

Gympie *Education*

2024

FREE

GympieToday

**MAKING THE
RIGHT CHOICE**

2024 GUIDE TO LOCAL SCHOOLS



Spoilt for choice

BY DONNA JONES

THE shift in workplace dynamics mean more people are able to work remotely, and working families are no longer tethered to the office or the big city.

The ability to choose where you want to live has meant people have been moving north, foregoing the rat race and the cookie cutter suburban life for more space, open skies and the rural lifestyle.

Going along with the slower pace of life is the recognition of the importance of community in raising children.

The tight-knit community established in the Gympie region is one of the major reasons young families are foregoing the metropolitan suburbs and moving to the area.

Housing affordability, teamed with the expansion in infrastructure and amenities, has seen major growth in our region.

This is particularly true for education opportunities.

Education in Gympie ranges from prestigious private colleges, to award winning public schools.

Schools often have different foundations, but all are designed to give your child the best education they can receive.

From kindergarten right up to post graduate education, people who live in Gympie are able to obtain whatever level of tutelage required for their children as they grow through their schooling life.

Gympie also has some specialist education facilities that are offered nowhere else in the state, or even in the country in some cases.

Team that with a more affordable cost of living, larger urban blocks and easy access to all amenities, it's no wonder families are moving into the area in unprecedented numbers.

That's why publications like the 2024 Gympie Education Today are so important.

From public to private, from Tafe to Uni, from Kindy to Playgroup, whatever level of education you are seeking, you will find it here in this booklet.

Then you can make the right decision for you and your family when it comes to education.



Alma Street Pre-Prep
Where children come first



The ultimate in Early Childhood Education in Gympie for over 70 years

HEALTH CARE CARD/CONCESSION CARD REBATE APPLY

CONTACT US FOR ENROLMENTS



12035659-044-23

3 Alma Street, Gympie QLD 4570 • Ph: 5482 1960
Email: gympiecandk@bigpond.com • candk.asn.au/almastreet

25 Years of quality childcare

KIDS Bizz Early Education Centre was established in Gympie's Tucker St by the Waters family more than 25 years ago and continues to provide quality care and educational services to the Gympie community.

Kids Bizz is a purpose-built childcare centre catering for children aged six weeks to school age, including the Kindy For All Queensland kindergarten program.

Kids Bizz Early Education Centre runs the approved program 40 weeks of the year in co-ordination with the school terms, with a developmental program catering for pre-Prep children during the school holidays.

Kids Bizz also caters for primary school-aged children at its Outside School Hours Care service which runs out of the One Mile School hall and provides before and after school care, as well as vacation care throughout the school holidays. Bookings are being taken now for 2024, so call 5482 6222 to secure a spot.



Kids love Kids Bizz - with more than 25 years Early Childhood Care experience.

Focusing on Fun & Education

- Queensland Kindergarten Program
- Caring for ages 0-5 years
- Air conditioned
- Family Owned & Operated
- Open 6.30am to 6.15pm



**Limited vacancies.
Taking bookings now for 2024.
Call today!**

**Kids Bizz Before & After School Care and Vacation Care
Cnr. John & McLeod Sts, Gympie**
Free pick up service available from most schools
Call 0412 502 552 for more information.

KIDS BIZZ Early Education Centre
4 Tucker Street, Gympie | PH: 5482 6222

Email: admin@kidsbizzgympie.com.au | Also in Tin Can Bay | 49 Trevally St, Tin Can Bay Ph: 5486 4850



Kitiwah Place's highly qualified staff are a big part of the Kitiwah difference.

Experience the difference

SITUATED in the idyllic Southside location and entrance to Gunabul homestead and golf course proudly stands Kitiwah Place - an exceptional service with a reputation for excellence – servicing the community for over 18 years.

Kitiwah caters for nursery to pre-prep students, offering quality education, planning and curriculum to ensure your child has the best preparation to begin their formal schooling years 'school ready'.

Their dedicated team are passionate about delivering high quality programs for the children in their care.

Kitiwah Place's highly qualified staff have a combined 423 years' experience and a high number of their educators are diploma qualified and there are 4 qualified Early Education Teachers leading their Pre-Prep Rooms.

