reply. You also have the right to have a support person participate throughout the process.

The following four-step procedure is in place to assist parents/carers and school staff to reach an outcome that is in the best interest of the student.

### **1. Discuss your complaint with the class teacher**

If your complaint is with your child's teacher or relates to an issue concerning your child's experience at school, make an appointment with that teacher as soon as possible through the school administration. Discuss your complaint with the teacher and give the teacher an opportunity to suggest a solution. The teacher will make a record of your complaint and report your meeting and any outcomes to the school principal. Together, both you and your child's teacher should be able to resolve the problem at this level.

### **2. Discuss your complaint with the Principal**

If after approaching your child's teacher your complaint remains unresolved, make an appointment to see the school principal to discuss the issue further. Alternatively, you and the teacher may agree to ask the principal to act as a go between in informal conflict resolution in an attempt to resolve the problem.

If your complaint relates to more general school matters, including issues of school policy and issues of compliance or non-compliance, you should raise your complaint directly with the principal or their delegate. The principal may refer your complaint to a delegate such as the Business Services Manager. The staff member will make a record of your complaint and work with you to come to a resolution.

Complaints to the principal may be lodged in person, by telephone, writing or via email. The Principal's email address can be accessed through the Schools Directory at [www.education.qld.gov.au/directory/](http://www.education.qld.gov.au/directory/) - select the relevant school, then click on the email link [principal@thangoolss.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@thangoolss.eq.edu.au)

### **3. Contact your local education office**

If you have discussed your complaint with the principal and still feel that you have not reached a resolution, you have the right to contact your local Department of Education office.

Complaints may be lodged by telephone or in writing. Your complaint should be specific in detail and outline the steps you have taken to resolve the issue. Ensure your complaint includes your full name and address and that you have signed and dated it. It is also a good idea to keep a copy for your own records.

### **4. Complaints about the Principal**

If the complaint is about the Principal please discuss your complaint with the Principal first. If you are unsatisfied with the Principal's response please contact our Regional Supervisor Mr Dale Magner on (07) 49 777 013 or email: Dale.Magner@qed.qld.gov.au

## **BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT**

We have implemented an approved 'Student Code of Conduct' policy that has been designed by staff, students, parents and members of our wider community. Copies are available for parents.

Enrolment at our school implies that students will adhere to our 'Student Code of Conduct'. At our school the staff are encouraged "never to underestimate the power of positive reinforcement".

We make it quite clear that we like the children as people – we simply disapprove of some of their behaviours. Students are educated to accept that, while they have "Rights", they also have "Responsibilities" to ensure all have equal opportunities to benefit the most from attending our school.

Our 'Student Code of Conduct' is regularly reviewed with community input welcomed. The P&C Association is the appropriate forum through which to provide feedback.

**A full version of the 'Student Code of Conduct' is available at the office and website.**

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM – DRESS CODE POLICY**

Statement of Intent

Thangool State School emphasises the importance of adherence to a Dress Code, which covers uniforms, other clothing, jewellery and certain matters relating to general appearance. The case for this is strong as it assists students to identify with their school and encourages sound, positive attitudes which flow over into the learning area. The Parent & Citizens Association and the school support a compulsory Dress Code Policy because it provides a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment by:

- Allowing ready identification of students and non-students at school;
- Eliminating distraction of competition in dress and fashion at school;
- Fostering a sense of belonging; and
- Developing mutual respect among students through minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences.

## **School Uniform**

Uniforms for boys and girls can be ordered from the P&C Association. Brochures with full uniform prices and descriptions can be obtained from the school office. An order form can also be found in the school prospectus.

**Boys Official Uniform** - worn daily except Sports and Phys Ed days.

- Shirt Green polo t-shirt – screened emblem left pocket
- Shorts Black
- Shoes Sandshoes are the most practical and safe option
- Hat Black surf hat with school logo/wide brimmed black hat or a bucket hat in house colours.Caps are not permitted.

**Boys Phys Ed/Sports Day** – Polo shirt or house colour shirt (yellow or red), shorts

**Girls Official Uniform** – worn daily except Sports and Phys Ed days

- Shirt Green polo t-shirt - screened emblem on left pocket.
- Skort Black
- Skirt Black / Netball Skirts
- Shorts Black
- Shoes Sandshoes are the most practical and safe option
- Hat Black surf hat with school logo/wide brimmed black hat or bucket hat in house colours. Caps are not permitted.

**Girls Phys Ed/Sports Day** - Polo shirt or house colour shirt (yellow or red), shorts/skort

Any enquiries you have regarding school uniforms, may be directed through the school office. Administration staff will put you in contact with the uniform coordinator and advise how to purchase the uniforms. Uniform order forms are available at the office and on the website.

