



Moreton Bay

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE

Inspiring Champions for the Bay

ANNUAL REPORT

2025





Acknowledgement of Country

*We respectfully acknowledge the Quandamooka people
as the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather.*

*We pay respects to Elders, both past, present and to those into the future and
acknowledge their spiritual connection to the land and seas where we are learning on today.*

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Principal's Foreword

Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre (MBEEC) is committed to inspiring students, staff and community through unique, place-based educational experiences and hands-on opportunities that enrich the curriculum through student exploration, discovery and critical thinking. The cornerstone of our improvement strategy is an unwavering focus on reflecting and reviewing program delivery methods, liaising with schools, and shared partner commitment to ensure best practice. The centre has a demonstrated capacity to plan, provide direction and revise practices for the benefits of our visiting schools and students.

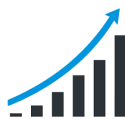
The Annual Report provides an overview of MBEEC's achievements and practices of the 2025 - 2028 Strategic Plan and reflects on strengths, opportunities and future directions. This report is one component of a suite of strategic documents the centre develops and implements in collaboration with staff, community and the Department of Education. It reflects the development of the centre along with Program Data, Professional Learning opportunities, Approach to Pedagogy and Curriculum Framework, and Business Plan while drawing from the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) and Strategic Plan.

The focus for centre improvement, as documented in the **2025 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)** and supported by the **2025 - 2028 Strategic Plan**, centre on four key elements:



1. Engaging, learning and achievement - Our Curriculum

Authentic student experiences aligned to the Australian Curriculum, Senior Syllabi and Early Years Learning Framework. Client schools' needs are met through connecting to unique places using innovative modes of delivery where students are challenged to critically think about local, community and global perspectives.



2. Maximizing student growth and belonging

Collaborative program development aligned with effective teaching practice and comprehensive reflection, focused on the achievement of every student guided by an explicit pedagogical framework.



3. Staff capability - An expert team

Fostering passion and commitment to improve every aspect of operations (inclusiveness, safety and well-being) and services in the pursuit of excellence.



4. Partnerships - A collaborative, empowered community

Innovative strategic partnerships enhancing student and teacher growth and community outcomes.

We invite Principals, teachers and their schools to continue to engage with MBEEC and to view us as an extension of their school campus where students engage in hands-on discovery beyond the classroom, with authentic partner input, to become *Champions for the Bay*.

Di Aylward, proud Principal



MBEEC Overview

Centre Profile

MBEEC is a day visit centre located at Winnam (Wynnum) on Quandamooka Country. In addition to delivering scientific and cultural programs at the Centre and on-board our vessel, *Inspiration*, out on Quandamooka (Moreton Bay), rich and diverse partnerships have the team delivering programs on other cultural and historic sites which include:

- Fort Lytton National Park
- St Helena Island National Park (Noogoon)
- Newstead House, the oldest residential property in Brisbane
- Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island)
- Manly foreshore / Wynnum Mangrove boardwalk / Green Island
- Port of Brisbane

The centre caters for students across all phases of learning from P-12 through day visit programs. The majority of students visit from schools in the Metropolitan and Southeast Region, however students from the North Coast and Darling Downs South West Regions continue to access centre programs. Facilities at the centre provide an excellent stimulus for programs. The centre is modelled on exemplary sustainable design principles with the learnscape designed to ensure a culturally safe place, with emphasis on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. Indigenous plants and their uses highlight the oldest living culture. Unique to the centre is the state-of-the-art twelve-metre aluminium catamaran, *Inspiration*. *Inspiration* is a floating classroom that has the ability to carry forty students on board while actively carrying out projects to further their environmental education.

The centre uses environmental education to focus on heritage sites; natural, coastal and marine environments; urban development; industry and the Brisbane River catchment as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander true histories and culture of the Quandamooka people of the bay and surrounding islands. The centre's programs support cross-curricular priorities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and culture, sustainability, critical and creative thinking, as well as the key Australian Curriculum learning areas of science, history and geography. Unique partnerships with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services, Newstead House, Port of Brisbane and Universities see centre staff deliver authentic programs connected to place.

MBEEC is committed to supporting young Australians in becoming successful learners, confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens. This is achieved by delivering high quality environmental education learning experiences that use a multi-disciplinary approach to enhance classroom learning; providing professional support that builds the capacity of classroom teachers and pre-service teachers to educate for a sustainable future; and supporting a nucleus for creating effective community and school partnerships.

Annual Implementation Plan 2025 Snapshot

Improvement priorities, strategies and actions to achieve them with accompanying targets are discussed throughout this report.