This exceptional centre features eight beautifully appointed rooms and five large natural outdoor play spaces including chicken and animal enclosures, vegetable gardens, trampolines and much more.

Kitiwah also boasts a newly constructed, fully- shaded, roadcraft style 'Trike Track' complete with



The impressive Trike Track.

roundabout, zebra crossing and traffic signs.

Both the staff and parents love the Kitiwah Place feel, it's a great place to work and to send your children, as these testimonials prove.

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do," said educator Janis.

"The relationships I have built not only with other staff and families over the past ten years is life changing.

"I am forever grateful. Whoever said 'choose a job that you love and you'll never have to work a day in your life' wasn't joking.

"The Kitiwah Difference has

definitely made a difference to me", she said.

Families love it too, with Katie, Andrew and Emma inspired to write their own testimonial.

"Kitiwah is exceptional, in every sense of the word and in every way possible," the family wrote.

"The moment we walked in the front door we knew.

"Not only were we greeted by staff that were genuinely lovely and welcoming, we were greeted by one of the most precious sounds in the world - kids laughing, playing and having so much fun!

"Yes, they have the most dedicated and passionate educators I have ever met.

"Yes, their facilities are outstanding.

"Yes, their programs are holistic and innovative.

"But they also have something unique that sets them apart from the rest.

"They're family. My daughter is now their family. We're now family. And for us, that's irreplaceable".

Book a tour with Kitiwah's Director Lee-Ann and see 'The Kitiwah Difference' for yourself.



"Part of the Gympie community for over 18 years!"



RATED
EXCEEDING
NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD

Why families love Kitiwah Place



5 LARGE outdoor play spaces for children to explore, including our oval and trike track



Exceptional & friendly early childhood teachers and educators delivering an amazing embedded curriculum



Government-approved Kindergarten program to prepare your children for school



Healthy, nutritious meals included

Don't miss out! Enrol now for 2024



Kitiwah Place

7 Power Rd, Southside QLD
P: (07) 5483 9454
E: info@kitiwah.com.au

Opening Hours

6:30am to 6:30pm
Monday to Friday



/KitiwahPlace/

Each child is unique

At the CCC Early Learning Centre they believe every child is a unique individual, a capable learner, full of curiosity and wonder.

Children are keen to explore, to share and communicate, to take risks and be challenged.

The CCC Early Learning Centre offers a rich, play-based learning education for your child in a modern and engaging setting for children aged from 15 months to Kindergarten.

The Toddler, Pre-Kindy and Kindy curriculum is based on The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia, with the Kindergarten children engaging with the Queensland Government approved Kindergarten Program.

The CCC ELC is located on the campus of Cooloolo Christian College – a Prep to Year 12 school with a reputation for providing excellence in education, in a safe and collaborative learning environment.

This close relationship allows for a seamless transition for children from



Kindy to “big school”.

Strong connections are formed between the College and ELC from Pre-Kindy.

Young learners attend concerts and drama performances, and have the opportunity to explore College facilities such as the Nature Space, oval and library.

Young learners are guided by dedicated and caring educators who provide rich, engaging, inquiry-based programs.

Their accredited Bush Kindy staff

utilise the 4-acre on-campus Nature Space.

Children love their Bush Kindy days when they are free to explore, run and enjoy the outdoors.

Children enjoy specialised Music lessons each week, provided by a qualified Music teacher.

Music is most of all fun, but also helps the development of the whole child.

The CCC Early Learning Centre is an affordable, quality centre that partners with families to provide an excellent learning environment for the littlest of learners. Before School Care, After School Care and Vacation Care options are also available for families.

At the CCC ELC, every child matters.

Come and explore their beautiful facilities and outdoor spaces and meet the caring staff – you won't be disappointed!

Contact them on 5483 9517 or email info@cccearlylearning.com.au.

CCC Early Learning CENTRE

JOIN OUR KINDY PROGRAM

Is your child full of curiosity & wonder? ENQUIRE TODAY!