### **Winter Uniform (For both boys and girls):**

Consists of black track pants with either a school jacket/black jumper or bottle green tracksuit jumper or a pullover or cardigan. The school jacket is available from the uniform shop.

## **PLEASE MARK EVERY ITEM WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME**

### **Jewellery**

Medical bracelets are allowed and encouraged to be worn at all times. Students are permitted to wear a watch, a signet ring, a set of studs or sleepers in their ears. For health and safety, no other body piercing is allowed and children are not permitted to wear dangly or large loop ear rings. Necklaces, bracelets or bangles are not permitted

### **Make-Up**

Students are not permitted to wear make-up or nail polish.

## **Hair**

For safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and controlled for school activities that pose a threat to personal safety. Hair must be clean, neat and tidy.

Any enquiries you have regarding school uniforms, may be directed to the P&C via the school office.

## **THE USE OF PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICES AT SCHOOL**

Thangool State School has tailored school discipline policies designed to ensure students, staff and visitors work cooperatively to create and maintain a supportive and safe learning environment. Our 'Student Code of Conduct' policy provides detailed information regarding:

- Temporary removal of student property
- Use of mobile phones and other devices by students
- Preventing and responding to bullying
- Appropriate use of social media

## **SCHOOL EQUIPMENT**

We consider that we are a very well-resourced school campus.

A variety of sports can be played at our school: cricket, football, tennis, basketball, netball. The school has three fully covered sport play areas, one is located in the Prep playground, two in the Primary area with one of these for Prep – 3 and the other for year 4-6.

Our library building houses two multipurpose rooms for a variety of lessons and meetings. This facility was built with the assistance of the Building Education Reform from the Federal Government.

All children have access to computers, printers, iPads and quality programs. The school is networked with all classrooms having access to the internet and to Wi-Fi. The school has its own computer lab for student use in addition to the computers in classrooms. All our classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards.

This high level of resource provision is due to strategic financial planning and the assistance of our P&C who participate in fundraising and the decision-making processes.

The improvement and maintenance of school facilities is an ongoing process, with long term planning for playground and an outdoor learning environment already developed and ready for appropriate submissions.

## **PERSONAL VALUABLES**

While we fully respect the right for children to express their individuality, we can accept no responsibility for any items (eg jewellery, watches etc) left in our care. We would advise all parents and students that if an item is worth keeping – it's worth keeping at home!

Toys, games and sporting equipment of any description (unless required for curriculum activities) are not allowed at school. Any toys that come to school with children will be confiscated and returned to the child at the end of the day.

## **LOST PROPERTY**

Each year hundreds of dollars' worth of expensive clothing, books and stationery find their way into our lost property. Please ensure everything is suitably marked for easy identification, and check the lost property periodically. A lost property tub is located at the office. At the end of each term unclaimed lost property is taken to St Vincent de Paul.

## **ABSENCES**

Research shows that in Queensland, higher student attendance at school is associated, on average, with higher student achievement.

### **Why is regular attendance at school important?**

Regular school attendance will mean that your child has a better chance in life. Your child will achieve better when they go to school all day, every school day.

### **Why must I send my child to school?**

Under Queensland law, you must make sure your child of school age is enrolled and attends school all day, every school day unless they have an acceptable reason. Illness, doing work experience or competing in a school sporting event are acceptable reasons for being absent from school. Principals decide if the reason given for your child's absence is acceptable.

### **Avoid keeping your child away from school for:**

birthdays, shopping, visiting family and friends, if they sleep in, looking after other children, minor check-ups or care such as haircuts.

Routine medical or other health appointments should be made either before or after school or during the school holidays.

### **What should I do if our family is going on a holiday in school time?**

You are encouraged not to schedule holidays during school time. If your family holiday is during school time, let the school know in advance and talk about what arrangements can be made for your child. Depending on the circumstances the school may be able to provide tasks for your child to complete while they are absent or assist you to organise an exemption from schooling.

### **Do I need to let the school know if my child has been away from school?**

Yes, you must let the school know the reason why your child has been absent from school within two school days of their return. If possible, advise the school beforehand.

Student Absences Text: 0429 607 081 or [absences@thangoolss.eq.edu.au](mailto:absences@thangoolss.eq.edu.au)

### **Are you having problems getting your child to school for some of these reasons?**

- won't get out of bed in the morning
- won't go to bed at night
- can't find their uniform, books, school bag ...
- slow to eat breakfast
- haven't done their homework
- watching TV
- have a test or presentation to do, have an assignment to hand in
- it's their birthday.

### **If so, a set routine can help**

- have a set time to go to bed
- have a set time to get out of bed
- have uniform and school bag ready the night before
- have a set time for starting and finishing breakfast
- set a time for daily homework activities
- speak about school positively
- be firm, send your child to school every school day including their birthday and the last day of term!

### **What should I do if my child won't go to school?**

You should contact the school as soon as possible for advice and support.