Improvement Priorities	Achieved
High impact strategies to enhance student outcomes: Engaging Science Grant – Inspiring Champions for the Bay <i>(Educational leadership and teaching expertise - Equity and Excellence)</i> Strategies: - Plan for delivery and implementation of a STEM initiative providing opportunities for year 5 students from a range of schools to engage in an excellence program. The program will: - Engage students in activities utilising inquiry-based and experiential learning strategies utilise Citizen Science databases; - Provide access to specialist personnel, equipment and facilities not readily available in schools; and - Include teacher professional development component in the delivery. - Deliver the STEM initiative to approximately 250 year 5 students across the metropolitan region. Differentiate learning experiences to support, develop and extend student learning outcomes. - Evaluate the STEM initiative to assess deliverables based on the intent of the program.	✓ ✓ ✓
A community learning hub supporting culture and inclusion <i>(Valuing culture and creating inclusive teaching and learning environments driving equity and excellence across every state school)</i> - Liaise, strategise and create opportunities on Quandamooka Country for students, staff and community supporting Equity and Excellence and realising the potential of every student. - Support Principals, teachers, students and Departmental staff with 'truth telling' and developing cultural capability. - Systematic evaluation of programs to teachers and community including Quandamooka Culture in Community, Outdoor Classroom Days and professional development opportunities.	✓ ✓ ✓

Professional Development

Expenditure on and teacher participation in PD include the following major initiatives:

- Queensland Association of State School Principals (QASSP) opportunities
- Outdoor and Environmental Education Conference presenting
- Quandamooka Culture in Community
- Cultural Insights workshops – facilitating and presenting
- Cultural immersion opportunities - Yura Consultancy / Yura Tours / Minjerribah Moorgumpin Elders in Council / Aunty Becky Thomson / Matt Burns / Aunty Sharron Mirri Bell
- STEM Symposium and National Science Week initiatives
- UQ Moreton Bay Research Station science professional development days
- QCAA Senior Syllabus (Biology and Geography) professional development opportunities
- Practitioner Research

Quandamooka Culture in Community enables staff to have opportunities to engage in *Cultural Insights Workshops* and *Cultural Immersion Days*. During 2025 cultural opportunities were enormous with Moreton Bay EEC supporting Outdoor Classroom Days for Early Childhood Education Centres, P-year 2 initiatives and staff professional development across multiple schools.

Professional learning and development opportunities were identified by staff to support targeted programs in Museum Theatre and to optimally position the Centre as an innovative place of student, staff and community learning.

Walking and Learning on Quandamooka Country

Event / Program	Participants	No. of Attendees
Professional Development	State Schools / ECECs	121 participants
Beginning Principals - Capability Branch EFI Cultural Insights	Beginning Principals from schools across Queensland	107 participants
Department of Education Staff	Metropolitan North Partnerships & Programs Principal Consultation Group	48 participants
Quandamooka Culture in Community Meetings (four in 2025)	ECECs / Schools / DoE	96 participants
Community Event on St Helena Island (Noogoon)	Winnam Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Corporation	20 participants
Community Celebrations (incl. NAIDOC)	Partners / Schools	58 participants
Outdoor Classroom Day	ECECs	75 students
NAIDOC Cultural Celebrations	4 Schools	693 students
		1,218

Other Events

- Moreton Bay Foundation - Moreton Bay Experience (21 participants)
- Ocean Crusaders - Community Event - Green Island Clean Up (36 participants)
- Port of Brisbane - Waterside Infrastructure Tour (23 participants)
- QAOEECL BM Conference - Moreton Bay / St Helena Island (Noogoon) (23 participants)

Centre Analysis

This section of the report provides a summary of specific data including student, staff and community attendance, instructional hours, staff and visitor satisfaction ratings. It is important to note that MBEEC were the Showcase Award State Winner (2022) for Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education for *Building cultural understanding and capabilities on Quandamooka Country*.

We are honoured to receive a Port of Brisbane Grant community grant which is invaluable for supporting our continued program offerings.

The Engaging Science Grants Program, *Inspiring Champions for the Bay*, provided the opportunity for year 4 students in the role of Environment Managers to explore marine and coastal environments. The program involved eight primary schools (123 students) and one high school STEM groups (48 students), with a further 49 students involved in the follow up, totalling 220 students. Students were engaged in activities utilising inquiry-based and experiential learning strategies utilising Citizen Science databases; and provided access to specialist personnel, equipment and facilities not readily available. An informative interactive talk by a Port of Brisbane Environment Team representative was exceptional and encouraged students to think broadly and strategically about Moreton Bay impacts. Utilising a PhD scientist (Dr Eleanor Velasquez) on the program additionally added the links to the STEM career for the future. The final celebration with a Quandamooka man from Minjerribah linked the science to First Nations perspectives and highlighted the wisdom of the oldest living culture and how we can Care for Country.

Trends 2025

A review of the visitation data over the last four years indicates several trends:

- Growing engagement of the prep to year three age group in programs.
- Continued high demand of the *Habitat Heroes* program (year 1) with not all schools able to be accommodated.
- Strong growth in the museum theatre programs *Connect with Heritage* (year 1 and 2), *History in a Box* (year 3), *St Helena Stories* (year 5) and *Immigration* (year 6).
- Increased engagement in upper secondary MBEEC programs - Geography.
- Continued strongest engagement from Metropolitan and South East Queensland.
- Partnership opportunities continue to be strong and focussed with Community Events **Inspiring Champions for the Bay** through UQ Moreton Bay Research Station and STAQ.
- Quandamooka Culture in Community continues to grow from strength to strength.
- Facilitating staff PD - Walking and Learning on Quandamooka Country through:
 - Cultural Insights full day PD
 - Whole staff PD during student free days:
 - Four primary schools in excess of 250 staff
- Outdoor Classroom Days with ECECs: three during the year - in excess of 300 children supported by staff and families.

