

Thank you for enquiring about Toowong State School. We hope that this booklet will answer all your questions.

Mission Statement

The holistic development of each individual learner

by

providing comprehensive, balanced and equitable

*educational services to the satisfaction of our
community*

Toowong State School



Code of Conduct

All members of the school community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which is:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Lawful

A brief history of Toowong State School

The district of Toowong had attracted many settlers by 1861, and after the Brisbane-Ipswich railway line was constructed in 1874, rapid expansion occurred. Following the growth in population came the demand for education and a school was opened by a Mrs Williams and her daughter.

The Minister for Public Instruction in the government of that time decided that the area would be better served by a state school and so a new school was built on a site in Aston Street. It opened on 22 January 1880 and only nine years later the school had an enrolment of 350 pupils. Many of the pupils came from great distances such as Indooroopilly, Milton and even from West End, across the river. Because of the increase in population in different areas of the suburb the suggestion was made to move the school to what was fast becoming the centre of the district. It was decided to move the school to its present location. This move occurred during September 1910.

The original school buildings still in use are rooms 9, 10 and 11. The enrolment at the time of the move was just under 300. The school population continued to grow and reached a peak of 895 in 1927. This is an amazing number of students and many of the verandas would have been used as classrooms. In the early 1930s extensive work was done levelling the grounds. The post-war period has seen quite a lot of upgrading and modernizing of classrooms and facilities.

The school participated in the festivities in connection with the Coronation of the King in June 1911, and, again in August 1920 on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wales. On this occasion it was found impossible to make any arrangements for the transit of the scholars to the city either by tram, train or steamer so there was nothing left but to march the scholars to and from the city, headed by a bugle band, but the school was fortunate in being allotted one the best positions on the ground, which compensated to some extent.

During the Great War, three teachers went to the front, two winning distinctions. No less than 148 old scholars were known to have served their King and country, 28 of whom paid the supreme sacrifice, and three gaining military honours. A striking circumstance was the fact that this total included in two cases five brothers in arms, the Patterson and Darlington families, while in several other families, four and three brothers enlisted together. Our library houses the cedar honour board from this time.

Today diversity and inclusion are obvious strengths of the school. The school population includes many international families and a small group of deaf children. The international families contribute a richness of culture to our school community. The school has established a bilingual/bicultural program to meet the needs of our deaf children.

Currently there are 10 classes established in the school including 2 bilingual/bicultural classes. We have many dedicated class teachers and support staff and most importantly..... approximately 220 families all aiming to provide the best education for our children. The school will celebrate 125 wonderful years in 2005!

Beliefs

Education should be seen as something useful, something that is self-perpetuating and liberating. It must enable effective interaction between the individual, society and the environment. It is not merely a collection of facts or skills but rather the using of relevant facts and skills to understand or initiate a given situation. Education should be an enabling process.

It should enable children to:

- adapt to changing conditions
- seek information and process information
- communicate effectively
- be willing to accept responsibility
- be aware of the benefits of good health
- show intrinsic motivation and positive learning attitudes
- possess an inquiring mind
- have a smooth transition into further education.

Children learn best in an atmosphere of care and concern where they are able to experience success. They must be confident to express themselves and participate in the education process. Teachers prepare stimulating and exciting programs where children can experience concepts in a relevant way.

Teachers continuously evaluate the progress of individual students and maintain a classroom environment which is highly motivating. Parents are encouraged to have an input into the process and be supportive of the school and teachers. A positive partnership with parents is valued in our school.

Values

We believe that this school has a vital social role to play in the education of our children. We place a strong emphasis on the following values:

- a respect for others
- tolerance and understanding
- respect and care for the environment
- good manners and courtesy
- self respect
- fairness
- a healthy lifestyle
- respect and care of property
- pride in achievements
- sportsmanship
- honesty
- loyalty
- leadership
- initiative

For these values to be accepted by the children they must be emphasised at the school and in the local community. Parents and community members have the major role in this area and their efforts should be strongly supported by the school.

