



Parent Handbook

gumdaless.eq.edu.au

CONTACT DETAILS

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Phone:	(07) 3902 8333
Absence Line:	QParents App (07) 3902 8399 admin@gumdaless.eq.edu.au
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Principal:	principal@gumdaless.eq.edu.au
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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

On behalf of Gumdale State School, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all new families. Our school strives to provide an excellent education in a supportive, happy and inclusive environment. Our motto – ***Always Our Best*** – underpins our daily thoughts and behaviour.

At Gumdale State School, we aim to prepare students to be contributing community members of the future and to be well-mannered, industrious students of the present. You'll find that the range of curriculum programs and extra-curricular activities we offer are exceptional, making us the preferred primary school for many families both within and beyond our catchment area.

In order to deliver exceptional learning opportunities for your child, it is crucial to have your input and support. Building partnerships with our student families and local community is essential to making our school a secure and happy environment where each student feels important and respected as an individual.

As you will see as you walk around the school, our values are centered on the word **GROW**. This stands for:

G – Great Learners

R – Respectful

O – Organised

W – Working Safely Together

These values are demonstrated not only by our students, but also our staff. The staff at Gumdale State School are student focused, performing many duties beyond school hours. It is our commitment to excellence and dedication, together with many other professional attributes, that make this school a wonderful learning environment for your child.

We also value the School Council, Parents & Citizens Association and the Student Council who generously work to enhance our teaching and learning resources - we are privileged to provide the very best in primary education.

We look forward to getting to know our new student families. A very warm welcome to you all.

Always our Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Savill". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly informal style.

Phil Savill, Principal

GENERAL INFORMATION

History

Gumdale State School is located at 677 New Cleveland Road, and is sited on almost seven hectares of land in a semi-rural area in the outer Brisbane metropolitan area. It caters for the Gumdale community, a mixture of acreage style and urban living, and offers unique quality education, activities and experiences, which add greatly to the character of the school. The suburb of Gumdale began its history as Mossdale, named after a large sheep property in the area. This was changed to Grassdale in about 1889. Locals successfully lobbied for the establishment of a school, which opened as Grassdale State School on 26 August 1935 with two rooms and 32 pupils. In 1942 there was another name change that arose with the opening of a post office in the developing area and a clash of names with a Grassdale Post Office in another state. The headmaster at Grassdale State School asked the children for suggestions and the name Gumdale was chosen. In 1975, parts of Gumdale were divided into four smaller suburbs: Gumdale, Wakerley, Ransome and Chandler.

Hollis Hall and Resource Centre were completed in 2009, before another facilities upgrade took place in 2015. The latter included a new building for our Music and Science programs, a new full-size oval, two multi-purpose courts and cricket practice nets on the site bordering Formosa Road.

In 2022, a new building housing 8 classrooms and flexible learning areas was built, and a state-of-the-art Tuckshop was completed to cater for our growing student population.

Our Profile

Gumdale State School is an independent coeducational state primary school that caters for students from Prep to Year 6. Approximately 1150 students are enrolled in our school for 2025. Our students live predominantly in the surrounding Brisbane suburbs of Wakerley, Gumdale and Chandler.

Distinctive Curriculum Programs

At Gumdale State School we offer the following distinctive curriculum programs:

Arts Programs

Our specialist teachers provide instruction in the areas of Music, Drama, Dance and Media Art from Prep – Year 6. Students in Year 1-6 will also participate in Visual Arts lessons.

Choirs, bands and extension ensembles are also part of the Arts Program.

Technologies

Students in Year 1-6 participate in Digital and Design Technologies for one semester each year.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) iPad Classes Prep - Year 6

Providing iPad classes and skills from Prep to Year 6.

Extension Programs for high achieving students

We have partnerships with Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre and local High Schools to provide extension opportunities.

Sports, Health and Physical Education

Specialist Health and Physical Education teachers provide instruction to students from Prep to Year 6. Through our community partnerships we provide a Sailing and Water Sports Program (Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron) and swimming lessons (Aquatic Achievers). Students also have the opportunity to represent GSS in interschool sports competitions.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

At Gumdale State School we provide students with opportunities to participate in a range of extra-curricular activities, including:

- Interschool Sport for students in Years 5-6
- Sailing and Watersports Program for students in Years 2-6 through our partnership with Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron
- School camps for students in Years 4-6
- Instrumental music camps
- Choral workshops
- A variety of school-based clubs including: Choir, Coding Club, Kitchen Garden, Public Speaking and Drumming Club
- Signature Programs for students in Years 4-6 including Dance, The Arts, Diving, Elite Sailing, Equestrian, Mountain Biking, Karate, Netball, Robotics/Coding and Touch Football
- Science Week
- Equestrian Programs
- Writer's workshops
- Year level curriculum excursions and incursions

ENROLMENTS

Enrolment Information

We accept new enrolments for Gumdale State School at any time of the year and we look forward to welcoming new families to our school community. We cannot approve enrolments without sighting and copying your child's birth certificate. Where it is not possible to obtain a birth certificate (e.g., for a child born in a country without a birth registration system), a passport or visa document will suffice. This does not include failure to register a birth or reluctance to order a birth certificate. We will also accept a passport or visa for international students approved for enrolment by Education Queensland International (EQI).

Our school operates within an enrolment management plan. All students who reside within the catchment boundaries are eligible to attend Gumdale State School. You can access the catchment area map provided by Education Queensland to determine if you reside within catchment.

To enrol your child at Gumdale State School, follow these easy steps:

Step 1: Enrolment application

For each child, complete an Education Queensland enrolment application, consent for media, religion, use of personal insect repellent, internet/BYOD iPad usage and Oliver Library System.

Step 2: Return forms

Return the completed forms to enrolments@gumdaless.eq.edu.au or the office. You will also need to bring:

- Original birth certificate for each child; or child's current passport and visa documents if they were born overseas for our staff to sight
- Each child's latest report card if they have attended another school
- Two original utility notices/bill statements AND your driver's license to provide proof of principle place of residency

You can download the necessary forms, or collect copies from our school office. If you have questions regarding enrolling your child in our school, please contact us on enrolments@gumdaless.eq.edu.au.

Step 3: Enrolment Interview

Once the enrolment application has been received and processed, an interview with one of our Deputy Principals will be arranged for you and your child/children. It is at this time that you will be notified

of the class teacher and the classroom location for your child. The enrolment interview is also an opportunity to discuss your child's transition or any medical conditions.

Attending on the first day can be a little daunting for new students. You are welcome to come to the office at 8:30am and be escorted to the classroom, via Hollis Hall by an administration officer.

QParents

The [QParents](#) web and mobile application provides a more convenient, easier way for parents and legal guardians of Queensland state school students to interact with their child's school. Parents will have secure, online access to their child's student information, anytime, anywhere, through a smartphone, tablet or computer. If you would like to be sent an invite to QParents please email us admin@gumdaless.eq.edu.au

QParents allows parents to connect instantly with their child's school to access and manage their child's student information, including:

- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of an absence
- Academic report cards (full history)
- Consent management, including providing consent for excursions and online services.
- Viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history, and making payments online
- Viewing and updating student details, including medical conditions and address
- Enrolment details

Registering for QParents

You will receive an invitation email from us containing your unique invitation code. Simply follow the instructions in that email to complete the QParents account registration process.