Student visitation and instructional hours delivered by MBEEC staff from 2019 to 2025

Year	Student Visitation (no.)	Instructional Hours (hrs)
2019	16,063	54,283
2020*	10,779	34,876
2021*	13,675	54,578
2022	13,622	54,926
2023	16,622	65,419
2024	15,833	65,463
2025	17,734	74,245

* Numbers affected by COVID-19

MBEEC's Program Numbers 2025

Program	Number of Students
First Contact V2	2,325
Habitat Heroes	1,829
Connect with Heritage	1,755
Mangroves & the Environment	1,456
Immigration	1,068
History in a Box	1,041
First Contact	864
Minibeasts	851
Overboard & Underwater (Primary)	708
St Helena Stories	545
Go With the Flow	534
Water in our World	451
Birds and Beaches, Dogs and Leashes	387
Moreton Bay Studies - Biology	344
Living By the Bay	319
Overboard & Underwater (Secondary)	285
Small Town, BIG History	261
Port of Brisbane Studies - Land Cover Transformations	258
Colonial Brisbane (development program – launch 2026)	221
Returned - WWI	221

Curriculum Delivery

Teaching and learning approaches for K-12 students included:

- Inquiry-based learning - science investigation, scientific inquiry and critical thinking.
- Utilisation of variety of natural and cultural sites in and around Moreton Bay.
- Critical thinking activities designed to challenge.
- Theatre-in-education strategies and conventions.
- Experiential learning strategies and hands-on learning experiences utilising relevant and familiar contexts.
- Narrative pedagogy and play-based learning methods.
- Information communication technology (ICT) to enhance the learning experience.

These reflect the Centres Approach to Pedagogy and the student learning journey of Connecting to Place; Hands on Experiences; Curiosity and Thinking; Authentic Issues and Supporting Engagement through Partnerships and Relationships.

Other activities

- Tour guide induction and certification for St Helena Island National Park in partnership in with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (QPWS).
- Staff presented MBEEC's highlights and ways of working at various conferences throughout the state during 2025 including:
 - University teachers on STEM delivery on Moreton Bay
 - Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre Conference *Gathering, Connecting, Sharing*
 - Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre Admin Conference providing an immersive Moreton Bay EEC experience
 - Visiting school whole staff sessions on *Connecting to Place and sharing true histories on Quandamooka Country*.
 - Non-teaching staff team building sessions
- Quandamooka Culture in Community in partnership with Metropolitan Early Childhood Education Centres (ECECs) facilitating a collaborative approach towards creating a culturally safe and secure community. It fosters an enriched appreciation of Australia's cultural heritage for ALL children and families and builds the confidence and competence of educators to embed these perspectives in the Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guideline and the AC.
- Outdoor Classroom Days - MBEEC facilitated Outdoor Classroom Days for ECECs. Children from various ECECs made their way to the Centre to enjoy experiences in the great outdoors. Engaging in the excitement of outdoor learning is key to the mental and physical well-being of children and the development of lifelong skills.

In summary, we strive to work closely with our schools, partners and wider community to continue to improve our centre and its learning outcomes for all.

Awards

- Local Business Education Award 2025
- Showcase 2022 Award for Excellence in Schools - Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education for *Building cultural understandings and capabilities on Quandamooka Country*.
- MBEEC (with Brisbane Urban and Toohey Forest EEC's) were recipients of the Peter Doherty STEM Education Partnership Award 2019 for *STEM Horizons for High Achievers*.
- Finalists in the Queensland Museum and Galleries Awards (2019) for our Museum Theatre partnership program with Newstead House titled *The War Years: Americans at Newstead*.
- Healthy Land and Water Sustainable Education Award for *Inspiring Bay Champions through STEM*
- In 2017 MBEEC was awarded the Department of Education and Training Showcase Award for Industry Partnerships for the *STEM Horizons for High Achievers* Program and a Metropolitan Regional Showcase Award Commendation for *Inspiring Curiosity through Theatre-In-Education*.

Our Impact: 2025 Teacher Surveys

The Queensland Association of Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre Leaders, in consultation with the Department of Education, developed a survey for distribution to visiting teachers. The survey was designed to collect data and analyse the following:

- Student learning - the extent that our program has achieved the expected learning growth for students with in subject areas / general capabilities / cross-curriculum priorities
- Students' immersion in the program using a 1 to 10 rating scale measuring:
 - ✓ Student engagement in learning
 - ✓ Creation of inclusive teaching and learning environments
 - ✓ Catering for a range of student cultures
- Key enhancements for student learning and growth with respect to learning by doing / full sensory engagement / natural environment / life learning / local content and issues / adventure and challenge
- Value of program support with respect to
 - ✓ Program planning resources
 - ✓ Program planning support
 - ✓ Learning resources

Student Learning

Extent that the program achieved the EXPECTED learning growth for students.