### **LOCK DOWN AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION**

The school practises emergency evacuation and lock down procedures on a term basis. All personnel are aware of the requirements.

### **WET WEATHER PROCEDURE**

The only change to school routine during wet weather, is that children are to play inside the library or in the undercover areas. However, in emergency situations such as floods, parents will be kept informed as required either by SMS text message or Facebook. It is very important for the school to have up to date parent contact details.

### **ILLNESS AND ACCIDENT**

Occasionally, children become ill while at school. If this happens, we contact you by telephone.

If you are not available, we will contact you at work or the next person on your emergency list given to us on enrolment. Failing that, we will do our best to make your child as comfortable as we can. If we believe your child may require medical treatment and we have been unable to contact you or your emergency contacts, we may use our discretion to call for an ambulance to transport your child to the hospital.

School is not the best place for an ill child and **WE DO ASK YOU TO ENSURE YOU HAVE ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE EVENT OF ILLNESS OR ACCIDENT.**

When a child is ill or injured he/she needs the comfort of parents or family friends and we do ask all parents to keep us up to date with changes in telephone numbers, addresses and information relating to emergency contacts.

Our school follows the government's COVID guidelines. counts – Is your child at school today?

### **ACCIDENT PROCEDURES**

The following procedure will be followed in the case of accidents at school:

1.If the child is obviously seriously injured requiring urgent medical attention

- a. Ambulance will be called
- b. Parents will be notified

2.If injuries need medical attention, but are obviously not serious:

- a. Parents will be notified to discuss appropriate course of action

3. Any head injuries

- a. Parents will be notified to discuss appropriate course of action

4. Minor injuries requiring first aid

- a. First aid facilities and qualified personnel are available for such treatment at school.

**Be assured that, at all times in case of injury, any doubts on our part will cause us to refer to better medical advice. Our school subscribes to the ambulance through our electricity account, which covers all children at school, and while on school excursions.**





# Time Out

Keeping your child and other kids healthy!



- Information for a number of infectious conditions that may require<sup>1</sup> exclusion of children from school, education and care services.
- Additional public health *recommendations* that apply to children and adults.
- To assist medical practitioners, schools, preschools and childcare facilities to meet the public health *requirements<sup>1</sup> and recommendations.*

\*Refers to contagious conditions as per the Public Health Regulation 2018.

1. Observing the exclusion period meets the intent of the Public Health Act 2005 for a person to be non-infectious. See schedule 4 of the Public Health Regulation 2018 for a complete list of contagious conditions and their exclusion criteria.

2. Doctors should notify the local Public Health Unit as soon as possible if children or staff are diagnosed with these conditions. Refer to page 2 for Public Health Unit contact details.

Condition	Person with the infection	Those in contact with the infected person (The definition of 'contact' will vary between diseases)
*Chickenpox (varicella)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until all blisters have dried, and at least 5 days after the onset of symptoms. <sup>1</sup>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <b>EXCLUDE</b> non-immune pregnant women and any child with immune deficiency or receiving chemotherapy. Advise to seek urgent medical assessment. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice. Also see Shingles information below.</i>
Cold sores (herpes simplex)	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> if the person can maintain hygiene practices to minimise the risk of transmission. Young children unable to comply with good hygiene practices should be excluded while sores are weeping. Sores should be covered with a dressing where possible.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Conjunctivitis	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until discharge from eyes has ceased unless a doctor has diagnosed non-infectious conjunctivitis.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*COVID-19	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until symptoms have resolved, normally 5-7 days.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
<b>Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting</b> <i>Including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amoebiasis</li> <li>• campylobacter</li> <li>• cryptosporidium</li> <li>• giardia</li> <li>• rotavirus</li> <li>• salmonella</li> <li>• *gastroenteritis</li> </ul> <i>but excluding:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *norovirus</li> <li>• shigellosis</li> <li>• toxin-producing forms of E.coli (STEC)</li> </ul>	Exclusion periods may vary depending on the cause. <b>EXCLUDE</b> a single case until the person, has no symptoms <sup>1</sup> (includes vomiting if applicable), is feeling well and they have not had any loose bowel motions for at least 24 hours or if the person has confirmed norovirus exclude for at least 48 hours. <sup>1</sup> <b>EXCLUDE</b> all persons who prepare or serve food until they have not had any diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours. <b>NOTE:</b> If there are 2 or more cases with diarrhoea and/or vomiting in the same location, which may indicate a potential outbreak OR a single case in a food handler, notify your Public Health Unit. <b>Diarrhoea:</b> 3 or more loose stools or bowel movements in a 24 hour period that are different from normal and/or escapes a child's nappy. <i>See information below if norovirus is confirmed or considered likely as the cause of diarrhoea and vomiting.</i>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
<i>See advice for these specific conditions below</i>		
*Enterovirus 71 (EV71 neurological disease)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until written medical clearance is received confirming the virus is no longer present in the person's bowel motions. <sup>1</sup>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Fungal infections of the skin and nails (ringworm/tinea)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until the day after antifungal treatment has commenced. (No exclusion for thrush).	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Glandular fever (mononucleosis, Epstein-Barr virus)	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*German measles (rubella) <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> for 4 days after the onset of rash <sup>1</sup> or until fully recovered, whichever is longer. Pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
*Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until the doctor confirms the person is not infectious and has completed 4 days of appropriate antibiotic treatment. <sup>1</sup> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Hand, foot and mouth disease	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until all blisters have dried.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Head lice	Exclusion is not necessary if effective treatment is commenced before next attendance day (i.e. the child does not need to be sent home immediately if head lice are detected).	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*Hepatitis A <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until at least 7 days after the onset of jaundice <sup>1</sup> OR for 2 weeks after onset of first symptoms, including dark urine if there is no jaundice. If a person is asymptomatic <i>contact your Public Health Unit for Specialist advice.</i>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice about vaccination or treatment for children and staff in the same room or group, children transferring to another centre and new enrolments.</i>