Complete information can be found by visiting the [QParents page](#) on our school website.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES

Student Attendance

Every day counts! Children achieve more when they go to school all day, every school day. Please don't keep your child away from school unnecessarily.

All children must be present in their classroom for roll marking. Teachers will mark the roll and close it. Any child not in the classroom will be marked as absent. Children who arrive after the roll has closed will be required to go to Student Services to collect a **late slip** for presentation to their teacher.

Office staff will check and clear the Absence Line before 9:30am. A generic SMS message will be sent to parents advising of their child's absence and requesting an explanation if they do not present to school.

How you can help us to keep your child safe:

Student absences can be reported via the [QParents App](#) or by phoning the Student Absence Line before 9:30am. These services are 24hr; you can report an absence anytime. The **Student Absence Line number is 3902 8399**.

Alternatively, you can email absence details to admin@gumdaless.eq.edu.au.

If you receive an SMS message, call the Student Absence Line to explain the absence OR if you believe your child should be at school contact the school office immediately to notify us.

Leaving the School Grounds before end of day

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds after they arrive at school.

From time to time, you may need to collect your child early from school. This may be in the case of illness, attending an appointment or family emergency. In all cases students must be signed out through Student Services.

Legally the school can only release your child into the care of an adult who is listed on the student's personal details record as a guardian or emergency contact. Administration staff are able to check these details and verify the identity of the person collecting the child. In the event that a person comes to collect your child and their details are not recorded, administration staff will contact you to seek your instruction.

Out of Bounds Areas Before and After School

We have a shared responsibility to keep your child safe on school grounds. Playgrounds are out of bounds before and after school for all students and siblings.

Before School Procedures

Student supervision commences at 8:15am in Hollis Hall. Unless involved in a before school program, students are not to be on school grounds prior to 8:15am. For earlier arrivals, the Gumdale OSHC provides before school care from 6:00am.

After School Procedures

All Year 3-6 students who are remaining on school grounds between 2:45pm and 3:00pm are to assemble under B Block until 3:00pm. This is irrespective of whether they have a parent on site. This is valuable learning time in junior school classrooms. The exceptions are those Year 3-6 students who are waiting at Tilley Road or Formosa Road pick up areas or attending GOSHC.

At 3:00pm, students waiting under B Block will be released and sent to younger siblings' classrooms to meet parents and carers.

The School Day

We run staggered start and finish times. Students in Years 3-6 attend school from 8:30am – 2:45pm and Prep to Year 2 students attend from 8:45am – 3:00pm. Please see the timetable below.

Class Times	
8:15am – 8:30am	Year 3-6 drop off
8:30am	Year 3-6 classes begin
8:30am – 8:45am	Prep to Year 2 drop off
8:45am	Prep to Year 2 classes begin
2:45pm	Year 3-6 classes dismissed
3:00pm	Prep to Year 2 classes dismissed

Please refer to our [website](#) for the most up-to-date school timetable.

Breaks

There are two breaks each day; with time for eating and playtime. Children are supervised at all times during the breaks. During the eating session, students sit in the area allocated to their year level. At playtime, students are free to play in the areas allocated to their year level — access to some of these (e.g., library, hall, courts) is on a year-level roster basis.

Lunches

We encourage your child to eat the food you have provided for them, so please try to pack nutritious foods they enjoy.

Students may not share food. A number of our students have serious food allergies which can cause an anaphylactic reaction. We have a nut minimisation policy; therefore, we ask that when packing

lunches, families be mindful to support these students by omitting items such as nuts or nut products. Students can access water bubblers during the breaks and are permitted to bring water bottles into class.

Valuables at School

We discourage students from bringing valuables (including toys, jewellery, smart watches, mobile phones) to school. We cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage. We ask for your support in this matter.

Mobile phones

In accordance with Departmental policy, all state school students must keep their mobile phones switched off and 'away for the day' during school hours.

- Notifications on wearable devices, such as smartwatches, must be switched off so that phone calls, messages and other notifications cannot be sent or received during school hours.
- Where students choose to bring a mobile device to school, they must use a lockable pouch to secure the device during the day in their school bag. Lockable pouches can be purchased through the [Uniform Shop](#).
- Once school is finished, lockable pouches may be unsealed for students to use once off school grounds.
- All messages for students need to be directed through student services.

If your child does bring a mobile phone to school, it is their responsibility. Mobile phones can be stored at administration for safe keeping during school hours.

Lost Property

Please clearly mark all articles of clothing and equipment with your child's full name and current class. We encourage students to be responsible for their own belongings. We store lost property outside the Administration office. You may inspect these boxes at any time to recover lost items. If items are clearly marked, they can easily be returned to your child. Unclaimed/Unnamed items are donated through the year to the uniform shop and/or to a suitable charity.

Booklists

Booklists for the next school year are made available towards the end of Term 4 – emailed home to parents/carers or available on the school website. Instructions on how to order and our preferred supplier can be accessed on the [school's website](#).

Student Leadership

Students are important members of our school community. One way students contribute to the school is through the student council. Class representatives from year 3-6 can apply each year to become student councillors. Student council meetings are held weekly during school hours.

Some of the roles of our student council are to:

- Promote democracy
- Develop confidence and leadership skills
- Enhance communication between students, staff and school management
- Participate in the school's decision-making process
- Fundraise to finance student-initiated programs and facilities

Year 5 students have the opportunity to apply for student leadership positions at the end of Year 5. Year 6 student leadership positions include School Captains and GROW Captains.

- Set a good example (during and after school hours) by being positive role models
- Are responsible, helpful and look after other students
- Apply themselves to their school work
- Are able to speak in public and represent the school
- Are respectful, courteous and organised
- Wear the school uniform and take pride in their appearance
- Obey the school rules

Visitor/Volunteer procedures

All visitors must report to Student Services or the Administration Office to sign in and sign out. Visitors to Gumdale State School including parents, carers, adult volunteers, and visiting specialists must comply with health and safety guidelines. This includes not attending the campus if unwell and practicing good health and hygiene. Additionally, visitors are required to follow staff directions in the case of an emergency (e.g., lock down or evacuation). Visitors must act respectfully and safely at all times.

Once the visitor sign in process has been completed visitors are issued with a wearable identification sticker. Staff will approach any visitors to the school who are not wearing this sticker to ensure that the person is authorised to be on campus.

If a volunteer is not a parent of a child in our school, they must hold a blue card prior to commencing. This should be shown to the administration staff during sign in. Grandparents and step parents are required to hold a blue card before working with students.

Media Consent

Media consent is collected at the time of enrolment. If you do not wish your child's name or photo to appear on our social media platforms, in newsletters, on the school website, or for school events that may attract media attention, please ensure you notify us.

Smoking

There is a non-smoking policy in Queensland Government buildings, offices and motor vehicles. There is a total ban on smoking at Gumdale State School.