1 College Rd, Southside ~ info@cccearlylearning.com.au ~ (07) 5483 9517

Small enough to care

KIDS on Calton is a family owned and operated, single room Kindergarten opposite St Patricks Primary school.

It provides an amazing educational program and is open long day care hours and through school holidays to cater for busy families.

Children are taught and cared for by an experienced early childhood teacher and 2 assistants in a room of 24 children.

"We've been doing this for 18 years and know how to best support children and families to transition successfully to school" owner and Teacher Tracy Salter said.

At Kids on Calton they structure their program to make learning exciting and enjoyable and build children's skills, dispositions and confidence for learning

The small centre and high staff ratios ensures plenty of individual attention.



Kids on Calton runs a structured program 7.30am to 5.30pm for children aged 3 to 5 years with eligibility for CCS and the Free Kindergarten Program

that the Queensland Government are introducing in 2024.

Come and talk to them for more information.



Kids on Calton

'Small enough to care'

7.30AM - 5.30PM
3 YEARS - SCHOOL AGE

Queensland Government
Kindergarten
Approved Program

Kindergarten Program for 3-5 yrs

EXPERIENCED

Teacher & staff

28 Bligh Street, Gympie Ph: 5483 6833 admin@kidsoncalton.com.au



173 Old Maryborough Rd, Gympie
07 5482 7223 • www.mykindyatvictory.com.au

12631015-JB44-23

Stimulating program

mykindy at Victory College is a modern long-day-care kindergarten for students from 3 to 5, co-located on the grounds of Victory College in Gympie. It has purpose-built facilities and the same guiding values that Victory College has become known for.

mykindy allows children to be prepared for a successful start to their school journey, to develop a love for learning, to make friends, and develop skills useful for their lives. The mykindy program stimulates young minds to think independently and promote their own learning. It fosters creativity, challenges thought processes, supports cooperative learning and provides parents peace of mind that their children are cared for in a safe and secure environment while they are working, guided by the principles of a quality Christian education.

"The mykindy children love being a part of their Victory College family and take great pride and joy in having access to all of the amazing facilities our beautiful school has to offer" said Catherine Huxley, Director of mykindy.

mykindy is located at 173 Old Maryborough Rd Gympie. More information at www.mykindyatvictory.com.au

Explore through play

C&K is Queensland's pre-eminent early education provider, and children come first in everything they do.

Staff at C&K Gympie South Community Kindergarten, love getting to know your child and nurturing their individual interests, guiding their learning, and extending on play to bring their ideas to life.

C&K have a large, natural outdoor playground, set among the trees, complete with a mud and sandpit where the children can dig, build, climb, play and reflect on their surroundings.

Co-located on the Gympie South State School campus, C&K children enjoy visiting the school library there.

The award winning team at C&K focus on skills that last a lifetime: curiosity, cooperation, investigation and persistence.

They'll help your child to become a capable and confident learner, as they prepare for a successful transition to school.

Since establishing in 1907, C&K has cared for and educated over one million children.

C&K Gympie South Community Kindergarten

- Passionate, qualified educators specialised in early learning
- Large natural outdoor play space
- Well-resourced centre, located on campus at Gympie South State School
- Two long-day groups

Kindy at no cost
offering eligible kindergarten age children the opportunity to attend a C&K Kindergarten at no cost*

C&K Childcare & Kindergarten
Early Learning since 1907

Enrol today
www.candk.asn.au/gympiesouth | 5481 2046

12635025-SM44-23



Importance of early learning

BY GABRIEL LAIDLER-BURNS

THE early years of a child's life is the optimal time to lay the foundations for learning with early learning paving the way for learning at school and throughout life.

The first five years of life can be considered as one of the most critical times for building the foundations for life-long learning, well-being, and health.

What children learn in their first few years of life and how they learn it can have long-lasting effects on their success and health as children, teens, and adults

A high quality childhood learning experience is important for development to ease the transition into primary school as language and cognitive abilities are well developed.

Early childhood education programs are most effective when they are play-based and developmentally appropriate.

By engaging them in quality early education, set your child up for success by allowing them to have a strong sense of identity, connect with and contribute to their world, achieve a strong sense of wellbeing, be confident and involved learners and become effective communicators.

