

The BUSY Schools Campus: Cairns

Term 1, Week 1

Friday 27 January, 2023

In this issue:

- Welcome
- Berry Street Education Model
- What is Stress?
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Transport
- GRIP Leadership Day
- Vocational Pathways and Employment News

Welcome to BUSY Schools 2023!!!

We are very excited to see so many familiar faces and so many bright new faces joining our BUSY Schools family. The number of young people attending our school is continually growing, and as such we will be building in more classrooms to cater for our numbers. We are also very excited to be introducing Visual Arts in Practice as an elective subject for those of our students who enjoy more creative avenues. TAFE has kindly created a Cert II in Sports Coaching for our students who enjoy being more active. Craig O'Neill has also begun his Work Readiness Program which runs for one day a week for ten weeks or a term. This program aims to prepare our students for the world of work and will give our students an extra edge in the employability market that other young people may not have. We have also added some extra break out spaces and activities during lunch breaks allowing students more options of what they may like to do in their down time. Every year seems to get better at BUSY Schools, and I think that this year will once again be another amazing year where we are fortunate enough to support your young person.



Naomi Vucas
Campus Principal

Berry Street Education Model

This year BUSY Schools will be implementing the Berry Street Education Model which is based around trauma informed education. Every day the students will be involved in a 30-minute Health and Wellbeing session where they will look aspects of relationships, stress, stamina, and engagement. What is taught in these sessions will be embedded in all aspects of our day with the aim that students will leave us after two years with a toolkit to keep them on track when faced with challenges. This time over the first few weeks will be used to build relationships within the team. In each newsletter there will be a section dedicated to what we are focusing on during this time.

What is Stress?

Stress is a response to external challenges, like deadlines or difficult decisions. Stress is normal, and it can sometimes be good. Most of the time, the things that cause stress aren't dangerous. Often, stress is caused by everyday things, like taking a test, getting called on in class, awkward situations, or having too much to do. Too much stress, however, can be overwhelming and it can make it hard for people to enjoy life. Knowing the signs of stress can help us know how to intervene, quickly and stay calm and focused.

Stress for teens

- School
- Extracurricular activities
- Social challenges
- Transitions (e.g., graduating, moving out, living independently)
- Relationships
- Work
- Negative thoughts or feelings about themselves

Managing stress

Stress can be managed by talking with trusted people, spending time with friends or family, and embracing healthy lifestyle choices.

- Getting enough sleep
- Practicing visualisation
- Exercising regularly
- Calming breathing techniques
- Listening to music
- Being organised
- Eating a healthy diet

What if stress is too much to handle?

Most of the time, everyday stress comes from challenges you can face and deal with. But if your stress feels too strong, happens too often, or feels like more than you can handle, talk to a trusted person to get help and support.

BUSY Schools Youth Workers, Marney and Amber, are available at any time throughout the day in the chillout room and appointments can be made through our Youth Workers, with Sindi, our provisional Psychologist and Health Practitioner at BUSY Health, located near the reception desk.