Science Programs: Teachers indicate that 100% of programs met expectations with 89% exceeding or significantly exceeding expectations.

Humanities and Social Science Programs: Teachers indicate that 95% of programs met expectations and learning intentions with 80% exceeding or significantly exceeding expectations.

Student Immersion

The 1 to 10 Rating Scale, known as an Option Scale Survey or Likert Scale Survey, captures quantitative data. This research data informs Moreton Bay EEC about how visiting teachers view their students' engagement in program and whether our creates and caters for an inclusive teaching and learning environment.

Note on Scale: **5 = neutral**  **10 = Extremely Successful**

On a Scale from 1 to 10, MBEEC achieved:		
	Student Engagement in Learning	8 and above = 90%
	Creation of Inclusive Teaching & Learning Environments	8 and above = 94%
	Cater for a range of Student Cultures	8 and above = 90%

**97% of respondents rated 7 and above / No ratings were below 5 (neutral)*

Key Enhancements for Student Learning and Growth

Key elements and enhancements for student learning and growth from the responses are detailed below.

Key Elements	Agree / Strongly Agree	% of Respondents
 Learning by doing	✓	99%
 Full sensory engagement	✓	98%
 Natural environment	✓	98%
 Life learning	✓	98%
 Local content and issues	✓	95%
 Adventure and challenge	✓	96%

* The remaining surveys indicated the “Somewhat Agree” category.

These results match the **Moreton Bay EEC Approach to Pedagogy** and provide deeper insights from teachers when analysing this data.

Five key pedagogical practices for learning underpin program design and delivery at the centre:

- Connect to Place
- Curiosity and Thinking
- Hands On Experiences
- Authentic Issues
- Supporting Engagement

Program Support

Pre- and post-program support plays a crucial role in enhancing the overall effectiveness of educational programs. Providing pre-program learning resources helps teachers and students familiarise themselves with key concepts and prepare for active engagement, making the learning experience more impactful. Planning resources ensure that educators can tailor the program to meet specific goals, align with curriculum standards, and accommodate student needs. Post-program resources reinforce learning by allowing students to reflect on and apply their new knowledge, fostering deeper understanding and retention. This comprehensive support structure maximises the educational value, ensures continuity in learning, and encourages long-term application of program outcomes.

Analysis of the Visiting Teacher Survey found that, in regards to program support, the value of the pre- and post-program support / learning resources and program planning resources were found to be of high value.

	Valuable / Very Valuable	% of Respondents
 Program planning support	✓	97%
 Program planning resources (pre- and post- program)	✓	98%
 Learning resources on the day	✓	93%

School Opinion Survey (2025)

Highlights report for (3567) Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre, 2025



10
Staff
(83.3%) participated.

Most positive items

Agreement

This is a good school.	100.0
The expectations and rules are clear at this school.	100.0
This school looks for ways to improve.	100.0

Highlights report for (3567) Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre, 2025 (continued)

	Staff Agreement			
	Your school	Your region	Qld state schools	Last year
Common items				
...student behaviour is well managed...	100.0	22.5	24.4	0.0
...students are treated fairly...	100.0	9.5	11.0	0.0
...expectations and rules are clear...	100.0	11.2	11.8	0.0
...respectful student relationships fostered...	100.0	6.9	8.4	0.0
...gender equality at school...	100.0	4.6	5.2	0.0
...this is a good school...	100.0	7.3	8.0	0.0
...opinions are taken seriously...	100.0	20.0	21.6	0.0
...like being at school...	100.0	7.4	8.3	0.0
...feel safe at school...	100.0	11.3	12.5	0.0
...students are interested in school work...*				
Concepts				
Fairness / Clarity of rules	100.0	13.3	14.5	0.0
Safety	100.0	8.9	9.7	0.0
Partnerships	100.0	13.5	14.7	0.0
School culture	100.0	8.5	9.5	0.0
Teaching and learning	100.0	6.9	7.8	0.0
Staff wellbeing	100.0	20.8	22.6	0.0
Staff development	100.0	15.8	16.8	0.0
Workplace culture**	100.0	18.1	19.3	0.0

Common items are asked in the Parent/Caregiver Survey, the Student Survey and the Staff Survey*. **Concepts** show the overall result for items that belong to a concept. A **green reference result** means your school received a result more positive than the reference result, shown as the percentage point difference of **Agreement**.

* In 2025, ...students are interested in their school work... was not asked in the Staff Survey.

** The result for 'Workplace culture' does not include responses in relation to staff interactions in the Staff Survey.

Executive Summary 2025

Throughout 2025 the centre provided over 15 different programs for over 17,734 students from Prep through to Year 12. A process of developing bespoke programs to address the evolving needs of schools, driven by the impacts of current financial challenges affecting both schools and families. Refinement of current programs characterised the year as well as being explicit in the General Capabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives and ensuring critical and creative thinking skills are incorporated into programs.