Domestic Pets on School Grounds

Domestic pets are not permitted on school grounds, with the exception of assistance dogs.

School Photos

Class, individual, sibling and school group photos are taken annually. We ask for your cooperation that all students present in their **formal checked uniform** for these photos with black school shoes and white socks. We will advise you of the dates for school photos.

Outside School Hours Care (GOSHC)

[Gumdale OSHC](#) service is located at the Gumdale School and provides before, after and vacation care for students attending our school. Children are cared for according to Education and Care Services National Regulations and the National Quality Framework (NQF) 'My Time, Our Place' educational principles.

Hours of Care: before school 6:00am – 8:45am, after school 2:45pm – 6:00pm, Vacation Care 6:00am – 6:00pm. For further information, email goshc@gumdalesspc.org.au or phone 3890 2539.

Community Use of School Facilities

After hours use of our school grounds or facilities requires prior approval from the office. Phone 3902 8333 or email admin@gumdaless.eq.edu.au to make enquiries. The Tennis Courts on the Paul Green Oval can be hired by the hour. Visit the [website](#) for more information.

CURRICULUM

The Australian Curriculum

The Australian Curriculum sets out the core knowledge, understanding, skills and general capabilities that are important for all Australian students. It describes the learning entitlement of students as a foundation for their future learning, growth and active participation in the Australian community. It

makes clear what all young Australians should learn as they progress through schooling. It is the foundation for high quality teaching to meet the needs of all Australian students.

Our Curriculum covers the following Learning Areas:

English, Mathematics, Science, HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences), The Arts, Technology, Health and Physical Education and French.

Curriculum at Gumdale SS is informed by the Department of Education's K–12 Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Framework which specifies the requirements for Queensland state schools for delivering the curriculum for Prep to Year 12. It is based on the assumption that every student can learn and that responding to the particular learning needs of students is central to teaching.

Assessment

The Australian Curriculum outlines the depth of understanding and sophistication of skill that students are expected to have at each point in their schooling.

Our school year is divided into two semesters with two terms in each semester. We provide you with feedback on your child's progress at the end of each semester via a report card. At the end of terms one and three, your child's teacher will offer you an interview. You are also encouraged to keep in regular contact with your child's teacher throughout the year to monitor your child's progress.

NAPLAN: Students in Years 3 and 5 sit the NAPLAN tests in Term 1. We send an individual NAPLAN report home with students, usually late in Term 3. Teachers ensure students are familiar with NAPLAN style assessment and it is not necessary for students to undertake additional preparation outside of school. You can support us by ensuring your child is at school on time, has eaten breakfast and is well rested in preparation for tests. Further information is at www.nap.edu.au.

Homework

We developed our homework policy in consultation with the school community. It incorporates the departmental recommendations for the amount of time a student will spend on homework:

Prep	Homework for Prep students will be progressive in nature and each student will progress at their own pace, beginning with sounds, then decodable word reading, leading into reading decodable texts on Decodable Readers Australia (online library).
Years 1-3	Up to but generally not more than 1 hour per week
Years 4-5	Up to but generally not more than 2-3 hours per week
Year 6	Up to but generally not more than 3-4 hours per week

If your child is experiencing ongoing difficulties with their homework, please speak with their classroom teacher. A copy of the [Homework Policy](#) is available on our school website.

Prep Experience

In Prep, students cover the full range of academic learning areas as outlined in the Australian Curriculum. In line with the curriculum, we will 'provide' some learning areas and allow students to 'experience' others. When we 'provide' a learning area, such as English, Maths and Health and Physical Education, students are taught, assessed and reported on for this learning area.

When students 'experience' a learning area, such as The Arts, Technologies and Science, students are taught the content and their understanding is monitored. These learning areas are not formally

assessed. Experiencing the learning areas ensures continuity of learning in an age-appropriate way and that the necessary learning for success in Year 1 is undertaken.

Technologies

Students in Prep to Year 6 participate in Technologies for one semester each year. Technologies encompasses Digital Technologies and Design Technologies.

The Arts

Students have the unique opportunity to engage with the full range of The Arts. Students from Prep – Year 6 will participate in “Arts”, encompassing Music, Drama, Dance and Media Arts across the year. Students in Year 1-6 will also participate in Visual Arts lessons.

Choirs

Gumdale State School has a proud choral tradition, showcasing student talent across all year levels. We currently have a Junior and Senior Choir. The choirs have opportunities throughout the year to perform at official school functions and community events.

Instrumental Music

Enrolling in Gumdale’s three-year Instrumental Music Program gives students the opportunity to join the Beginner Band in Year 4 and then follow on with the Intermediate and Senior Bands. It includes access to small group lessons on a weekly basis with Specialist Instrumental Music Teachers.

Throughout the year the Bands perform at school functions including lunchtime concerts, as well as combining with other schools in the district to participate in workshops and music camps. The [Instrumental Music Program Handbook](#) is a wealth of information about the program.

The Instrumental Music Program and Choir are subject to the [Student Resource Scheme](#). More information is available on our school website.

French

Our Year 5 and 6 students learn French as part of our Languages Program. They participate in one hour of whole-class instruction each week from our specialist teacher, for one semester each year.

Sport

Our Health and Physical Education teachers provide all students in Prep to Year 6 with a minimum of a 60-minute class each week. Prep students participate in a Perceptual Motor Program on top of their allocated HPE time.

Sports Days

Students participate in either our Junior (Prep to Year 2) or Senior (Year 3 to Year 6) inter-house Athletics and Cross Country carnivals. Students represent one of our sporting houses, which they are allocated to on enrolment: Yarun (formerly Bribie), K’gari (formerly Fraser), Mulgumpin (formerly Moreton) and Minjerribah (formerly Stradbroke). Students who are 10 years or older are eligible to attend the Bayside District and Metropolitan East carnivals. Students who qualify for these carnivals will be notified and invited to represent Gumdale SS at these events.

Swimming

All students from Prep to Year 4 are offered the opportunity to attend swimming lessons. Students participate in eight swimming lessons over one term. Swimming lessons are provided by qualified instructors at Sleeman Sports Complex, Chandler. Students also participate in an annual Swimming Carnival. The Junior Carnival (Prep to Year 2) is held in Term 4 and the Senior Carnival (Year 3 to Year 6) in Term 1. Swim Squad is termly and focuses on drills and endurance training. It runs twice per week before school for Years 3-6.

Lifesaving

Students in Years 5-6 participate in Lifesaving Programs at Plantation Aquatic Centre run by Royal Lifesaving Queensland. Year 5 will complete the Wet and Wise program, while Year 6 will complete the Bronze Rescue Program.

Interschool Sport

Students in Years 5-6 participate in Interschool Sports. There are a variety of sports offered including: netball, soccer, volleyball and touch football. Interschool sport allows students the opportunity to compete against other local schools.

Sailing

We have developed a partnership with Royal Queensland Yacht Squadron (RQYS). Throughout the year, students in Years 2-6 will be offered the opportunity to participate in sailing and watersports programs at RQYS. Students attain Australian Sailing Tackers certificates throughout their time at GSS. Those excelling in sailing also have the opportunity to join the GSS Elite Sailing team. This team will compete in a Regatta throughout the year.