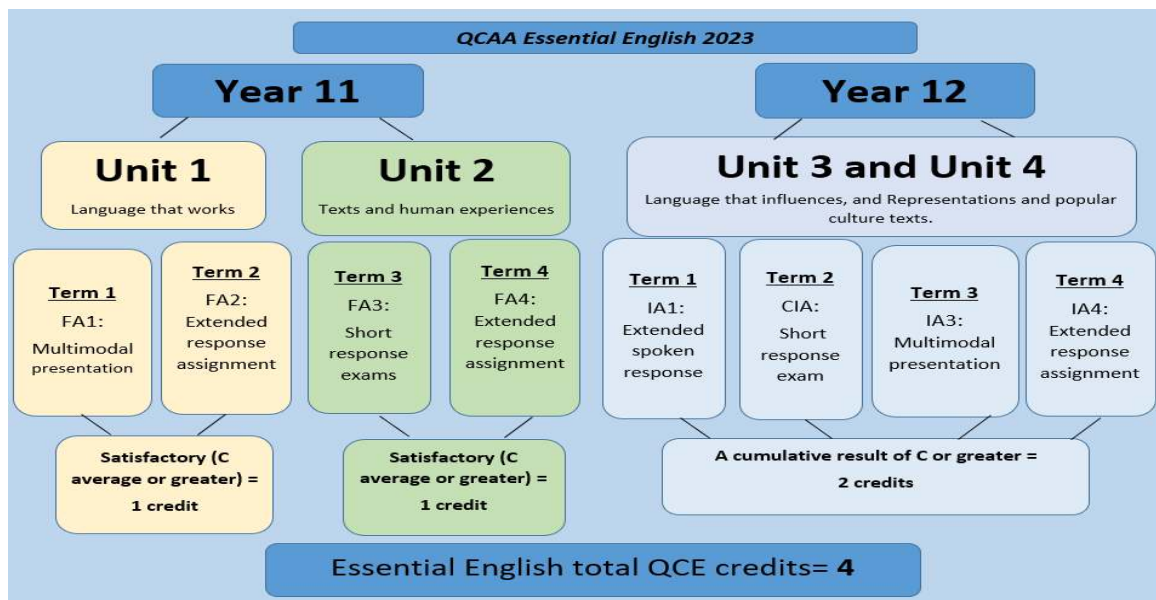
Curriculum and Assessment

The core subjects we have at school are Essential English, Essential Mathematics, Social and Community Studies. Students may also enrol in the elective, Visual Arts, if they wish to.

These subjects come from the Applied Senior Syllabus of the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA). Each subject covers four Units of work over the course of two years. Units 1 and 2 are generally completed in Year 11, and Units 3 and 4 are completed together in Year 12. When a student successfully completes all four Units of work for a subject, they are awarded four QCE credits for that subject. Credits are generally obtained at the end of each year. For example, Essential English: 2 credits at the end of Year 11 and 2 credits at the end of Year 12 for a total of 4 QCE credits.

Students require a total of 20 QCE credits to receive their QCE. QCE credits are also be obtained from external courses such as Certificate I and Certificate II courses.

Please see the Unit overview below for Essential English. This is an example of how the QCE credits are awarded for each subject:



Please keep in mind that the school is required to follow strict teaching and assessment guidelines outlined by the QCAA. Students are required to complete their own work during allocated school time and submit assessments/attend examinations on the scheduled days. Please refer to the Assessment Calendars in the newsletter and the Year 11 and Year 12 assessment dates on Compass.

If a student is sick or has an extenuating circumstance and they are unable to meet an assessment deadline or attend on an exam day, they are required to submit evidence of the event (e.g. a medical certificate). The school will then organise an alternative exam day or assessment time for the student. If a student does not provide evidence or a valid reason for missing an assessment or exam, it is at the Principal's discretion to allow them another opportunity to complete the work.

Myself, the teachers and support staff are excited to work with the students this year and we look forward to supporting them to achieve their personal and academic goals.

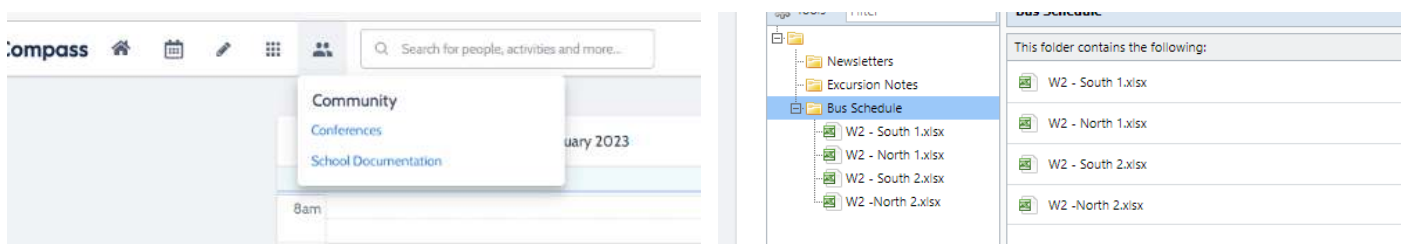
If you have any questions about the QCE or QCAA processes, please contact me at stephanie.mullins@busyschools.com.au or 0473 739 523.

Bus Schedule

As we work on perfecting the bus timetable there will most likely be small changes to pick up times. For those catching the Tropic Wings bus, you will have received an email from Clare advising your pick up location.

Moving forward please ensure that you check Compass for your bus pick up time as you will no longer receive an email with the change. The following weeks schedules will be uploaded every Friday by 3.00pm. Please note that locations are not visible due to privacy reasons.

To access on Compass go to School Documentation and click on Bus Schedule.



Week 2 has several time changes where students will need to be picked up slightly earlier.

Transport

The Department of Transport and Main Roads and Tropic Wings have informed us of possible delays on the McGregor Road overpass. Due to recent weather, single laning the overpass at McGregor Road roundabout has recommenced. From 30th January to 5th February single laning will once again commence. See flyer attached.