Our Museum Theatre partnerships programs continue to go from strength to strength. Returning to Newstead House with our *Connect with Heritage* program has exceeded expectations being highly successful with exceptional feedback. We have experimented with a year 5 *Colonial Brisbane* program at Newstead House which will be launched in 2026. Trials have been extremely positive. Our *Immigration, History in a Box* and *St Helena Stories* program continue to thrive with new schools joining and repeat business evident. The Museum Theatre programs have been recognised, receiving previous awards including a finalist in Queensland Museum and Galleries Awards.

The Young Writers program, another successful initiative, continued with select schools within the area. Over the past five years, the Wynnum Manly school cluster has celebrated the achievements of over 500 student authors. The Duke of Edinburgh Awards program continues to successfully deliver the Bronze Adventurous Journey Awards and Bridge Level 1 and 2 Awards.

The deliberate focus on consolidating existing programs ensured alignment with the Australian Curriculum and included critical thinking opportunities for students. All staff have attending Aspiring Thinkers Workshops with Dr Peter Ellerton. Program Itineraries, reviewed and streamlined, ensured explicit learning intentions. Feedback processes, utilised to collect greater data on student learning and experience, informed program refinement.

Professional development of staff, always a key priority, continued with opportunities to develop cultural awareness with varied and multiple sessions, including those on Minjerribah. Targeted professional development for the senior syllabus of Geography has continued and ensured staff capability to support schools in transitioning to these new programs. This investment developed staff competence and confidence resulting in enhanced student learnings and saw staff present at the Outdoor Environmental Education Centre Conference.

The centre's process of reflection resulted in a more targeted use of the building and grounds as a base for appropriate programs. Streamlined and enhanced scheduling of programs achieved through the online booking portal has been evident. A focus has continued building stronger external networks with professional curriculum associations and experts in relevant fields. In 2025 MBEEC continued to serve its many partners within a mutually beneficial relationship as evident with Port of Brisbane and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services.

Feedback surveys from attending schools, teachers and school leaders are extremely positive indicating that MBEEC offered highly engaging, safe and well organised programs. These survey results demonstrated high levels of expertise with the quality of teaching and the contribution of the programs to student engagement, critical thinking and learning.



MORETON BAY EEC

Inspiring Champions for the Bay

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



connecting to place
and immersed in
authentic learning
experiences inspiring
curiosity and thinking

PROGRAMS: PREP – YEAR 12



15+

PLUS International students,
universities + the community

AWARDS AND GRANTS



- 2022 Showcase Award for Excellence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education
- 2019 Peter Doherty STEM Partnership Award
STEM Horizons for High Achievers
- 2018 Healthy Land and Water Sustainable Education Award
Inspiring Bay Champions through STEM
- 2017 Showcase Award for Excellence in Industry Partnerships
STEM Horizons for High Achievers
- 2016 Showcase Award for Excellence in Schools
State School Leadership Team of the Year (as part of the WMsea cluster) titled *Powerful Empowering Partnerships*
- 2016 Premier's Sustainability Awards
Highly Commended Sustainability in Education Award
- Port of Brisbane Community Grant
- Engaging Science Grant/ Collaboration Innovation Fund

EXTENSION OUTREACH

- ✓ Young Writers
- ✓ Young Leaders
- ✓ STEM
- ✓ Duke of Edinburgh
- ✓ Quandamooka Culture in Community

100%

Programs linked to the
AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

STUDENT, VISITING STAFF AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



OVER 54,200 student instructional hours

↑ 42% increase since 2015

90+ dedicated schools over 4 regions

1000+ passionate educators and community members

TEACHER VOICE

100% of visiting teachers highlight that students were:

- Highly engaged in discovery and exploration
- Connected to place achieving learning intentions
- Provided with opportunities to think critically and creatively
- Immersed in quality teaching inspiring 'Champions for the Bay'

Teachers indicated pre- and post- resources were valuable in extending student learning journeys

10+

SPECIALISED LEARNING SITES

- Moreton Bay (Quandamooka)
- Fort Lytton National Park
- Port of Brisbane bird hide
- St Helena Island (Noogoon)
- North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah)
- Newstead House
- Wynnum Mangrove Boardwalk
- Manly foreshore
- Port of Brisbane



Moreton Bay
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE
Inspiring Champions for the Bay



Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2028

VISION

Inspiring Champions for the Bay.

MISSION

To inspire student growth through unique place-based and hands-on immersive experiences that enrich the curriculum and showcase our ability to lead and support teachers, schools, community and the Department.

VALUES

Innovative immersive experiences connected to place and linked to the Australian Curriculum (AC) and Senior Syllabus.

Passionate and committed practitioners.

Collaborative authentic partnerships.

Respect for the environment to support sustainable futures.

Inclusion of First Nations perspectives to promote a culture of respect and understanding.