Queensland All Schools Sport

In 2025, Gumdale State School will once again participate in Queensland All Schools events in touch football and netball.

Aerobics

The Gumdale State School Competition Sport Aerobics program is open to all students in Years 2-6. The Aerobics Program is run by external provider **Industrie 1** and runs from Term 1 to Term 3, with teams participating in FISAF Australia Competitions throughout QLD. Competition teams are formed through an audition process, with all students who audition being placed into a team. Information is sent home at the start of Term 1 along with in-depth descriptors about the competition program and their associated costs. An introductory Year 1 recreational Aerobics program runs in Term 4 before students are invited to join the competitive teams from Year 2. For further information, please email gumdaleaerobics@industrie1.com.au.

Respectful Relationships Education

Our school embeds the Respectful Relationships Education program into our student wellbeing framework, GROW Well. Respectful Relationships Education aims to teach students how to develop behaviours and attitudes that promote healthy, safe and respectful relationships. Our school bases its work on the Queensland Department of Education's Respect program, which is aligned with the Australian Curriculum. Across the school, our teachers provide age-appropriate content to support students to develop the skills and knowledge they need to build and maintain healthy, positive relationships.

For more information, please access the [Respectful Relationships Education Hub](#).

Excursions and Incursions

School excursions and incursions enhance students' learning by providing opportunities for students to participate in curriculum-related activities outside the normal school routine. Timely information will be provided to parents and carers on the planned excursion details including consent and costs.

Signature Programs

In 2025, students in Years 4-6 will participate in a wide range of Signature Programs facilitated by Gumdale staff and outside agencies. This semester long program will allow students to develop skills in an area they wish to explore.

Programs on offer include: Dance, The Arts, Diving, Elite Sailing, Equestrian, Mountain Biking, Karate, Netball, Robotics/Coding/Drones and Touch Football. Application forms are sent home in Semester 1 along with in-depth descriptions and their associated costs.

Equestrian

Gumdale State School has developed a relationship with local Equestrian facility Kurshonbrooke Lodge. KSB provides an Equine Assisted Learning and a 'Ready Set Trot' program for students to participate in.

The Equine Assisted Learning – Exploring Friendships Program is a unique and innovative form of experiential learning where students grow and develop new educational, social and emotional knowledge and skills via relational experiences with horses. Horses value and respond to authentic interactions and this program is designed to empower and educate students through these unbiased connections and relationships. Students have the chance to develop deeper knowledge and skills of:

- Patience, confidence, persistence;
- How to manage conflict resolution;
- How to be a great communicator; and
- How to work together as a team.

As part of our Year 4-6 Signature Program, students are able to select Equestrian as their elective. These students participate in the "Ready Set Trot" program. Students have the opportunity to work with several different horses during the program with interactions integral to each lesson. There are 4 components to the program: General Knowledge, Horse Welfare, Riding Skills and Practical Skills. Students receive personal feedback and guidance each week and earn a certificate of completion from Equestrian Australia.

Religious Instruction

Religious instruction is offered to students in Queensland state schools. Students in Years 1-6 can participate in a non-denominational Christian program, with one 30-minute lesson per week. We provide a religious instruction permission form at the time of enrolment; this form remains valid while your child is enrolled at our school. You may exclude your child from religious instruction by indicating on the permission form, or by advising us in writing.

Religious Instruction is presented by volunteers from a local church group. A minimal charge will be incurred for the purchase of the RI workbook for your child to complete during the Religious Instruction.

A copy of the religious instruction policy statement is available on our [school website](#).

Resource Centre

Our well-equipped resource centre (library) provides a wide range of resources including picture books, novels, up-to-date non-fiction resources, a computer lab and material to support the curriculum.

Prep to Year 4 classes visit the library each week and students in Year 5 - 6 may borrow at lunch breaks. Students in Prep to Year 2 can borrow one book for one week, while students in Years 3-6 may borrow two books at a time. Students in Prep to Year 2 must use a library bag to transport their book to and from school. Students can visit the library during first or second breaks to read, borrow books, or enjoy the games that are available.

If your child requires more time to finish reading their book, they can bring it back to the library and renew it. We will issue overdue notices to students who do not return their library books; they will lose borrowing privileges until they return all their books. If a book is lost, torn or damaged we request a contribution of \$15 towards replacement costs.

READING AT GUMDALE

At Gumdale State School, we use a Systematic Synthetic Phonics approach to the teaching of reading and spelling. We call this 'READ Well'.

Systematic Synthetic Phonics

Systematic Synthetic Phonics (SSP) is built on the alphabetic principle. It is a structured, cumulative, multi-sensory and evidence-based method of teaching reading whereby students are taught the link between letters and the speech sounds they represent. Our students learn sounds (phonemes) are represented by letters (graphemes). We teach children that phonemes can be blended or 'synthesised' to form words. Systematic Synthetic Phonics is a bottom-up approach in that instruction starts not with whole words but with the most basic sound unit, the phoneme. The reading process involves decoding or 'breaking' words into separate sounds that are blended together to read an unknown word.

Dandelion Decodable Readers

Our Prep, Year 1 and Year 2 teachers use the Dandelion Series of Decodable Readers and Decodable Readers Australia books in class reading time. Our program is supported by evidence-based research and includes phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary knowledge, fluency and comprehension. Decodable Dandelion Readers ensures our scope and sequence of initial and extended code are taught systematically.

Decodable Readers Australia Online Library

Gumdale State School has a paid subscription to Decodable Readers Australia. This platform provides an array of reading material for children to practise their developing reading skills at home. Watch this [wonderful video](#) that shows you exactly how to support your child when reading at home. Students across the school, but especially Prep to Year 2, are encouraged to use these resources daily.

Alphabet Picture Mnemonic

Initial alphabetic sounds and the formation of letters are taught through the use of the picture mnemonic. Research has shown embedded picture mnemonics help children learn the relationships between speech sounds and letters.



Tricky Words

Some high frequency words have irregular spelling patterns and cannot be decoded. Tricky words are taught by explicitly teaching children the 'trick'. Eventually, children will learn the 'code' for many of these high frequency words but until then, they are called 'tricky words'. Once we called these words 'sight words' but we now know that when children orthographically map words using sounds, every word eventually becomes a sight word. Tricky words are taught systematically and flexibly.

Language

Children learn to read by applying their knowledge of language as well as their knowledge of letters and sounds to reading a text. The teaching of language is therefore just as important as the teaching of sound-letter correspondences! At school, children are immersed in language through experiences, books, discussion, song and through the explicit instruction around new vocabulary.

The home context is vital for language learning. Language learning begins when children are born. We can promote language learning at home through:

1. Talking to our children. You could try expanding on what your child says.
2. Using language in 'play' with your child.
3. Singing songs every day.
4. Reading stories every day.
5. Introducing new words to your child.
6. Linking words with similar meaning for conceptual longevity.