Role of the Teacher

Teachers are required to provide quality educational activities through well planned programs. Class and school programs are inclusive of the needs of all students. The classroom environment should be stimulating, current and provide an optimum situation for learning. The teacher should provide direct focussed instruction, encourage child activity and develop child independence. The teacher will at all times act in an ethical, professional and caring way and at all times be mindful of the Education Act which governs their responsibilities.

School Tone

The school tone is set primarily through the relationships which exist between the teachers, students and parents. Positive relationships will inevitably lead to a positive school tone. This school is fortunate to have a supportive community and children who have a very positive attitude towards school. The teachers provide a caring enthusiastic approach. The general perception of the school is one of high achievement, quality education and inclusiveness. Diversity is acknowledged, welcomed and celebrated at Toowong State School.

School Environment

Toowong is a beautiful historic school tucked away on a quiet suburban hill. It commands a magnificent view of the city and is a place where the process of education can be carried on without many of the distractions of larger city schools. Constant care, upgrading and maintenance of the school gardens and grounds gives a neat, welcoming and relaxed appearance. The school grounds are comfortably large and contain a netball court and playing fields. We have two adventure playgrounds and an environmental area with native trees and bushes.

“The environment we live in, lives in us.”

School in the Broader Community

The school plays a major role in the community. Many members of the community attended Toowong in the past and it still has a special place in their lives. To promote this further we have:

- established extensive communication procedures to reach all members of the district.
- an informal, friendly Parents and Citizens committee at the school to encourage greater attendance and more involvement in school affairs. This is an integral component of the school decision-making process.
- established the School Advisory Council which determines the strategic direction for the school.
- as far as practicable, school resources are made available to the community. Parents are encouraged to borrow from the library and to use the sporting fields and tennis courts. Community organisations access school resources regularly.
- involved the community in children’s learning. Our school welcomes volunteers, artists in residence, specialist visitors, and incorporates the skills of our parent population.

Organisation

Preparing for School:

You can assist your child to have an easier start to their school life by providing them with opportunities to be independent such as:

- practising to tie their own shoe laces
- giving them plenty of practice at handling pencils/crayons etc
- reading to them as often as possible
- making sure that every item the child brings to school is named
- keeping toys at home so they won't be broken or lost

Arrival and Departure:

The school bell sounds at 8:55 am so that classes can commence at 9:00am. If children arrive prior to 8:30am they will be seated outside the library until a teacher arrives for duty at this time. After entering the school grounds in the morning, the children are not allowed out of the grounds without first being signed out at the office by the parents collecting them. Teachers do not supervise children after 3:10pm so they need to wait quietly in the office if you are going to be late. Parents may not drive into the school grounds to drop off or collect children. This creates a safety hazard especially in wet weather.

Enrolments:

Children must be 5 years old by the 1st January to be eligible to enrol in Year 1 at a state school. Enrolment forms are available at the office. Proof of age may be required. If you have recently arrived in Australia you will also require your passport and visa. Some international students are required to pay fees.

Booklists:

The school operates a book order system and is managed by the tuckshop. Each year level has a specific booklist, which includes textbooks and stationery. It creates many classroom management problems for the teacher if some children do not have the required books, so please try to purchase the necessary books as soon as possible after enrolment. Stationery booklists are available from the office at any time but are generally sent home with the children at the end of the school year. These requisites can either be purchased from any newsagent or department store or through the book order scheme run through the school tuckshop. The tuckshop is usually open for some hours during the last week of the summer vacation so that parents are able to collect any book orders that were placed. It should be noted that the booklists often specify a particular brand, and we ask parents to try and purchase the requested items so that uniformity in the class is maintained.

Term Invoices: To save handling money repeatedly, invoices are issued only once per term to cover all of that term's expenses. This includes sports activities, cultural events, swimming, excursions, camps and craft supplies. Invoices can be paid in one payment or in instalments. Payments can be made by cash, cheque, debit or credit card.

