



# Wellbeing for learning and life

## Centenary Heights State High School's commitment to learning and wellbeing

Centenary Heights SHS first opened its doors to students in 1968 with an initial enrolment of 168 students. The School Motto "Per Ardua Ad Alta", freely translated, is "Through Work to the Top". It is now a Band 11 Secondary School located in the Toowoomba District and serves principally the urban community of South-East Toowoomba. Enrolments are generally consistent around 1700 students across years 7 – 12. Our school is subject to an Enrolment Management Plan.

[www.centheigshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.centheigshs.eq.edu.au)

### LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Centenary Heights State High School aims to provide a quality education underpinned by **safety, respect and learning**. Within a caring and supportive environment, students undertake learning experiences intended to motivate them to progress towards full attainment of their academic potential.

#### Centenary Heights State High School does this by:

- providing a safe, secure and non-threatening environment with a focus on self-discipline and acceptance of consequence for actions
- focussing on the development of our students as people and as learners
- recognising the diversity of the student population. Our School has developed a focus on multicultural education, which has led to the provision of programs and activities to celebrate diversity and promote harmony for all students
- developing our Responsible Behaviour Plan (RBP), collaboratively developed by student, staff and parent representatives, defining the responsibilities that all members of the school community are expected to uphold
- empowering students through the provision of leadership positions and structures throughout the school including Year Level Student Council Representatives

- providing a co-ordinated Pastoral Care Program with a targeted curriculum, Pastoral Care Teachers, Year Level Co-Ordinators and Deputy Principal or Principal responsible for the overall wellbeing of every student in each year level
- providing strong teacher-student and student-student relationships through a targeted Year 6 to 7 Transition Program
- employing dedicated student support services team members including Guidance Officer, Community Education Counsellor, School-based Youth Health Nurse
- peer support mentoring for year 7 students provided by trained year 11 and 12 students who also attend the Year 7 Camp

### CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY

Our School offers a curriculum which caters for the diverse needs, abilities and interests of students from Years 7 to 12. The campus includes a Special Education Program which addresses the needs of students with a range of disabilities. Toowoomba Flexi School (Flexi); an annexe of Centenary Heights State High School is a responsive learning environment providing relevant educational opportunities and breaking the cycle of dis-engagement. The program is designed to increase the number of educationally 'at risk' students completing the Senior Phase of Learning.





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## Centenary Heights State High School does this by:

- offering a wide range of extra-curricular programs to enrich the social, physical and cultural development of each and every student (including a annual School Production involving students from all year levels)
- providing a wide range of Authority, Non-Authority and Vocationally Accredited subjects
- providing Individual Support Plans, with the identified level of support, for all Special Education Program students
- apportioning additional resources to professionally develop staff with a clear focus on ICTs' Literacy and Numeracy and Pedagogy
- closely tracking the progress of every student including the frequent use of NAPLAN, Report Card, 'Learning Journey results' and adjusting learning opportunities accordingly
- providing Pastoral Care curriculum which includes: coping with disability; Habits of Mind; study skills; and Anti-Bullying and Harassment programs
- having a dedicated Year 7 camp program which is designed to smoothly transition students to our school
- providing processes to recognise students behaving and working to capacity.

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy intentions are transformed into action by school staff, students and the wider community.

### Centenary Heights State High School does this by:

- clearly defining roles for all members of the school community
- having a clear process for facilitating standards of behaviour and responding to unacceptable behaviour. Our simple and singular goal is to assist each student to realise his/her capacity as a person and as a learner
- promoting responsible conduct through a tiered four level structure (Gold, Green, Grey, Purple)
- implementing a clear process to ensure attendance is maximised and all absences explained
- providing students with opportunities to provide feedback on policies, teaching and learning and other operational procedures within the school through student leadership groups, surveys and formal meetings with the Principal and elected Senior Leaders
- working closely with an active Parents and Citizens Association to implement programs and resources throughout the school
- implementing a process where teachers regularly review student progress and make informed decisions with the data provided
- communicating clearly all policies and procedures via a well-maintained and effective website





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## PARTNERSHIPS

Productive partnerships expand the knowledge, skills and resources available in the school

### **Centenary Heights State high School does this by:**

- linking closely with primary partner schools bolstered by regular cluster meetings involving Principals and associated members of School Administration
- forging productive partnerships with Year 6 teachers, building close ties with local feeder Primary Schools to aid transition to our secondary school setting
- engaging parents in the school through a variety of means of regular communication (e.g emails, newsletters, 'Meet and Greet Evenings', Parent-Teacher interviews and structured phone calls home from teaching staff)
- establishing and maintaining productive partnerships with industry and employment and training agencies (leading to a large number of SATs and work experience opportunities)
- establishing close links with Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE and the University of Southern Queensland (several students combine school with TAFE and University subjects)
- developing a working party comprised of CHSHS Principal and Head of Department Middle Schooling, key staff from Primary Partner Schools, P & C President, Parents and Students to plan for the introduction of Year 7 in 2015 (Flying Start).