Please see the [First Five Forever website](#) for more ideas around promoting language learning at home.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Catering to all Learners

At Gumdale State School, our whole-school approach to supporting student learning recognises diversity and promotes a shared commitment to quality teaching and ongoing student improvement. We believe that every student has the ability to learn and should be able to demonstrate progress in their learning.

Our whole-school approach ensures a cohesive response to diverse learning needs and consistent practice which sets high expectations, monitors student progress and supports student learning with quality teaching.

We deliver education that is inclusive of all students through:

- learning and disability support;
- supporting students with specialised health needs;
- recognising and valuing diversity in culture, language, religion and gender;
- recognising the needs of students who are refugees or in out-of-home care; and
- student health and wellbeing initiatives.

Who to speak to about your child's needs

At Gumdale State School, our teachers and support team have a clear understanding of what support your child may need in their education. They make reasonable adjustments to provide the best learning experience for your child. As a general rule, your child's **classroom teacher** is the **first point of contact** for any matters you wish to highlight, concerning your child.

Members of the Student Support Team

Head of Student Support (HoSS)

The Head of Student Support (HOSS) manages staff working in Student Support to deliver quality targeted teaching and learning practices that support Students with Disability. The HoSS supports staff to understand legislation and policies that respond to students' social-emotional, health, developmental and academic needs. The HoSS liaises with the school administrative team, classroom teachers, support staff, students and parents, as appropriate. The HoSS liaises frequently with teachers and aides, advising on strategies for targeted teaching and adjustments.

Guidance Counsellor

Access to the Guidance Counsellor is through the Gumdale Student Support referral process, usually on a case-by-case basis. The Guidance Counsellor can be involved in issues around learning, behaving and getting on with others, responding collaboratively to the developmental and wellbeing needs of

students, teachers and parents to provide consultation, counselling, assessment and facilitation of referrals to other allied health professionals.

Social Worker

The Social Worker operates in an advisory and advocacy capacity, providing services specific to the social work discipline. They may:

- respond to the needs of students and school community to provide personal and family counselling, therapy and group work, facilitation of referrals to other allied health professionals, and service and care coordination for the purpose of assisting student's wellbeing and mental health;
- undertake individual and group counselling with students, parents and families to assist them in resolving personal or relationship concerns;
- develop and implement strategies to provide information, support and encourage awareness of, and participation by, parents/carers and the community in school activities and programs;
- act as the contact for parents/carers and the community to determine relevant issues for improved relationships between the school and community;
- participate as a member of a multi-disciplinary team within an educational setting, providing support to school, community and inter agency networks relevant to their role

Advisory Visiting Teachers (AVTs)

A number of Advisory Visiting Teachers (AVTs) support students and their teachers in the areas of Hearing Impairment (HI), Physical Impairment (PI) and Vision Impairment (VI), as required.

Occupational Therapist (OT) and Physiotherapist (PT)

The school has access to a visiting Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapist. OTs and PTs perform a consultative role and their visits are mainly to provide general information or strategies to staff, assess/observe students and provide feedback about school supports and adjustments. They may also provide individual reports for some students with specific needs, making recommendations for school and/or home, if applicable.

Support Teachers (STs)

Support Teachers work with class teachers and identified students across Prep – Year 6. Each semester, Support Teachers collaborate with Class Teachers to adapt and modify the curriculum and assist with its implementation in class. Support Teachers may assist Class Teachers to case-manage Students with Disability (SWD), to ensure that the support provided is matched to their needs. They work with Classroom Teachers, parents and carers, specialist staff, outside agencies, Teacher Aides and other stakeholders, as required.

Support Teacher Aides

A team of Teacher Aides work solely with Students with Disability support provisions and adjustments. These Teacher Aides predominantly support students in their classrooms, while also helping with transitions, toileting, eating and play times, where required. Support Teacher Aides regularly check in with Support Teachers and the HoSS regarding progress of their designated students.

Speech Language Pathologist

The Speech-Language Pathologist supports the school on a part-time basis. They consult with staff and work with identified students. The pathologist may provide speech-language therapy to students with needs in communication who are experiencing barriers to learning and require assistance to develop competencies in the areas of interpersonal communication, learning and literacy. These services are delivered as part of the educational program and are directed towards educational outcomes. Teachers initiate the request of a child to speech-language therapy through the Referral to Student Support process.

Student Code of Conduct

We are committed to providing a safe, respectful and orderly learning environment for all students, staff and visitors to ensure learning and teaching are prioritised and all students are able to experience success and staff enjoy a safe workplace.

We have designed our student code of conduct to facilitate high standards of behaviour so that the learning and teaching in our school can be effective, and students can participate positively within our school community. The plan outlines our system for encouraging positive behaviours, preventing problem behaviour and responding to unacceptable behaviours.

Our expectations focus on being safe, being respectful, and being responsible. We promote our GROW values:

- **G**reat Learners
- **R**espectful
- **O**rganised
- **W**orking together safely.

Our [Student Code of Conduct](#) can be viewed or downloaded from our school website.

Reinforcing Expected School Behaviour

We use positive rewards to provide students with feedback when they engage in expected school behaviour:

- All staff members value and use positive rewards in their classroom
- We send home merit awards in a postcard format
- Students who work well in the classroom are recognised for their effort and/or achievement by our leadership team.

Responding to Unacceptable Behaviour

We make systematic efforts to prevent problem student behaviour by teaching and reinforcing expected behaviours. When unacceptable behaviour occurs, students experience predictable consequences that are consistent with and proportionate to the behaviour. Students are supported to reflect on their actions.

Bullying

Research indicates that both those being bullied and those who bully are at risk of behavioural, emotional and academic problems. These outcomes contradict our school community's goals and efforts to support all students.

Bullying behaviour is unacceptable in our school community and we actively respond appropriately.

Cybersafety

We demonstrate and discuss [cybersafety](#) with our students. They learn how to safely conduct themselves when using electronic devices. We explicitly teach students about online bullying and harassment, staying safe online and being respectful of others.

Students are made aware of how to report and/or react to bullying and harassment. We also teach students to immediately report any cyberbullying they see as a bystander. We investigate and respond to incidents.

Resources are available on our [school website](#).

GROW WELL

The [GROW Well Program](#) supports our GROW values and is centred around the wellbeing of staff and students. It is based on research from the field of Positive Psychology.

GROW Well understands and recognises that learning and wellbeing are connected. The GROW Well Positive Education mindset, explicit strength-based curriculum and approach to social and emotional learning ensures our students GROW Well as they;

- realise their potential;
- cope with challenges;
- embrace opportunities;
- and contribute to their community

Students are supported to reach their full potential in all aspects of their development.

- Each class will have explicit GROW Well lessons taught throughout the term.
- Lessons are designed specifically for Gumdale State School, drawing from a variety of evidence-based programs and tailored to meet the needs of our students.
- Each term, we will explicitly teach specific character strengths that align with our existing GROW framework.

Character Strengths

GROW Well embeds character strengths that underpin each value and support the wellbeing and social emotional learning of our students.