Condition	Person with the infection	Those in contact with the infected person <sup>2</sup>
Hepatitis B and C	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> cover open wounds with waterproof dressing.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Hepatitis E	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until at least 2 weeks after the onset of jaundice.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV/AIDS)	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> cover open wounds with waterproof dressing.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Influenza and Influenza-like Illness	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until symptoms have resolved, normally 5–7 days.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*Measles <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until the doctor confirms the person is not infectious but not earlier than 4 days after the onset of the rash. <sup>1</sup>  <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> vaccinated or immune contacts. <b>EXCLUDE</b> immuno-compromised contacts (including those receiving chemotherapy) until 14 days after the appearance of the rash in the last case. <b>EXCLUDE</b> non- or incompletely vaccinated contacts, without evidence of immunity. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Meningitis (bacterial)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until well and has received appropriate antibiotics.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Meningitis (viral)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until well.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*Meningococcal Infection <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until the treating doctor confirms the child is not infectious and at least 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed. <sup>1</sup> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice about antibiotics and/or vaccination for close contacts.</i>
Molluscum contagiosum	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Mumps	<b>EXCLUDE</b> for 5 days after onset of swelling. Pregnant women should consult with their doctor.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
*Norovirus	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until no symptoms and no loose bowel motions for 48 hours. <sup>1</sup>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Roseola, sixth disease	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Scabies	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until the day after treatment has commenced.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
School sores (Impetigo)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed. Cover sores on exposed areas with a waterproof dressing until sores are dry, and encourage handwashing.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
Shiga toxin-producing E.coli (STEC)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until diarrhoea has stopped and 2 samples have tested negative. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Slapped cheek syndrome, fifth disease (parvovirus B19, erythema infectiosum)	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor. <b>Note:</b> Children are contagious until 24 hours after the fever resolves. Rashes generally occur after the infectious period has passed.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> pregnant women should consult with their doctor.
Shigellosis	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until there has been no diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
Shingles (herpes zoster)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> all children until blisters have dried and crusted. <b>EXCLUDE</b> adults if blisters are unable to be covered. <b>NOT EXCLUDED</b> in adults if blisters can be covered with a waterproof dressing until they have dried.	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice, including advice for pregnant women and any person who is immuno-compromised (including receiving chemotherapy).</i>
Streptococcal sore throat (including scarlet fever)	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until 24 hours of appropriate antibiotics have been completed.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*Tuberculosis (TB) <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until written medical clearance is received from the relevant Tuberculosis Control Unit.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>
*Typhoid <sup>2</sup> and paratyphoid fever <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until appropriate antibiotics have been completed. <sup>1</sup> Stool sample clearance will be required, <i>contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>
*Whooping cough (pertussis) <sup>2</sup>	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until 5 days after starting appropriate antibiotics or for 21 days from onset of cough AND confirmed that they are not infectious. <sup>1</sup> <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice.</i>	<b>EXCLUSION MAY APPLY</b> for contacts of an infected person. <i>Contact your Public Health Unit for specialist advice regarding exclusion of non- or incompletely vaccinated contacts.</i>
Worms	<b>EXCLUDE</b> until diarrhoea has stopped for 24 hours and treatment has occurred.	<b>NOT EXCLUDED</b>

This is an assistive tool, it is not intended to replace clinical assessment, management or judgment.