<i>Daily Timetable:</i>	8:55am	School bell
	9:00am	School commences
	10:30 - 11:00am	Morning Tea
	12:45 - 1:30pm	Lunch Break
	3:00pm	School concludes

Food: Each child should have a sturdy lunch box (the ones which also have a drink bottle are ideal). Water bottles and cooling bags are encouraged. All of these items must be named. There are two meal breaks each day. During morning tea children would usually have a small snack such as a piece of fruit, or muesli bar, and a drink. For their midday meal, they would have sandwiches, a roll or perhaps a salad etc. Don't pack too much lunch, otherwise children are inclined to waste food. The school tuckshop operates on Mondays and Thursdays. A list is included in this booklet and new lists are sent home each year. Ordering procedure is explained further in this booklet.

Uniforms: Toowong State School has a uniform policy which is supported and encouraged by the school and the P&C. All uniform requirements are available through the school tuckshop. Please check for details further in this booklet.

Attendance: The safety of your child is our main priority. You should advise the school if your child will be absent either by a note or phone call. If a child needs to leave the school before the end of the day, they must be signed out at the office by the parent or carer. Rolls are marked twice daily.

Accidents and Illness: Parents are notified if their child is involved in an accident at school. Although basic first aid is available at school, parents are usually requested to take their child to the doctor for anything of a serious nature. In the event that a parent cannot be contacted the school will take appropriate action in the best interests of the child. Children who feel unwell are attended to in the sick bay and parents are notified if necessary. It is important that parent contact details are up to date.

Medication:

All medication is managed through the office and not by class teachers. For the office to be able to administer medication during school hours, a parent must first sign a medication form. Emergency medication such as asthma puffers and epipens can be stored at school along with the completed medication form. Older children can generally be responsible for their own medication such as puffers. If your child has any medical or physical conditions, please notify the office.

Road Safety:

Children who walk to school should only cross roads at designated crossings. A crossing supervisor is on duty at the Sylvan Rd/Kate St zebra crossing every morning and afternoon. Bicycles, skate boards and scooters should be 'walked' across the roads, and not ridden down any of the streets leading away from the school as these are far too steep. They are not to be ridden in the school grounds.

Curriculum

Bilingual/Bicultural: Bilingual education is about learning in two languages and cultures. In our program at Toowong State School these languages are English and Auslan. Cultures of both deaf and hearing communities are valued and form an important part of the school program. Children enrolled in a bilingual/bicultural class have the most exposure to the two languages and cultures, however, every student in the school is involved in some way, for example, full school assemblies are always interpreted and all children sign the national anthem. Signing classes are taught to all children in the school and there is opportunity for all to join the signing choir. Toowong State School is the only primary program in Queensland that has a bilingual/bicultural co-enrolment program using Auslan and English.

Leadership Program: The Toowong Supportive Leaders Program is an integrated program targeting the Year 7 students of our school. It aims to prepare students for a proactive leadership role with the school community by developing their interpersonal, communication, conflict resolution and leadership skills within a supportive school environment. It is supported by the development and implementation of school curriculum initiatives. This is put into practice by the following:

- Year 1 Buddy Program
- School Captains
- Sports House Captains
- School/class meetings

The Year 7 students attend a 2 day training program at St Lucia Golf Links during term 1 of the year. This is a school funded activity.

Buddy Program: Our buddy program begins during the preschoolers' transition phase in terms 3 and 4 of each year. At this time regular visits are made between the preschool and the "big" school. The preschoolers team up with a buddy in Year 6 and build up their relationship in preparation for when they start Year 1 and their buddies will be in Year 7. Buddies can help smooth over the change to school, develop friendships and help provide confidence in our new Year 1 children.

Religious Instruction: Representatives from several denominations visit the school once a week on an ecumenical basis. These classes are optional. Permission forms are distributed at the beginning of each year for parents to sign.

Parent help: Educational success with any child requires supportive and interested parents therefore parents are encouraged to work with children. Many teachers will ask for assistance with activities in the classroom or to help with supervision on excursions. Other assistance is sometimes needed in the library. If you would like to help in any way you can discuss this with your child's teacher.