Great Learners – Curiosity, Perseverance, Bravery, Self-Regulation

Respectful – Kindness, Honesty, Love/Empathy, Gratitude

Organised – Hope/Optimism, Love of Learning, Leadership

Working Together Safely – Fairness, Teamwork, Social Intelligence, Forgiveness

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AT GUMDALE

What is the Community Support Program?

The Community Support Program began in 2016 to enhance our community awareness and support for families within our school community when they are suffering a trauma or financial hardship. During this time, immediate family and friends will rally to help, but as a school we think it is important to support families to ease the burden.

What does the Community Support Program do?

The aim of the Community Support Program is to develop a sense of service, empathy and compassion towards others within our school community.

The Community Support Program assists families in the following ways:

- Grocery hamper
- Care packages for students with long-term health concerns or serious illness
- Lunch meals for students
- Assistance with the cost of uniforms, school supplies and excursions
- Outside School Hours Care



- Staff members to check-in on students and provide extra emotional support at school
- Referral to outside agencies where relevant

How can I access support for my family or what if I know of another family requiring support?

We all face hardships throughout our lives. If your family, or another within our school community is experiencing a trauma, please contact the Deputy Principal on deputy.principal@gumdaless.eq.edu.au or 3902 8333. All information will be treated with the strictest confidentiality.

How can I help?

The Community Support Program is generously funded by our schools P&C and donations by families in our school community. If you are interested in making a donation, please contact the Deputy Principal.

From time to time, we will need to call out for non-perishable household goods or items that could go into a hamper for a child (pyjamas, water bottles, picture/chapter books, board games, colouring in books and pencils). When this occurs, if you would like to donate any items, there will be a collection box in Student Services labelled 'Community Support Program Donations'.

HEALTH & SAFETY

We are committed to supporting your child's health and wellbeing. Please provide the school with any relevant health information that we require to support your child at school. Initial health information is collected on enrolment. This information must be updated should your child be diagnosed with a new condition or there is a change in the diagnosis or treatment plan.

In particular, please provide information about medically diagnosed conditions such as allergies (intolerance or risk of anaphylaxis), asthma, diabetes, epilepsy and other health conditions that may require us to support your child by administering medication and performing health procedures. Additionally, please discuss with us any health needs that may impact on your child's participation in school activities such as sports and excursions (including camps).

The information you provide should be in writing and include any specific health plans (completed and signed by a medical practitioner). Please contact the school to discuss any specific requirements. This includes preparation of an action plan for anaphylaxis or asthma. We will keep this plan, including a photograph of your child, in the first aid room for quick reference.

It is essential that we hold up-to-date contact details for you and your nominated emergency contacts. We keep all information confidential and only disclose it to the relevant staff required to support your child.

Accidents and Illnesses

If your child is sick or injured, one of our staff who is trained in first aid will administer care. If they have a sudden illness or suspected serious injury, we will try to contact you or your nominated emergency contacts. If we can't contact you, first aid will be administered to your child. If necessary, we will call an ambulance. Students who are showing signs of illness must be kept home.

Accident Insurance

Some school activities and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the department does not have Student Accident Insurance cover for students.

If your child is injured at school as a result of an accident or incident, all costs associated with the injury, including medical costs, are the responsibility of the child, parent or caregiver. Further advice is available on the departmental resource on [accident insurance cover for students](#).

Medication

To administer any medication to your child at school (including camps and excursions), we require medical authorisation from a prescribing health practitioner. This includes over-the-counter medications such as paracetamol or complementary/alternative medicines and should be in the original container with the pharmacy label detailing name of the person authorised to take that medication, dosage, time to be taken and the medical practitioner's name.

A form from the office is also required to be filled in with the handing over of medication.

There are two ways you can notify the school if your child requires medication:

1. If your child requires short-term prescribed medication, e.g., a single course of antibiotics, we need you to complete the 'Request to administer medication at school' form. The medication requires a chemist label stating the child's name and dose.
2. If your child requires long-term prescribed medication or *over the counter medication including analgesics*, or if the student has a chronic (long term) medical condition and requires routine or emergency medications, you must provide a 'Request to administer medication at school' form, completed and signed by you, and written advice from a medical practitioner.

For Asthma and Anaphylaxis, an Action Plan must be completed and signed by a GP.

Please:

- Obtain written advice from the prescribing health practitioner if the dose is to be varied in response to specific criteria, ensure the chemist label is updated and complete a new 'Request to administer medication' form.
- Advise us in writing and collect medication when it is no longer required at school.

It is essential that you give us any medications in the original labelled container, with the label being current, relevant to the child to whom the medication is being given, and with the same instructions as in the parent and medical practitioner letter.

Self-Administration of Medication

We may allow your child to self-administer medication or perform a health procedure if you think they are capable and we approve it. You should discuss any requests for your child to self-manage medication with the classroom teacher and administration.

Self-administration of medication or health procedure may include but is not limited to:

- Using adrenaline auto-injector (e.g., EpiPen® or Anapen®)
- Monitoring blood glucose levels and the injection of insulin for diabetes
- Inhaling reliever medication such as Ventolin® for asthma
- Orally administering anti-convulsing medication for epilepsy
- Orally administering enzyme replacements for cystic fibrosis
- Cleaning intermittent self-catheterisation

Infectious Diseases

We aim to make our school environment as healthy and as safe as possible.

If your child suffers from an infectious condition or appears unwell, they must not attend school. You should follow the advice of your doctor or the Qld Health guidelines on the poster available at: www.health.qld.gov.au/ph/documents/cdb/timeout_poster.pdf.

Full details of common infectious diseases are available on the Qld Health website www.healthinsite.gov.au/topics/Infectious_Diseases.

Personal hygiene practices such as hand washing are actively promoted at school.

Head Lice

This is a recurring problem at school. Lice are easily spread. Please examine your child's hair thoroughly and regularly.

If you detect head lice, notify the school and we will send a head lice notification home with students in the class. We maintain privacy and will not identify students.

Qld Health provides information on head lice including transmission, detection, treatment and prevention: <http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/165/351/Head-Lice>

Oral Health Services

Oral Health Services can provide oral health/dental services to children. Please call 1300 300 850 for details.

Sun Safety

Ultraviolet radiation levels are highest during the hours children are at school. As children spend a portion of their day outdoors, we have a [Sun Safety Policy](#) that applies to all school and school-related activities and events.

NO HATS, NO PLAY (Caps not permitted)

We will:

- Remind students to wear hats and play in shaded areas
- Involve students in learning activities that develop knowledge, attitudes and skills relevant to personal skin protection
- Use shaded areas for outdoor activities where possible (including erecting portable shades for sports days and carnivals etc.); students eat lunch in full shade
- Encourage students to wear hats as they leave the classroom for outdoor activities — no hat, play in the shade
- Ensure students wear appropriate 'wet shirts' for swimming lessons
- Ensure sunscreen is available to students during outdoor sporting events

Our staff will act as positive role models for children in all aspects of Sun Smart behaviour. Please ensure that your child has their wide-brimmed school hat and encourage them to apply sunscreen before school and during the school day.