CULTURE

The Moreton Bay EEC team embrace a culture that includes continuous growth, high expectations, trust, inclusivity, empowerment and privileging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives.

ENGAGING, LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT

Our Curriculum

Unique inclusive student experiences aligned to the AC, Senior Syllabi and Early Years Learning Framework. Client schools' needs are met by connecting to place and country, using innovative modes of delivery where students feel a sense of belonging and are challenged to critically and creatively think about local, community and global perspectives.

MORETON BAY EEC STRIVES FOR:

Planning, documentation and delivery of Senior Syllabi (Biology, Geography and Marine Studies) excelling in field and experiment requirements for students, schools and associations.



Expert delivery of K-10 programs with explicit focus on Science and Humanities and Social Science.



Explicit links to cross curricular priorities (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Peoples' histories and Sustainability) and General Capabilities.



Continuous exploration for alternative delivery and inclusive practices including expansion of incursion and bespoke offerings.

MAXIMISING STUDENT GROWTH & BELONGING

Collaborative program development aligned with effective teaching practice and comprehensive reflection, focused on the achievement of all students guided by an explicit *Approach to Pedagogy*.

MORETON BAY EEC STRIVES FOR:

Comprehensive reflection and review process of programs aligned with our *Approach to Pedagogy* to identify opportunities to further enhance delivery and student outcomes.



Critical and creative thinking skills used to maximise student engagement, learning, observable change and personal growth.



Inclusive and culturally safe experiences for all students.

Innovative use of narrative, museum theatre, ICTs and STEM to immerse students in unique places and extend student belonging and learning outcomes.



STAFF CAPABILITY

An Expert Team

Fostering passion and commitment to improve every aspect of operations (inclusiveness, safety and well-being) and services in the pursuit of excellence.

MORETON BAY EEC WILL SUPPORT:

Comprehensive leadership and mentoring processes guiding development of quality programs.



Expert professional groups and Government agencies providing support to enhance program design, development and delivery.

Intentional collaboration, practitioner research, triangulated data collection and analysis, and 'telling our stories' to provide deep insight into program design, development, delivery and corresponding student growth.



Professional development activities resulting in optimum engagement, learning and growth aligned with well-being.

PARTNERSHIPS

A Collaborative, empowered community

Innovative strategic partnerships enhancing student and teacher growth and community outcomes.

MORETON BAY EEC WILL SUPPORT:

Innovative strategic partnerships enhancing student and teacher growth and community outcomes.



A community learning hub with key partners including First Nations presenters and Quandamooka Peoples, Port of Brisbane Environmental Management Team, QPWS, Newstead House, UQMBRS and beyond.



School and community out-reach to deliver expertly designed bespoke programs to meet emerging needs of organisations and provide solutions to complex situations.



Centre expertise utilised to present at conferences, workshops, associations and within school clusters (locally, state-wide, nationally and internationally).



Appendix I - Community Feedback

School staff professional development

'Tingalpa State School has worked with Moreton Bay EEC developing our staffs' knowledge and understanding of First Nations people and how to incorporate this into our units of work. Moreton Bay EEC have facilitated sessions with our staff with Matt, a proud Quandamooka man.

Matt has provided our staff with greater awareness of Quandamooka culture. The true histories or the Quandamooka people have been shared in a respectful and enlightening way. Through our work with Moreton Bay EEC and Matt, our teachers are developing confidence with incorporating indigenous perspectives into our units of work.'

Donna O'Keeffe - Principal, Tingalpa State School

Beginning Principals

'Congratulations and thank you to everyone at the Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre for hosting our beginning principals recently as part of our Beginning Principal Program Phase 1 Strong foundations program. We sincerely appreciated your expertise and leadership to co-design and deliver the First Nations cultural capability and immersion elements of the program. The sessions and experiences that you provided were greatly valued by participants. The cultural connections and learnings from the traditional owners and special guests were particularly welcomed and insightful. Please pass on our gratitude and thanks to all who were involved, including special guests.

Your efforts in ensuring all aspects of our visit were inviting, collaborative and professional, and provided an authentic and enriching cultural capability experience for all. Our initial anecdotal feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly supportive and grateful.

Thank you again for the collaborative opportunity to strengthen the capability of our beginning principals and contribute to their leadership journey. We look forward to continuing our partnership with future opportunities to connect and support leadership development programs.

Wishing you all the best for a productive, fulfilling and successful Term 4, and looking forward to connecting again in the new year.'

Anthony Palmer

Senior Principal Capability - Education Futures Institute

Department of Education Staff

'I had the pleasure of attending your centre yesterday for the Walking and Learning on Country session. I just want to say what a positive and enjoyable day this was. The quality of all the sessions, the presenters and the centre was extremely high. All my staff had nothing but positive feedback on the day.

I also want to say how it was great to see a leader such as yourself participate in the day and leading from the front. Your passion and dedication was obvious to all who attended the day. The session was so good I am coming again with my other team.'