Library: Our well-equipped school library is seen as a community resource and members from the community, as well as our students, are encouraged to borrow books. Books may be borrowed for up to two weeks. If a book is lost or damaged, the cost of a replacement copy will be requested. Library bags are required to protect books as they are taken to and from school.

Human Relationships: We have developed an excellent human relationships education program which looks at such vital areas as interpersonal communication, personal health, body awareness, growth and development, friendships, self esteem and drug education. These topics are integrated into our general school curriculum.

Music: The school has a complete Music Program that spans all grade levels. It is derived from the new outcomes-based P-10 Art Syllabus, which incorporates Kodaly, Dalcroze and other internationally acknowledged methodologies, aiming at excellence in student participation and fostering a lifelong enjoyment of music. Combined with this program we have our Instrumental Music Program where children in the Upper School are able to learn either woodwind, brass or percussion instruments and are also inducted into one of our bands. To supplement our instrumental program we have senior, intermediate and junior choirs. Our attention to music is one of the priorities of this school.

Excursions & Camps: Our teachers strive to enhance their teaching programs with a variety of excursions and camps. Students are involved in a wide range of exciting extra curricula activities. Many of the learning activities developed through these excursions and camps are not available through the classroom based programs. Special visitors are also often invited to speak to the children.

Sport and Phys Ed: Toowong State School offers many sporting activities. Interschool sport, including soccer, netball, softball and cricket, is played most Fridays for the upper grades. Swimming classes are held at U.Q. swimming pool during 1st and 4th terms for all years except preschool. Each class has a weekly Phys Ed session taken by a specialist teacher. Tennis coaching is available at our tennis courts outside of school hours.

Evaluation:

Written reports are issued by the school each semester and indicate the current level of achievement and development your child has attained. Results are based on a variety of assessment techniques which are carried out over the whole semester. The progress of students in Years 1 –3 is assessed using a continuum often referred to as the Year 2 net. The continuum is used to record each child's individual progress and is consistent across every Year 1 – 3 class state wide. Year 2 students are assessed through the processes which are moderated at a district and state level. Children in Years 3 – 7 participate in the University of NSW competitions where which year levels and competitions are determined by the school. External State assessments occur for Years 3, 5 & 7. Although academic results are very important, areas of personal and social growth are at least as important so it is important to view these results in perspective. Teachers maintain specific and careful records on your child's progress and are able to give you accurate and timely information on any areas of your child's education. Teachers will offer meeting times with parents throughout the year.

Parents and Citizen's Association

Meetings:

Our Parents & Citizens Association meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the staffroom. This association is of vital importance to our school, not only for their fund-raising activities but also to assist and guide with school decision making. The P&C has a number of sub-committees with various responsibilities. All parents are encouraged to become registered members of the school P&C and this can be done simply by attending two consecutive P&C meetings.

Advisory Council:

Our School Advisory Council is made up of representatives from the Parents & Citizens Association, our preschool, our parent community, and our teaching staff. Its function is to oversee the future development of this school, to help identify priorities and determine strategies to achieve our plans. They assist with the formulation and review of our School Development Plan. A copy of the current plan is always available from the office.

School Donations:

Early in the year you will receive a notice of a scheme asking for a voluntary contribution of \$50 per family. This money helps the P&C to provide equipment and resources for the school. Generous response to this in the past has assisted Toowong to be a well-equipped school.

Tennis Courts: Our tennis courts are run by the P&C Association and help to raise funds for the school. School families can use the courts with their children free of charge after school. The courts are also available for hire. The current rates are \$8:80 during the day and \$11:00 evening. For further details and booking phone our court manager Cathy Mendoza on 3371 2695.

Tuckshop: The tuckshop is organised by Louise Davis on Mondays and Thursdays. On Mondays both morning tea and lunch are available, however on Thursdays only lunch is provided. Helpers are volunteers from our parents and the community who are asked to help on one day per month. A menu is included within this booklet.