Lockdown Procedures and Evacuation Drills

For the safety of our staff and students, we hold regular practices for lockdown procedures and evacuation drills. We do this to ensure that both students and staff can act in a safe and calm manner should there be a hazard such as a threatening situation in the school grounds or a fire in one of the buildings. We use different alarm sounds to alert staff and students to the appropriate action to be taken, depending on the particular circumstances. All visitors and volunteers on site must follow evacuation procedures and instructions.

Bicycles and Scooters

Students are to dismount their bicycles and scooters before entering the school grounds. Bikes and scooters are to be parked in the bike shelter located near the New Cleveland Road entrance during school hours.

EXCURSIONS AND PAYMENTS

Excursion Consent Forms

Students have the opportunity to participate in excursions and incursions (on site) throughout the year. All excursions and incursions require that a completed excursion consent is received by the due date, and payment is made in full (if applicable).

Excursion consent is sought through [QParents](#). Parents will receive a notification in the QParents app that a new consent form is waiting to be completed for their child. Parents who are not registered with QParents will receive a hard copy of the consent form, either via the teacher's pigeonhole or by email. If relevant, please return completed paper forms to the classroom teacher (or other staff member if specified in the note) rather than the office. This enables teachers to keep necessary records. As noted in the payments section, please do not send cash when returning notes.

Payments

For activities that require payment, parents/carers will be emailed an invoice after consent has been given. School payments are to be made via the BPOINT link noted at the bottom of the invoice, via the QParents App, by direct transfer or at Student Services during opening hours. Please note that EFTPOS and credit card facilities are available. NO cash payments or payments over the phone are accepted. Further information can be found in the [payments](#) section on our website.

Refund Policy

If a parent wishes to apply for a refund due to their child's non-participation in an extra-curricular activity, they may do so by completing a [Request for Refund form](#) available from Student Services and support their application with a medical certificate. Where a refund is \$20 or less, a credit will be placed on the student's account, and used to offset any future charges. A copy of the Refund Policy is available on the [school website](#).

Student Resource Scheme

The [Student Resource Scheme](#) (SRS) is a user-charging scheme operated by schools to provide parents with a mechanism to access individual student resources that are not funded by the government. Schools develop the SRS based on resources needed by students and the programs offered at the school. The fees and inclusions are endorsed annually by the P&C and parents must be provided with annual information regarding the SRS fees and inclusions. Parental participation in the SRS is optional. When a parent chooses not to participate, the parent is responsible for providing the resources.

The [SRS Participation Agreement Form](#) (PAF) will need to be completed on enrolment and will remain continuous for the life of enrolment. A parent can choose to opt out of the scheme at any point but will need to complete the SRS form, selecting 'No' to participation.

There are three SRS programs run at Gumdale State School:

- [Digital Subscriptions](#)
- [iPad Hire Scheme](#)
- [Instrumental Music Program/Choir](#)

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

At Gumdale State School, the student dress code consists of a school uniform that students are expected to wear when attending or representing our school, travelling publicly to and from school and engaging in school activities out of school hours. A copy of the [Student Uniform Policy](#) is available on the school website.

The Gumdale State School P&C has endorsed the student dress code for our school under the Education General Provisions Act 2006. In particular, the P&C supports the intention of a student dress code in providing a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment by:

- Ready identification of students and non-students at school;
- Eliminating distraction of competition in dress and fashion at school;
- Fostering a sense of belonging; and
- Developing mutual respect among students through minimizing visible evidence of economic or social differences.

There are two components to the school uniform, a Formal Uniform and an Everyday School Uniform.

Formal Uniform

The Formal Uniform is to be worn on Formal Uniform days. This includes on Monday of each week and other special days determined by the Principal (e.g., Anzac Day, school performances, school photos). The Formal Uniforms can also be worn on any other day of the week. Formal uniform options are:

- Royal blue checked dress or
- Blue checked shirt and royal blue unisex microfibre shorts with GSS logo or
- Blue checked shirt and royal blue skorts with GSS logo.

All options are to be worn with the school hat, white socks and black shoes with black soles (no other colour) in lace up or Velcro.

Everyday School Uniform

The Everyday School Uniform can be worn on all other days of the week, including for Interschool Sports. Everyday uniform options are:

- GSS polo shirt and royal blue unisex microfibre shorts with GSS logo or
- GSS polo shirt and royal blue skorts with GSS logo

All options are to be worn with the school hat, white socks and black shoes with black soles (no other colour) in lace up or Velcro.

Shoes

Suitable enclosed footwear in black-only with white socks. See photo for appropriate shoe styles.

Uniform for Year 6 Students

Year 6 students may purchase a Senior Shirt and wear it in lieu of the GSS polo with the royal blue skorts/shorts with GSS logo.

Winter Uniform

In addition to the formal and everyday school uniforms, the following options can be worn as required:

1. Royal blue fleece jacket with GSS logo or
2. Royal blue microfibre jacket and microfibre pants with GSS logo
3. Navy stockings can be worn with the Gumdale State School checked dress.



School Hat

In accordance with the [Sun Safe Policy](#), students wear a Gumdale State School reversible wide-brimmed bucket hat. Students are expected to wear the hat for all outdoor activities.

- Prep Students wear a RED reversible hat with their House Colour.
- Year 1-6 Students wear a BLUE reversible hat with their House Colour.

Eye Wear

Students may wear sunglasses to school in keeping with sun safety.

Hair

Haircuts are to be conservative and of natural colour. Long hair is to be tied up and kept out of the eyes. Acceptable hair accessories are bands, ribbons, scrunchies and clips in either red or royal blue.

Other Items

Acceptable

- Watch
- Medical alert tag
- Small plain ear studs or sleepers in gold/silver
- School badges

Not Acceptable

- Finger nail polish and acrylic nails
- Make-up
- Dyed hair
- Body piercings and tattoos

Religious Considerations

Head coverings are to be of red, white or royal blue. For further information, please make an appointment to discuss your situation with the Principal.

Sports Carnival Days and Cross Country Days

The House Colours are:

- Yarun (*formerly Bribie*) – **PURPLE**
- K'gari (*formerly Fraser*) – **AQUA BLUE**
- Mulgumpin (*formerly Moreton*) – **GREEN**
- Minjerribah (*formerly Stradbroke*) – **MAROON**

Students are expected to wear the Everyday School Uniform with the option of adding a shirt representing their house colour.

Swimming

Students must wear sun-safe rash shirts. Girls must wear a full piece costume. Boys may wear board shorts or speedo type bottoms. Bikinis are not acceptable. The Uniform Shop offers the option of GSS swimwear by special order.

Music Uniform

Students participating in choir and band performances are expected to wear the full formal uniform including black school shoes and white socks

Free Dress Days

Sun safe, covered in clothing must be worn along with closed in shoes. Singlets, short shorts, thongs, slip-on shoes, caps and exposed under wear is NOT acceptable.

Hardship Provisions

Assistance will be given to families who are not able to purchase the required uniforms due to financial hardship. Please see the Principal.

Uniform Shop

All items can be purchased from the Uniform Shop via the [School24 ordering system](#).