Chris Carey - Director Compliance (Early Childhood Regulatory Authority)

Early Childhood DoE

Quandamooka Culture in Community

'Being a part of the Quandamooka Culture in Community network has been an empowering and rewarding journey. Attending the meetings and Cultural Insights workshop has profoundly strengthened my knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural and history, allowing me to embed my new understandings and skills into my classroom and school community.'

The facilitators have created a safe and welcoming space where sharing is embraced. We are constantly learning from Aunty Merle and each other. This community has given me a deeper understanding of Quandamooka Country and created a team of educators who proudly embrace and act as champions for our First Nation Peoples.'

Casey Flack, teacher and member of Quandamooka in Community

Engaging authentically - Matt Burns, Quandamooka Cultural Officer and Traditional Owner

'When I have the opportunity to share Quandamooka culture with students, teachers and the community, they walk away with different perspectives. They learn things they really did not know or understand or appreciate.'

It is vital to empower the young generation for they are the vehicle for sharing the knowledge, spreading the work and the future going forward. It is essential to hear the truth and authentically from the right people.'

Appendix 2 - Teacher Program Feedback

Program and Teacher Feedback

Living by the Bay | Prep

"This was our second year of engaging with the 'Living by the Bay' program and again, the program was presented in an organised and well-planned manner. Staff were responsive to the children's needs and ensured that the material presented was at the Prep level, hands on and engaging whilst providing a rich and authentic learning environment." **St Mary MacKillop Primary School**

"It was great to see the students engaged when investigating on the Manly foreshore. They were very motivated by seeing the living things we had been learning about in our science unit." **Buranda State School**

Minibeasts Prep | Prep / Yr 1

"Thank you for a successful, interesting and interactive experience. The students and staff thoroughly enjoyed the sessions. We thank you for your time, energy and engaging personality. We are officially Minibeast lovers!"

Birkdale South State School

"Overall impressions were: Well-paced; suited age level; high student engagement; knowledgeable, organised and friendly facilitators; well suited supporting resources; variety of activities; linked wonderfully to V9 curriculum. We would love to do this program again next year!" **Woodhill State School**

"It was an engaging and hands on session that saw the students putting their hands on real-world tools to explore their world. The follow up session with the microscope ensured they could see examples and share their understanding about minibeasts." **Wondall Heights State School**

Habitat Heroes | Yr 1

"The program and teachers did a great job in engaging students and understanding living things and their environments. The teachers were supportive and helpful and explained things clearly. They were also responsive in utilising moments of interest and questions from students." **Windsor State School**

"The students, staff and parents thoroughly enjoyed our day out on the bay! It's such an invaluable experience for the kids to get outside and have so many hands-on learning experiences. Thank you for allowing us to visit the education centre, mudflats and boat all in one day! It was the perfect amount of time at each activity. Thank you for squeezing us into your busy timetable last minute too, we really appreciate the effort!" **Kedron State School**

"We loved the day. It was so hands on and the educators were so great with the kids. Very interesting, engaging and amazing professional staff." **Mansfield State School**

Connect with Heritage | Yr 1/2

"An excellent program where students were engaged in hands-on experiences and activities. Students developed a deeper understanding of life in the 1800s and the history of Newstead House." **Wondall Heights State School**

"I would like to personally thank you again for another amazing experience. The hands-on activities were very engaging and going by our discussion the following day, left a lasting impression on the students. After the day at Newstead House, the students had a deeper understanding of life in the 1800's, and they all agreed life now is so much easier! I think the hand clothes washing was the deciding factor!"

Our History Detectives were engaged throughout the day thanks to your approach, clear instructions and carefully planned activities. It is wonderful to see that by immersing our students in these excursions, it creates family discussions, opportunities for family outings to places they would never have imagined and ultimately a greater understanding of our history and the land on which we live." **Wondall Heights State School**

"I just wanted to thank you for the great day our Year 2s had at Newstead House. They learnt so much and it tied in really nicely with our unit of work. We had parent teacher interviews last week and many of the parents told me how much positive feedback their children had given them about the excursion. Many are wanting to take their families there on the holidays. If I am on Year 2 next year, we will definitely come back." **Cannon Hill State School**

Program and Teacher Feedback (continued)

Go with the Flow | Yr 2

"The 'Go with the Flow' program was very well organised. The students loved the hands-on experience with the living creatures from the Wynnum Creek. The information and activities provided throughout the day was appropriate and engaging. Overall, the students thoroughly enjoyed the learning experiences."

St James Catholic Primary School

"Thank you so much for an absolutely perfectly planned and executed day at MBEEC for our Year Two Aquatic Scientists. Our young scientists loved all the investigations! The Centre teachers were both so very engaging, which kept everyone on task throughout the day. Thank you again for an amazing day full of education and enjoyment learning about water in our local environment and sustaining it for our future." **Wynnum State School**

History in a Box | Yr 3

"It was fabulous for the students to be part of the 'story' of keeping the fort open, learning to be gunners and persuading the Minister to keep Fort Lytton open." **Mansfield State School**

"The program is outstanding. It encompasses broad competencies such as developing imagination, argumentation and interpreting skills, as well as critical thinking and providing students' opportunities in working collectively. At the same time, students are introduced to concrete knowledge about what a museum is, how it functions and what roles a museum can play in education and in preserving history. Through use of narratives, and roles as well as allowing real interaction with authentic objects and actions in a task solving environment, the students gain fundamental human skills as well as learning about the past of Brisbane and the Fort."

