Ascot State School commitment to learning and wellbeing

Ascot State School provides a safe and caring environment for high quality learning to occur. The school’s motto “Strive to Achieve” reflects the strong commitment of teachers and the school community in encouraging every child to reach their full potential while promoting social responsibility that goes with being part of a community. Ascot State School provides high quality education from Prep to Year 7. The campus is located in Ascot approximately 7 kms from Brisbane GPO. Ascot is proud of its rich history, traditions and strong school spirit which have been embraced by generations of local families and new members of the Ascot community. http://ascotss.eq.edu.au

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

A positive school ethos and rich learning environment that is open, respectful, caring and safe optimises learning through a commitment to wellbeing.

Ascot State School does this by:

- Implementing a School Mentoring Program with each year 7 student mentored by one staff member.
- Promoting Student Success and Wellbeing through employment of a Coach for the staff and the students.
- Demonstrating commitment to providing a school where students belong and can experience success on a daily basis.
- Developing and implementing our school values, fairness, respect, excellence, self esteem and honesty.
- Being committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for students and staff to engage in quality learning experiences and acquire values supportive of their lifelong learning and wellbeing.
- Promoting high standards of behaviour: Be Responsible, Be Respectful and Be Safe.
- Implementing a welfare structure headed by the school leadership team; student success coach, trained teachers and specialists.
- Fostering academic excellence, performing arts, sporting excellence, community involvement and student success and wellbeing through school assemblies and school publications.
- Using year level class representative parents to encourage interactions between students, teachers and parents.

CURRICULUM AND PEDAGOGY

Curriculum that enhances wellbeing equips students with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and strategies to understand and manage themselves and their relationships. Pedagogy that enhances wellbeing builds positive relationships.

Ascot State School does this by:

- Using Marzano’s Dimensions of Learning, Art and Science of Teaching, and Habits of Mind to develop and maximise students’ potential and link learning through the social and emotional capabilities.
- Implementing Student Success across the years 5-7. Enhancing the 21st century skills of Engagement and Motivation from work of Professor Andrew Martin, University of New South Wales; Dr Carol Dweck, Stanford University; Dr Martin Seligman, University of Pennsylvania and Dr John Hattie, The University of Melbourne.
- Using Social Targets for all students to take responsibility of their learning and behaviours.
- Developing and implementing individual support profiles for students with high behavioural needs.
- Working with the EAL/D teacher to ensure all our students’ cultures are valued.
- Employing student success coach, literacy and numeracy coaches who work with school staff, supporting and building teachers’ capacity and embedding best practice pedagogy throughout the school.
- Celebrating Learning with open classrooms displaying student work for each semester.
- Offering diverse and enriched programs as well as a wide range of extracurricular activities. Eg, Leadership Program, Friends’ Club, Playground Buddies, Class Buddy Program, Mentor Program, Social Skills Program, Student Council, Early Act, Optiminds, Chess Club, Choirs, Bands, etc.

*The mention of specific organisation, programs or resources does not imply that they are endorsed by the Department of Education, Training and Employment.*
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

Ascot State School does this by:
- Building a culture of high expectations for all teaching and learning.
- Having a well documented and comprehensive student support network within the school and with external agencies.
- Having a clear process for facilitating standards of behaviour and considering the individual circumstances of students when applying support and behaviour management.
- Training parents and community members in Marzano’s ASOT and the Habits of Mind.
- A very active and involved P&C maintains constant contact with the school and promotes the School Responsible Behaviour Plan and the Student Success Program.
- Providing students with opportunities to raise issues and voice opinions through student leadership programs.
- Encouraging student participation by offering a variety of student forums.
- Organising school events which foster ownership of the implementation of school policies. Eg, Dr Andrew Martin, UNSW, Dr Michael Carr-Gregg, Motivational Speaker
- Encouraging students as well as staff to consistently reinforce expectations of positive behaviour and respectful attitudes.

PARTNERSHIPS

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

Ascot State School does this by:
- Engaging staff and students in identified programs as a Queensland Partnership School with the Queensland Academies.
- Furthering partnerships with Dr Andrew Martin, UNSW to promote Motivation, Engagement, Success and Wellbeing.
- Engaging parents in the school through a variety of communication methods, eg emails, newsletters, interviews, phone calls and interpreter services if required.
- Utilising parent support to ensure extracurricula opportunities can be offered to students, eg, FOVAD: Friends of Visual Art and Design
- Maintaining strong partnerships with local primary schools offering Mini-Thinking Programs across school clusters.
- Offering regular visits from the Arts Council.
- Encouraging parent participation in the school by offering a variety of parent learning opportunities eg, Reading in the Early and Middle Years.

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