If you have any medical concerns, contact your healthcare provider or 13 HEALTH (13432584)

For further advice on the information within this poster, contact your nearest Public Health Unit via 13Health or at [www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact-public-health-units](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact-public-health-units)

#### Further information on recommendations:

- Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) guidelines <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdnasongs.htm>
- National Health and Medical Research Council publication: Infectious diseases in early childhood and education and care services, 5th edition [www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/ch55](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/guidelines-publications/ch55)
- Queensland Department of Health Communicable Disease Control Guidance <http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au>



Use this QR Code to access a digital copy of this poster or visit [www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/prevention](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/prevention)



## **HEAD LICE**

What happens if your child gets head lice?

DON'T PANIC. Anyone can get head lice and help is available. If it comes to the attention of staff that your child may have head lice, you will be notified. After effective treatment of your child (and it is recommended all other family members) they may return to school. Please notify your child's teacher if you yourself notice head lice.

The school supports you in managing head lice at home by:

- Reducing head to head contact in class activities;
- Recommending that students tie back long hair to reduce the chance of transmission;
- Teaching children about head lice in class;
- Keeping families informed of an outbreak in the class;
- Providing information through the school newsletter.

## **CHILDREN AND MEDICINE AT SCHOOL**

As parents you will be fully aware of the dangers to children if medicine is left within their reach. It is a health and safety risk to store medicines in classrooms, or school bags, therefore all medication is to be handed in at the office and staff will administer the medication from there. A note to your child's teacher advising them that you have handed in medication, and the time medication needs to be taken, will help staff ensure that medication is given at the specified times.

Should your son or daughter be prescribed by their medical practitioner to take medication while at school a Consent to Administer Medication form must be completed. Please contact our administration office if you require a form or further information. All medication should have an authorised label stating students name, prescribing doctors name and dosage required and must be lodged with the school's administration office.

Administering of the medication will be carried out by an adult staff member designated by the Principal.

Non-prescribed medications must not be brought to school and will not be administered by school staff.

School staff are not permitted to administer paracetamol or stingose unless the medication has a pharmacy label clearly stating the prescribing doctors name, student's name and dosage.

## **CURRICULUM**

Thangool State School provides a warm, supportive environment where all students are given the best opportunity to reach their potential.

At Thangool State School we use the Australian Curriculum (Version 9) which builds a solid grounding in the fundamental learning areas of English, Maths, Science, HASS (History and Social Sciences), Health and Physical Education, The Arts (Music, Dance, Drama, Media Arts and Visual Arts), Technologies (Technology and Design) and AUSLAN.

Improving literacy and numeracy outcomes continue to be the priorities of the staff, parents and community of Thangool. Our whole school curriculum is always evolving to meet the needs of our students and our community.

Enrolment numbers determine how classes will be structured each year which may mean we operate multi-age classes.

Our school offers Preparatory – Year 6 education. The preparatory year continues on from your child’s learning at home, kindergarten, or childcare. The curriculum in the preparatory year is designed to provide the foundation that children need for success in later schooling. International research has identified several factors that are connected with success at school. These are:

- independence
- social learning
- health and physical development
- language development
- early literacy and numeracy understandings
- ability to think and solve problems
- imagination and creativity
- positive approach to learning.

Through ACARA, all Thangool State School students will be taught the Australian Curriculum, thus providing a curriculum where their achievements will be consistently measured at both school and at cluster moderation. Through using the standards of achievement, parents have access to information about their child’s performance through clear assessment and reporting opportunities.

Australian achievement standards, support parents with understanding what their child should be achieving and how they compare with expectations. The standards set a reference point to allow teachers to better judge student achievement. The standards create a common understanding among teachers that can be applied consistently across all of our classrooms, Queensland and Australia. This means that an ‘A’ or Very High Achievement at Thangool SS will be equal to an ‘A’ or Very High Achievement in Brisbane and elsewhere. Parents also see whether their child’s achievement is above, below or on par with expectations for that year level.

## **PEDAGOGY**

Thangool SS uses a range and balance of effective pedagogical approaches and strategies. Through the implementation of age-appropriate pedagogies, teachers are able to deliver the curriculum using developmentally and engaging teaching practices.

## **ASSESSMENT**

Thangool SS uses both school-based and systemic testing to verify learning outcomes. We use a comprehensive assessment schedule which allows the school to track student learning. To monitor student progress and improve the match between the child and his or her learning program, our teaching staff relies on evidence gained through:

- Observation
- Consultation
- Focussed Analysis
- Peer and Self-Assessment.

We also comply with the Queensland Department of Education initiatives to screen students through systemic testing: NAPLAN in Year 3 and Year 5. Your child's attainment will be reported as per the NAPLAN guidelines.

Teaching staff are available at all times by appointment to discuss your child's academic and social progress if you have any concerns.

## **REPORTING TO PARENTS**

Teachers set goals for the students at the beginning of each term. The on-going reviews of these goals reflects student's learning. Two report cards are issued at the end of the semesters.