PhD Student, Laura Anderson

First Contact (with Matt Burns) | Yr 4

"Really well run by passionate staff who clearly explained activities to students and engaged everyone. It was fun for all the students, and they loved the way the activities and learnings related to the story of the first contact between the local peoples and Parsons, Pamphlett and Finnegan." **Seven Hills State School**

"Our Year Four students thoroughly enjoyed the 'First Contact' excursion at Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre. The pre-program activity pack provided a great introduction, helping students engage with the story of Pamphlett, Parsons, and Finnegan before our visit. The hands-on activities such as fire building, allowed students to deeply connect with Indigenous culture and the early contact experience. I witnessed significant educational growth, particularly in understanding local cultural heritage and teamwork skills. The engagement and immersion of our students were outstanding, and the program has given them a greater appreciation for Australia's Indigenous history. I highly recommend this program to any school looking for an interactive and educational experience that enhances students' knowledge of our cultural past. Additionally, the lemon myrtle tea provided for staff was a lovely touch!" **Spring Mountain State School**

"Absolutely amazing! We love this excursion, and our students were buzzing as were the staff that had not attended before! I had been before but picked up more new learning from this year's visit which was great!"

Collingwood Park State School

First Contact V2 | Yr 4

"Thank you so much for the day. They chatted all the way back to Woodridge, they were excited to tell everyone about their day. It was such a positive experience for them all." **St Paul's School**

"Amazing exposure to first Nations culture. Great hands-on experiences which immersed the children into experiments that allowed them to make connections to history and how First Nations people lived off the land. Great variety of activities that were all engaging too." **Rosedale State School**

"All students were engaged and supported during the program. The staff were organised and prepared with learning activities that support our learning in the classroom. All activities were run smoothly and safely."

Guardian Angels' Primary School

Program and Teacher Feedback (continued)

Mangroves and the Environment | Yr 4

"An excellent excursion which engaged and enthused the students in equal measure. It was delivered by staff who were passionate about the topics and spoke with authority and enthusiasm." **Eagle Junction State School**

"This was a fantastic experience for the students. The range of activities and information was something that simply could not be provided in the classroom. The instructors' information was very well delivered and appropriate for the students' age/development stages. This was overall an excellent excursion." **Windsor State School**

"As always, really great experience for the students, parents and staff in attendance. Highlights included observing shorebirds at low tide for those groups lucky to be there at that time; clear and concise illustration of human use and impact in mangrove areas; and friendly, informative, professional and engaging staff members. Observing plankton under microscopes band being on the bay is phenomenal." **St Peters Lutheran School**

St Helena Stories | Yr 5

"From the moment we arrived, the staff took the lead which was amazing! The students were very engaged with the program, particularly the convict and warden acting by a staff member. It was a brilliant day, the students engaged, the staff were great with both students and our staff. It fit our learning goals perfectly!"

St Peters Lutheran College (Springfield)

"Excellent program, presenters knowledgeable and patient with students. Very interesting content. The children loved the experience. Particularly, the acting and question time with the warden and prisoner."

St Ita's Catholic Primary School

Overboard and Underwater | Yr 5/6

"Thank you so much for another wonderful few days of learning for our students. They had such a great time (even when picking up rubbish!) and learnt a lot through the valuable experiences you provided. Thanks for the resources too. We will definitely put them to good use. We look forward to working with you again next year."

Mansfield State School

"I was very impressed with how the program linked so effectively to our HASS curriculum with our focus of sustainability. It also linked beautifully with our theme of sustainability and microplastics within our English persuasive unit." **Manly State School**

"Excellent, well organised and engaging program. Very beneficial." **Norman Park State School**

Immigration | Yr 6

"It was a well-planned and presented program which provided opportunities for engagement, contemplation and interaction in 'real-life scenarios' to immerse the students in the immigration experience." **All Hallows' School**

"The PowerPoint provided before the visit was an engaging and informative resource. The students greatly enjoyed looking at the photographs and guessing the professions. It was a useful tool for hooking them in and preparing them for the excursion. The performative element of the excursion allowed students to step back in time. It activated their imaginations, and they became part of the performance too." **West End State School**

"An exceptional enriching program where students are totally immersed in learning. Thank you once again and we will be back next year!" **Greenslopes State School**

Returned WWI | Yr 9

"Thank you so much for hosting us earlier this week. I have spoken to many students who have told me they thought the excursion was brilliant. Our teachers have also spoke highly of your staff and level of organisation. What a privilege to have an EEC like yours as part of our state education system!" **Meridan State College**