Uniforms 2005

Girl's Day Uniform: School dress, or polo shirt with either royal blue knit shorts or bike pants.

Boy's Day Uniform: Polo shirt with royal blue knit shorts.

Hat: This must be sun safe e.g. broad brimmed, bucket or Legionnaire style.

Sports Uniform: House t-shirt and house swimming cap. Note: There may be some special requirements such as whites for cricket or girls netball skirts.

Winter: School sweat shirt and royal blue track pants.

P&C Uniform Shop

Toowong State School uniforms are available from the tuckshop each Monday between 8.30 and 10.00am during term. If you are unable to come at this time, an alternative time can be arranged. Please leave your name and number at the office or call the co-ordinator at home. Some school uniform items, such as track pants, are not available at the P&C uniform shop. As they have no special school features they are best purchased from local stores.

Price List (current at November 2004)

<i>Dresses</i>	<i>Size</i> 5	\$36
	<i>Size</i> 6-8	\$38
	<i>Size</i> 10-18	\$40
<i>Bike Pants</i>		\$17
<i>Polo Shirt</i>		\$24
<i>Knit Shorts</i>		\$19
<i>Culottes</i>		\$25
<i>Sweat Shirt</i>		\$26
<i>House T-shirt</i>		\$13
<i>Full Brim Hat</i>		\$9
<i>Bucket Hat</i>		\$7
<i>Legionnaire Cap</i>		\$5
<i>Swimming Cap</i>		\$5
<i>School Back Pack</i>		\$35
<i>Library Bag</i>		\$8

A range of reasonably priced second-hand uniforms is also available.

Jane Brinkley 3371 9923
Uniform co-ordinator

Louise Davis 3870 9272
Tuckshop co-ordinator

Tuckshop List 2005

Monday Big Lunch			Thursday Big Lunch	
<i>Salad Pack:</i>	<i>Chicken, Ham or Egg (specify) plus cheese and salad</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>	<i>Salad Pack (as for Monday)</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>
<i>Sandwiches (on white or wholemeal)</i>	<i>Cheese</i>	<i>\$1.00</i>	<i>Sandwiches as for Monday</i>	
	<i>Chicken</i>	<i>\$1.50</i>		
	<i>Chicken and Cheese</i>	<i>\$1.80</i>		
	<i>Egg</i>	<i>\$1.30</i>		
	<i>Ham</i>	<i>\$1.30</i>		
	<i>Ham and Cheese</i>	<i>\$1.60</i>		
	<i>Vegete/peanut paste</i>	<i>.70</i>		
	<i>tomato, lettuce, pineapple</i>	<i>.20</i>		
	<i>cheese</i>	<i>.30</i>		
	<i>salad</i>	<i>.50</i>		
<i>Extra:</i>				
<i>Toasted sandwiches</i>	<i>Add 30c. to sandwich prices</i>		<i>Toasted sandwiches as for Monday</i>	
<i>Hot Food</i>	<i>Chicken Burger (lettuce & mayonnaise)</i>	<i>\$1.80</i>	<i>Hot Food as for Monday plus: Pizza (ham & pineapple or cheese & bacon)</i>	<i>\$1.30</i>
	<i>Chicken Satay and rice</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>		
	<i>Lasagne</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>		
	<i>Spaghetti Bolognaise</i>	<i>\$2.50</i>		
	<i>Meat Pie</i>	<i>\$2.00</i>		
	<i>Potato Topped Meat Pie</i>	<i>\$2.20</i>		
	<i>Sausage Roll</i>	<i>\$1.50</i>		
	<i>½ Sausage Roll</i>	<i>.75</i>		
	<i>Hot Dog</i>	<i>\$1.60</i>		
	<i>Chicken and Corn Roll</i>	<i>\$1.20</i>		
	<i>* Instant Noodles (Beef or Chicken)</i>	<i>\$1.50</i>		
	<i>Hash Brown Triangles (2 per serve)</i>	<i>.50</i>		
	<i>New</i>	<i>Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap</i>		
Monday Morning Tea			Thursday Morning Tea	
			<i>No morning tea served on Thursdays</i>	
<i>Apple Slice</i>		<i>\$1.30</i>		
<i>Iced Finger Bun</i>		<i>\$1.00</i>		
<i>Homebake</i>		<i>.50</i>		
<i>Lamington</i>		<i>\$1.00</i>		
<i>Pikelet</i>		<i>.30</i>		
<i>Sao (cheese and tomato)</i>		<i>.30</i>		
<i>Sao (vegete)</i>		<i>.15</i>		
<i>Sausage Roll</i>		<i>\$1.50</i>		
<i>½ Sausage Roll</i>		<i>.75</i>		