Report cards are set out in the standard format that every child receives in a state school in Queensland. We encourage all parents to stay in contact with the school to keep informed about your child's progress. Our report cards reflect a standardised learning statement for each learning area. The five-point, A-E grade will reflect your child's learning in this area. A personal comment will be written in the overall comments section to reflect your child's attitude to learning and social and emotional development.

All reports are emailed home and can be printed upon request. Meetings to discuss the elements contained in reports can be mutually arranged between yourself and your child's teacher.

## **CURRENT INITIATIVES**

Thangool SS has been recognised by the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) and is currently at the forefront in the Central Queensland Region of implementing the:

- Australian Curriculum
- Effective Pedagogies
- AITSL Visible Learning Project
- 4 Dimensions of Supportive Environments.

## **EXPLICIT IMPROVEMENT AGENDA**

This year our staff are working through an inquiry cycle process to improve literacy outcomes for all students. Staff are continually improving teaching and learning processes based on evidence-based research across all year levels.

In literacy, teachers are using the evidence from the ‘Science of Reading’ (SoR) and the foundation skills of ‘The Big 6’ (phonics, phonemic awareness, oral language, comprehension, vocabulary and fluency) to improve reading and writing skills for all students in all subject areas. To support the SoR, we use the ‘Jolly Phonics’ and ‘THRASS’ programs.

With parent support, we will continue to improve student literacy and numeracy outcomes using the latest evidence from research.

## **HOMEWORK**

Our school currently has a no homework or limited homework policy. With reading our core focus for students every night.

As part of our inquiry project into the Science of Reading and Visible Learning, our staff evaluated the effectiveness of some long-established teaching practices. Using the research of John Hattie, we have examined our homework policy and the impact it has on improving student outcomes. John Hattie states that homework has an effect size of 0.29, (0.15 in primary schools).

An effect size is a measure of impact. The higher the number, the greater the impact, with the best teaching practices having effect sizes greater than 0.4.

John Hattie states in regards to homework, “The key is that this highlights the importance for schools to now evaluate the effectiveness of its primary homework practice... there is an invitation (indeed an imperative) to try an alternative set of practices re. homework – and evaluate their impact on learning, involvement in learning, and increasing the students (and parents) understanding about the language of learning.”

Therefore, based on this research, we re-evaluated our approach to homework, and trialled a ‘No Homework’ term in 2022. Our focus was on implementing activities with higher effect sizes. These activities may include across the school:

## **Reading**

- Exposure to reading – 0.43
- Re-reading – 0.53
- Reading comprehension – 0.54
- Phonics 0.57

It is important to note that reading is not classed as homework and given how critical reading is to all aspects of a successful life every child will still be involved in reading activities every night.

While in the upper years, in preparation for Highschool, students may be exposed to projects that relate to extra curricula activities that focus on:

- Note-taking 0.51
- Self-regulated learning 0.59
- Outlining and Summarising activities 0.71
- 

If you have any questions or would like further information regarding the changes to homework, please contact your child's teacher

## **LIBRARY**

Students may borrow books from the extensive range in our library. They are permitted to borrow up to two books at a time, and all students must have a library bag. If your child has a book on loan, which becomes lost or damaged beyond repair, you will be asked to compensate the school for the cost of the library book.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Instruction (RI) is offered at the school. The Callide Valley Ministers' Fellowship deliver the authorised CEP Connect program.

Students are allocated to RI based on information provided by parents on the completed Application for Student Enrolment unless other written instructions have been provided to the school.

Students who are not participating in RI will be provided with a 'Values' education program in a separate supervised location.

## **SPORT**

All children are encouraged to participate in many sports, on a social and on an inter-school basis. Inter-house competitions are conducted throughout the sporting calendar year. An inter house cross country, athletics and swimming carnival is conducted each year between the two school sporting houses. Children are then selected to compete at regional levels from these events.

## **HOUSES**

Thangool SS is divided into two houses. Your child will be assigned a sporting house upon enrolment. If you (or other family member, eg. Grandparent) have previously attended Thangool SS, you are able to request a specific sporting house. The sporting houses are:

**KROOMBIT – RED**

**KARIBOE – YELLOW**

## **REPRESENTATIVE SPORT**

Our school also participates in district sports activities. Students are provided with the opportunity to attend sporting trials for a variety of sports that can eventually lead to district > regional > state representation.

Ten to twelve-year old children may be invited to participate in higher-level selection trials, beyond the normal school standard. We encourage parents to allow their children to accept these invitations, as this allows them to experience a higher standard, and may motivate them to strive towards reaching their true potential. In some instances, levies are set to cover the costs involved in transporting all participants to the trial venue.

## **ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

Our interschool athletics carnival is held during Term 2. It is held over two days. On the first day, students from Prep – Year 3 complete their field events, while on the second day, all students participate in track events and after lunch the students in Year 4 – 6 complete their field events.