Other information, including a price list can be found on the [school website](#).

PLEASE CLEARLY LABEL ALL UNIFORM ITEMS WITH STUDENT NAME AND YEAR LEVEL.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Your participation is vital for a positive, collaborative approach to the education of your child, for providing enhanced opportunities for learning, and improved educational outcomes for all students. We have a wonderful record of parent involvement in many areas and we are grateful for this assistance.

Communication with the school

We value open and respectful communication with parents and carers, to support student learning. The Department of Education provides [guidelines for communicating with your child's school](#) which includes response timelines, appropriate contact channels and processes for raising concerns.

Electronic Communication

School wide and year-level communication to parents/carers is emailed as required. We publish the Gumdale Gazette weekly to inform parents/carers and community members about school activities, developments and initiatives. We distribute a full school newsletter via email twice per term and make it available on the school website. Please email admin@gumdaless.eq.edu.au with any changes to your email address.

If you are unable to receive newsletters electronically, please advise our administration staff and we will arrange a paper copy for you.

Follow us on the [Gumdale State School Facebook page](#) for regular updates, photos from school events and notices about changes to activities.

Parent Information Evening

Our parent information evening is held during the first few weeks of the school year. This is an opportunity for you to meet your child/children's classroom teacher and administration, as well as hear specialist teachers outline their roles. Teachers will communicate classroom routines, curriculum and other classroom matters.

Assembly

Open school assemblies are advertised in the newsletter and the Facebook page.

Reporting to Parents

Your child's teacher prepares a formal, written report for your child at the end of Terms Two and Four. We email this home.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

At the end of Terms One and Three, you are invited to book an individual appointment with your child's classroom teacher to discuss your child's progress.

Personal appointments

You are encouraged to remain in close contact with your child's teacher throughout the year, either via email, phone, or face-to-face discussions. As teachers generally need the time before school for preparation, please contact the office or your child's teacher to make an appointment if you need an extended discussion.

Class Newsletters

Year levels provide information each term on what will be happening in the classroom. These newsletters can be found in the [Parent Teacher Communication](#) section on the school website.

Parent Forums

Throughout the year, we may invite you to attend a forum on a topic of general interest. We will publicise these well in advance.

PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (P&C)

We are fortunate to have a very active [P&C Association](#) in the school. The P&C help us reach our goals by participating in decision making that relates to parents, teachers and school organisation. The P&C provides a variety of services to our school community including [Gumdale Outside School Hours](#) Care (GOSHC), the [Gumtree Eatery Tuckshop](#), the [Uniform Shop](#), fundraising and community events.

Research shows that children whose parents are actively engaged with their education, do better and are happier at school. Being involved with the P&C shows your child that you value their education. It also gives you the opportunity to network with the principal, teachers and other parents so you can discuss issues and share your ideas and experiences.

The P&C meets three times per semester, meetings are held on a Tuesday or Thursday, and they always welcome new members. Meetings are held in the Resource Centre or remotely via Teams. Meeting dates are advertised in advance.

Even if you are not able to attend P&C meetings, you can become a P&C member so you will be informed by email of meeting minutes, learn what is happening in the school and have your say. Your membership with the P&C needs to be renewed yearly by completing a membership application form (available on school website) and submitting this form each year prior to the Annual General Meeting. It is also possible to join later in the year; contact the P&C on pandc@gumdaless.eq.edu.au for more information.

Community Events

The P&C and school work cooperatively to provide a number of community events, including Tea & Tissues morning tea on the first day of school, Arts Celebration, Mother's Day Stall, Father's Day Stall, school discos and community events. You are encouraged to participate in these with your family and the school community.

Fundraising

The P&C Executives alongside the Operations Manager and committed parent volunteers have contributed generously of their time and skills to raise substantial funds to improve the resources and opportunities for our students. You are invited to assist by offering help when requested, and by participating in the events they organise. Recent events include a Mother's and Father's Day Stalls and a very successful school disco.

If you are interested in finding out more information, please contact the P&C on: fundraising@gumdalesspc.org.au

Gumdale Outside School Hours Care (GOSHC)

The P&C Association owns and operates the school's Outside School Hours Care, located in a dedicated building near administration block. [Gumdale OSHC \(GOSHC\)](#) is committed to providing children with quality learning opportunities, delivered in a safe, secure and stimulating environment, while aspiring to deliver the highest standard of care. All their endeavours support the values and mission of Gumdale State School benefiting the educational experience of all students.

Hours of Operation

- Before School Care: 6:00am—8:45am
- After School Care: 2:45pm—6:00pm
- Vacation Care and Pupil Free Days: 6:00am—6:00pm

Enrolment

To enrol your child/ren an enrolment form must be completed which is available on our website [here](#).

- Email: goshc@gumdalesspc.org.au
- Phone: 3890 2539
- Mobile: 0498 016 918

Tuckshop

The P&C operates the [Gumtree Eatery Tuckshop](#) which is located at Hollis Hall. It operates 5 days per week, Monday service first break only and Tuesday to Friday services both breaks. The Tuckshop sells a range of healthy food, drinks, snacks and frozen treats which you can pre-order or purchase at either the first break or second break(s). **Meals must be pre-ordered.**

How to Pre-order

To pre-order all you need to do is register an account with School24 (<http://www.School24.com.au>). Please note that orders placed in this way incur a small service charge. **School24 ordering closes at 8:00am.** A late lunch option is available on School24 between 8:00 – 10:00am if you have missed the cutoff time.

You can find a copy of the latest menu, price list and ordering details on the school website, or visit School24 for the full menu. The current Gumtree Eatery menu meets the Education Queensland's Smart Choices Guidelines.

The Gumtree Eatery operates with the support of volunteer parents and they are always looking for people to help for either an hour or two or the whole day. It's a great way to meet some of the other parents at the school as well. If you are interested in finding out more information, please contact the Tuckshop Convenor.

Email: tuckshop@gumdalesspc.org.au

Facebook: [Gumdale State School P&C](#)

Uniform Shop

The P&C operates a [Uniform Shop](#) located at Hollis Hall.

Uniform Shop Hours

Please refer to school website for latest [opening hours](#). There are two ordering options:

- You can order online via <https://www.school24.net.au/>. Please note that orders placed in this way incur a small service charge. Items ordered are delivered to your child's classroom.
- Visit the Uniform Shop during the advertised the shop is [trading hours](#).

Gumdale State School P&C supports the wearing of a school uniform to help provide a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment. Wearing a uniform helps to:

- readily identify students and non-students at school
- eliminate competition in dress and fashion at school
- foster a sense of belonging
- develop mutual respect among students by minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences.

If you would like to volunteer in the Uniform Shop, please contact the Uniform Shop Convenor via the details below.

Email: uniform@gumdalesspc.org.au

Facebook: [Gumdale State School P&C](#)

MAPS

Map of Gumdale State School

The current school map can be viewed on our website [here](#).

Gumdale State School Catchment Area

View the current catchment area map at: <http://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/maps/edmap/>. Search for *Gumdale State School*

Always our Best

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