Snacks Big Lunch (Mon & Thurs)		Drinks (Mon & Thurs)	
<i>Lites Chips</i>	.60	* <i>Cup of Milk</i>	.30
<i>Wafer Biscuits</i>	.05	* <i>Flavoured Milk (chocolate or strawberry)</i>	\$1.20
<i>Snakes/frogs (3 per serve)</i>	.20	<i>Fruit Juice (apple, tropical, apple/blackcurrant)</i>	.90
<i>Licorice</i>	.10	<i>Mineral Water (orange, lemon, lemon/lime, apple/raspberry (red), blue lemonade)</i>	\$1.10
<i>Ovalteenies</i>	.60		
<i>Water Ices (Rugrats)</i>	.30	<i>Big Lunch Monday only</i>	
<i>Choc-coated Ice Block</i>	.70	* <i>Banana Smoothie (large)</i>	\$1.20
<i>Splits</i>	.70	<i>(small)</i>	.70

Bag Order System

You will need: A brown paper bag (no envelopes please)
* Paper bags are available at the tuckshop for 5c

How it works: Orders are to be placed in tuckshop boxes outside the classroom door by 9am ready for collection.
Years 1 and 2 children are able to order Morning Tea as well as Big Lunch using the bag system but please use separate bags.

On your bag: Child's name
Teacher's name and grade
Morning Tea or Big Lunch
Lunch order and amounts
Total amount enclosed

Please note: Change will be taped to the outside of the bag however to avoid losses please send the correct amount or as near as possible.

Spillable items: To pick up noodles, smoothies, hot chocolate and ice blocks, the children need to bring their bag to the tuckshop for collection.

Example:

Joe Smith

Mr King 2K

Big Lunch

<i>1 sausage roll</i>	<i>\$1.50</i>
<i>1 orange fruit juice</i>	<i>.90</i>
	<hr/>
	<i>\$2.40</i>

Outside School Hours Care

This school provides Outside School Hours Care between the hours of 6:45 – 8:45am before school and between 3:00 – 6:00pm after school.

The Vacation care program runs from 7:30 am – 6:00pm. the service is based here at the school and most of the children are from this school. Preschoolers are also catered for.

The costs are very reasonable. If you wish to find out more about this service then please contact the school or the coordinator on 3870 9126.

Toowong Preschool

Toowong Preschool can offer your child five full days of free state preschool education each fortnight. Our centre is a happy well-equipped learning place, staffed by a qualified early childhood teacher and an assistant. We offer a quality learning program, a spacious outdoor play area and a range of exciting resources.

Currently we are accepting enrolments for 2005 and 2006. To be eligible to join the 2005 group, your child must turn four by the end of December 2004. To be eligible to join the 2006 group, he/she must turn four by the end of December 2005.

We have two preschool groups, the Sunnies and the Smilies. Their session times are as follows:

Sunnies: Monday, Tuesday + alternate Wednesdays 9:00am-2:45pm
Smilies: Thursday, Friday + alternate Wednesdays 9:00am-2:45pm

If you have any further enquiries, or would like to place your child's name on our waiting list please telephone Alanah on 3870 8408 or call at the preschool during school hours.

Catchment Area