Points are allocated for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places with age champions chosen for the highest number of points. Students aged 10 years and above who receive 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in their event are eligible to compete at the next level of competition at the Callide Valley Athletics Carnival. This carnival is usually held at Redeemer State School.

## **CROSS COUNTRY**

Our cross country takes place during Term 1. Depending on their age, students compete a 1km, 2km or 3km course. Our course is situated up at the Thangool Rec Reserve and once rolls are marked, students walk to and from the Rec Reserve under the supervision of teachers and teacher aides. Students who are placed first in each age group receive age champion and place ribbons are awarded. Students aged 10 years and over who receive 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> are eligible to compete at the Port Curtis trails held at Benaraby State School.

Our Project Club uses the cross country as one of their major fundraisers for the year. Students are asked to gain sponsorship and depending on the amount of money raised, they are then able to pick a prize from the sponsorship booklet. (Participation in the fundraising is completely voluntary.)

## **SWIMMING**

During Week 10 of Term 4, we hold our annual water safety week. Students engage in practical water safety lessons at the pool from Mon-Thurs, while back at school they focus on the theory of water safety in their classrooms. Swimming is part of our school's HPE curriculum and children can only be excused if they are absent from school or have health issues which may prevent them from swimming. Our Aqua Code is:

- Go Together
- Float & Wave
- Reach to Rescue

A Department of Education grant towards swimming instruction is used to offset the cost for each student. Swimming costs cover:

- Admission fees to the local swimming pool;
- Bus transport to/from Biloela.

## **GUIDANCE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICE**

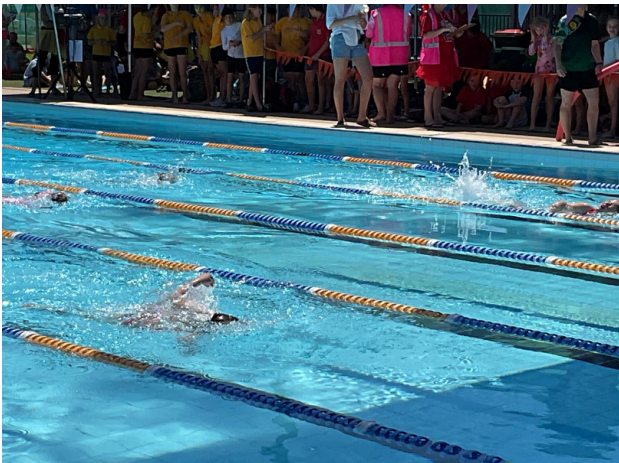
As your GP refers cases he/she isn't sure of to a specialist, so, too, do we refer our specific case students to Guidance Officers. These are specialists who, through thorough testing, are able to identify learning and/or developmental difficulties and recommend appropriate programs and support services.

At our school, we are able to enlist the services of an Inclusive Teacher 3 days per week, as well as a Head of Special Education Services (HOSSES) 3 days per week, and receive visitations from Advisory Visiting Teachers for Hearing Impairments, Asperger, Intellectual Impairment and Physical

Impairments. When available, Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy resource people also visit.

We have an inclusion and referral process through our 'Team Around Child' committee that consists of our special need's teacher, learning support teacher, principal and teachers.

Parents are an integral part of our inclusion processes



## **SEL-SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

‘Students are most likely to benefit from SEL when they have opportunities to use and practice skills in everyday interactions and routines’ – Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Our school teaches social emotional learning in every classroom through our capable learner framework and dispositions. In year 4-6 we offer a focussed lesson with a specialised teacher to run our SEL program, ‘It’s Your Move’. As adults we know that we are at our best when we feel safe, supported and work from our strengths. This is what the SEL program aims to achieve. It is a strengths-based approach, that helps students reflect on the qualities they bring to a team. Students will face activities and challenges to help them work as a team to solve problems. These activities are a vehicle for learning and gives students the opportunity to practice important life skills such as developing empathy, self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

Research has shown that we think and learn best when we have supportive relationships, feel a sense of security and belonging, and have opportunities to develop and practice our social, emotional, and cognitive skills across many different contexts. We also know that effective SEL programs have long lasting benefits up to 18years (CASEL, 2021).

## **EXTRA-CURRICULA ACTIVITIES**

We try and provide as rich and varied a curriculum as possible. All students are offered the opportunity to participate in a variety of sporting and arts programs

## **EXCURSIONS**

At times your child’s class may go on an excursion. You will receive a note home explaining the details of the excursion. This note will have a permission slip, an invoice (if applicable) and medical forms attached. You will need to return these documents to school so that your child is able to participate.

## **CAMPS**

Educational excursions are organised for individual classes or sections of the school. School Camps include:

Year 6 – Annual leadership camp

Year 5/6 – Biannual Brisbane trip (odd years)

## **SMART MOVES**

Each morning all children participate in smart moves. Smart moves are run between 8:15am – 8:35am and include such activities as fitness, relays, running, ball games, and physical activities. Smart moves are designed to encourage children to be healthy and active, reduce behaviour and promote happiness.