The bus this year has a general route that they take each day, so if your young person requires the bus at a non-planned time, we can let you know the closest stop for that day. You will need to have contacted Clare prior to 3.30pm the day before as she may not respond to you after hours.

GRIP Leadership Day

Our school leaders have already started the year going beyond our expectations. On 10th February, our school leadership team and Rebecca Henderson will be attending the GRIP Leadership Convention with leaders of many other local schools. We look forward to hearing the ideas they come back with and watching them implement those plans. Permission notes will be going home next week.

Vocational Pathways and Employment News

TAFE 2023 COURSE START DATE

Attention all students that have enrolled with Cairns TAFE for 2023:

Program:	Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation
Training Centre:	Cairns TAFE Campus
Start of Study:	Wednesday 1 st February 2023
Start & Finish Time:	8:30am to 3.00pm
Requirements:	Students are to come dressed in Trade work wear to each class.
First day of class:	Students to meet outside B. Block for TAFE teacher

Program:	Certificate II in Engineering Pathways
Training Centre:	Cairns TAFE Campus
Start of Study:	Wednesday 1st February 2023
Start & Finish Time:	8:30am to 3.00pm
Requirements:	Students are to come dressed in Trade work wear to each class.
First day of class:	Students to meet outside B. BLOCK for TAFE Teacher

Please check your emails for notifications sent out by Lisa Laffin at Cairns TAFE Campus for your 2023 course.

CQUniversity 2023 Key Dates

Below are the next lot of key dates for this year for our year 11 and 12's for this year for study options:

- SUN Term 1 Webinar - Monday, 6 February
- Career Adviser Campus Forum - Tuesday, 14 February
- University Experience - Friday, 10 March
- Regional Medical Pathway Information Session - March
- TAFE In-School Study Options - Friday, 9 June
- Parents and Year 12s Webinar – June

Some of the above dates may be subject to change. For now, you can save into your calendar and we will let you know if there are any changes.

Stepping Up and Out

One of our year 12 Students from 2022, Alex, commenced his full time apprenticeship that transitioned from his employment during his final year of school. Ash (Office Manager) stated that she really enjoys working with Alex and really loved watching Alex grow in his confidence and skills



Volunteering Opportunities! Extra Skills and Networking!

BUSY Schools students have been given the opportunity to engage in volunteering with the Cairns Regional Council's multiple venues, events and festivals. These volunteering positions will allow your young person to gain experience in customer service, time management, multitasking, team work and initiative :

The Court House Gallery - Open Tuesday-Saturday from 10am-4pm

Gallery Attendant

Volunteer shifts are either 10am-1pm or 1pm-4pm each day

Tank 4 Gallery - Open 7 days a week

Gallery Attendant, Information Officer

Volunteer shifts are Saturday, Sunday and public holidays from 10am-2pm.

Cairns Children's Festival - 20-21 May 2023 at the Court House and Tanks Arts Centre Precinct

Site Assistant, Customer Service, Community Engagement, Information Officer

Cairns Festival - Friday 25 August – Sunday 3 September, 2023

Site Assistant, Customer Service, Community Engagement, Information Officer

Understory Film Festival - 16-19 November at the Tanks Arts Centre and Munro Martin Parklands

Site Assistant, Customer Service, Community Engagement, Information Officer

Females in Trade Mentoring

The BUSY Sisters Mentoring program has been created with support of the Office for Women, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet to support and mentor women to succeed in apprenticeships and traineeships; full time, part time and school based, in male-dominated industries.

Our Mentors have lived experience in male dominated trades, and professional backgrounds across a range of industries, including hospitality, automotive, as well as counselling and student support. They have a passion to see women succeed in their chosen fields and a unique understanding of some of the obstacles and difficult territory that women sometimes must navigate and overcome, to succeed in a male dominated environment.

If you could like to speak with one of these amazing mentors please let Amanda or Amba in the EPO office know.

Feedback Process

At The BUSY Schools we want everyone to have a voice! We want to hear any compliments and/or concerns. The best way for feedback to be effective it to pass it through the most relevant channels. If you have anything you need to express, you could:

- Approach the relevant people directly and have a respectful conversation to resolve the incident;
- Approach Anne English to discuss the issue; and/or

Report the feedback on the BUSY Schools Website: <https://www.busyschools.qld.edu.au/busy-schools-feedback/>

INCLUSIVITY
People of all communities coming as one team for common goals.

EXCELLENCE
We always strive to exceed.

RESILIENCE
Equipped to meet challenges and excel.

INTEGRITY
We act with honesty and sincerity.

INNOVATION
Embracing new ideas and technology to stay ahead of change.

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