### **KID'S SHED**

Our Kid's Shed is a place where students can go, to participate in a craft activity, gardening, cooking or activity arranged around a certain event taking place. It is also a safe place where students can go when they are feeling lonely or need the support of an adult. Our Kid's Shed operates Monday to Friday during first break under the supervision of teaching staff. Our Kid's Shed welcomes donations of craft items or volunteers who may have a special talent (eg knitting, crocheting etc) and would be available to teach these skills to our students.

### **RISE READING**

Every morning before school we participate in RISE Reading. (Reading Intervention Supports Everyone), students are able to read books from The Book Fridge with a Buddy. The aim of this program is to allow children to experience reading in a positive environment to help foster enjoyment from reading and to help improve reading outcomes. Parent volunteers are welcome to come and join the program before school. It may simply involve reading a book to a child or listening to a child read.

### **MUD PIT**

Our mud pit operates during the warmer months (Term 1 and Term 4). Every Friday, each class will take turns at playing in the mud pit. The hoses are turned on and children make mud pies or simply enjoy the mud. Children are to wear old clothes that day and bring their uniform and a towel in their bag ready to change into at the end of play. This is entirely optional and children may choose not to participate. Other activities are also on offer during mud pit play.

### **ASSEMBLY**

A weekly parade is conducted on a Monday afternoon 8:50am – 9:10am. Behaviour awards and student of the week awards are presented at the weekly parades.

Whole school assemblies are held at the end of each term. Patriotic tradition will be followed by sharing of classroom activities, messages and other items deemed of educational value, or likely to enhance the program. Special awards and honours are presented at the whole school assembly.

The presence of parents and community members at the weekly parade and end of term assemblies is encouraged.

### **UNDER 8's DAY**

Each year during May, our school hosts Under 8's Day for our school and wider community. Community members are invited to join our celebrations from 9.00am until 11.00am where children can participate in a wide range of activities. Local community groups also join us and set up activities. Under 8's Day is a great way of getting to know our school and see the facilities that we have on offer. After lunch, our Year 4 to 6 students design and set up activities for the P-Year 3 students

## **PROJECT CLUB**

Thangool Project Club is operated by the Year 5 and 6 students. It has been developed around a variety of agricultural and environmental projects over the years. Hands on learning activities are designed to culminate at the annual Project Club Day, where the results of experiences undertaken are put on show.

Throughout the year, the Project Club raises funds for community groups, as well as to purchase resources for the students in our school.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

Group school photographs are taken during the year. Envelopes for orders are sent home. These can be returned to the school and handed into the office prior to the day of the photographs and will be given directly to the photographer.

### **WE DO NOT HANDLE THE RECEIPT OF MONIES FOR SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS**

## **BREAKFAST CLUB**

Each morning our school organises and runs a breakfast club for students. It begins at 8.35am. Toast and fruit is offered with the occasional special breakfast such as pancakes. Year 6 students are rostered on as helpers.

## **END OF YEAR DANCE**

A school fancy dress dance and/or concert is organised for the end of each year, with each class performing a dance or act.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Students also participate in local community events and activities, such as ANZAC Day, the Callide Valley Show, Biloela Eisteddfod, CQ Robotics Cup and the CQ Reader's Cup. There are also opportunities for participation in a variety of competitions run by educational and private organisations.

Throughout the year, artists, writers, poets, performers and sporting organisations visit our school and classrooms thus creating new experiences for our students.



## **TUCKSHOP**

Our tuckshop operates once a week. We have volunteers (who work on average once every 5 or 6 weeks) to assist with the following duties:-

- Work only
- Cook only
- Work and Cook

One person is designated as the Hostess for the day, and they are responsible for all hot foods and the smooth running of the tuckshop on that day. Thangool State School has implemented the new Healthy Choices Principles. As such, the cooks for the day are sent a note asking them to provide items such as muffins, quiche etc depending on the season and tuckshop needs. Workers start at 9.00am and finish between 12.00 and 12.30pm.

A tuckshop menu is sent home via the newsletter at the beginning of each term for your information. The menu is to be used for “big lunch” orders (first break). Orders can be placed via the Qkr! App (information available from the school) or via the brown paper bag system, enclosing correct money, details of student name, class and order written clearly on the outside of the bag. Orders must be received at school by Friday morning at 9.00am.

On occasions there are also ‘meal deal’ days which are held in addition or instead of our normal tuckshop days, and are also advertised via your newsletter

## **NAPLAN BREAKFAST/CELEBRATION**

Each year NAPLAN tests are held during the month of May for our Year 3 and Year 5 students. To ensure that these children feel special and relaxed heading in to or following these exams, our school provides breakfast or a celebratory party for these students.