From the ages of three to five, most children want to play with others their age, and can think about the feelings of others at an initial level.

At this age, children learn how to play with others, and might have a 'best friend'.



By spending time with their peers, children learn to include ideas from others in their play and start to understand each other's feelings.



**PREP PICTURES
TO BE PUBLISHED IN
GYMPIE TODAY MARCH 2024**

Gympie*Today*



A sense of community

NESTLED in the education precinct, Gympie West State School is bordered by James Nash State High School and the University of the Sunshine Coast, Gympie.

Gympie West has a proud history of providing a rich range of academic, artistic, physical and environmental pursuits.

The school is very proud of their natural environmental area and the strong sense of community that is felt throughout the school.

Gympie West State School provides opportunities for students to access age-appropriate play equipment, ovals, tennis courts and a fitness trail.

Early years students have designated playgrounds and the early years campus enables the school to tailor the learning environment specifically to meet the needs of younger students.

Dedicated and experienced teaching staff take pride in presenting the Australian curriculum in an integrated, innovative and inspiring way with a view to helping students achieve their personal best - working collaboratively with families to provide the best outcomes for all students.

Gympie West provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment that is conducive to effective learning. As a school community, they believe that students learn and develop best in an atmosphere of care and kindness,



underpinned by reasonable, consistent discipline.

An engaging curriculum, dedicated, highly organised teachers and a supportive school community, creates a positive influence on the development of the children.

Through the school plan, shared expectations for student behaviour are explicit. This ensures all school community members have clear consistent expectations and understandings of their role in the educational process.

ENROLLING PREP TO YEAR 6 FOR 2024 GYMPIE WEST STATE SCHOOL

- Environmental Club
- Homework Centre
- Run Club
- Breakfast Club
- Specialist Technology Lessons
- Music Enrichment



41 Cartwright Road, Gympie Q 4570

Phone: 5489 8200

Email: principal@gympiewestss.eq.edu

Website: www.gympiewestss.eq.edu.au

Get set for Prep at One Mile

ONE Mile State School has been educating the Gympie community since 1869 and has an outstanding and proud history within the local area.

The school provides a supportive, educational environment to approximately 370, Prep to Year 6 students and their families.

One Mile prides itself on delivering an excellent education for all learners in a caring and supportive school community.

Parents, staff and students work together to ensure that every child develops to their full potential - 'Discovering the Gold within'.

Through their virtues - responsibility, respect, integrity, nurturing and excellence - they strive to invest in their students a strong self-belief and a lifelong desire for learning.

Every One Mile State School student is encouraged to develop a love of learning, within a safe, inclusive and disciplined learning environment.

One Mile State School is now accepting enrolments from across the Gympie region.

Principal, Ms Louise Parry looks forward to welcoming you for a tour of One Mile State School.

Make an appointment today on 5480 2777.



Learning is made fun.



High quality early-years education.



Acknowledging KabiKabi/Gubbi Gubbi country, culture and people.



Outstanding literacy programs

Enrol now for 2024

Now welcoming all enrolments across the Gympie region

One Mile State School
DISCOVER
THE GOLD WITHIN



- Caring and experienced teaching staff
- Engaging, personalised learning approaches
- High quality education
- Positive Behaviour for Learning School
- Earlyact leadership program affiliated with the Rotary Club of Gympie
- Swimming pool, spacious grounds and a multi-purpose court
- Outstanding programs fostering student excellence; Chess, STEM, Rugby league, Netball, the Arts
- Environmental Stewardship
- 2024 Bring Your Own Device program



Principal Ms Louise Parry
Deputy Principal Sue Eastwood

Phone: 07 5480 2777

Fax: 07 5480 2700

admin@onemiless.eq.edu.au

www.onemiless.eq.edu.au or find us on Facebook

GYMPIE REGION SCHOOLS

Where to find your school...

PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

GYMPIE:

Chatsworth State School
Rammutt Rd Chatsworth 5481 3777

Gympie Central State School
20 Lawrence St Gympie 5480 2111

Gympie East State School
219 Cedar Pocket Rd Gympie 5487 7111

Gympie Flexible Learning Centre
30 Everson Road, Gympie, QLD (07) 5343 4009

Gympie South State School
50 Exhibition Rd Southside 54830444

Gympie Special School
52 Cootharaba Rd Gympie 54802333

Gympie State High School
1 Everson Rd Gympie 5489 8333

Gympie West State School
41 Cartwright Rd Gympie 5489 8200

James Nash State High School
109 Myall St Gympie 5480 6333

Jones Hill State School
21 McIntosh Crk Rd Jones Hill 5489 0555

Monkland State School
220 Brisbane Rd Monkland 5489 8888

One Mile State School
1 John St Gympie 5480 2777

Two Mile State School
Bruce H'Way Nth Gympie 5489 0222

GYMPIE REGION:

Amamoor State School
2 Elizabeth St Amamoor 5401 1333

Dagun State School
Dagun Rd Dagun 5484 3232

Glenwood State School
13 Glenwood School Rd Glenwood 5488 8333

Goomeri State School P-10
Munro St Goomeri 4169 6200

Gunalda State School
Kind St Gunalda 5484 6211

Kandanga State School
84 Main St Kandanga 5484 3267

Kia Ora State School
2754 Anderleigh Rd Kia Ora 5486 5229

Kilkivan State School P-10
6 Council St Kilkivan 5487 3333

Mary Valley State College P-10
15 Edward St Imbil 5488 5333

Mawarra Independent School
967 Old Bruce Highway,
Kybong, QLD 0439 102 261

Rainbow Beach State School
Warooga Rd Rainbow Beach 5486 9333

Theebine State School
Scrub Rd Theebine 5484 6206

Tin Can Bay State School P-10
Snapper Crk Rd Tin Can Bay 5488 1222

Widgee State School
2156 Gympie Woolooga Rd Widgee 5484 0888

Wolvi State School
936 Kin Kin Rd Wolvi 5487 6777

Woolooga State School
Edward Rd Woolooga 5484 7171

Mawarra Independent School
967 Bruce Hwy, Kybong QLD 4570 0439 102 261

PRIVATE SCHOOLS:

Cooloola Christian College
1 College Rd Southside 5481 1000

Victory College
173 Old Maryborough Rd Gympie 5482 8206

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS:

St Patrick's College
7 Church St Gympie 5482 0600

St Patrick's Primary School
18-26 Church St Gympie 5489 3200



Nurturing a child's curiosity

GYMPIE East State School is an independent public school with a population of 185 students, located on Cedar Pocket Rd, 12 minutes from the centre of Gympie nestled in rural surroundings. East's stand by their vision statement of "What Ever it Takes" and everyone succeeds in helping students create their success.

The school acknowledges that success will look different for every student and their role is to provide an environment and guidance to help achieve this individual success. Students use learning goals to help them become totally aware of what they are being assessed on, what mark they are aiming for and what they need to do to achieve that mark.

Gympie East provide support via a number of avenues such as investing in additional teacher aide time and a learning support teacher. The learning support team works with classroom teachers to develop and implement individual support programs for students to achieve their best.



Students at Gympie East are inspired to be ecologically minded.

Academically advanced students are catered for, with dedicated weekly programs and regular entries into writing and maths challenges.

Gympie East is a very green and healthy eco school with a proud history

of environmental initiatives, having been the recipient of 18 regional and state awards.

This approach has reinvigorated the school environmental area and helped the school form close community partnerships, to enhance their learning activities, with organisations such as Landcare.

The school has weekly garden groups where all students take a hands-on approach to learning about and helping in their extensive vegetable garden.

Students also have the opportunity to attend Nature Play at lunchtimes to help them connect with nature and use their imagination in an outdoor setting to participate in unstructured play in the beautiful surrounds.

East continually promotes healthy eating and this is supported by a daily fruit and vege snack break. Gympie East also boasts a terrific school choir, drama club, excellent ICT facilities and a strong history of sporting success. Gympie East is a small school that offers a big future.

Gympie East State School is an Eco-friendly small school of 185 students that offers students a big future.

Only situated 9km from the centre of Gympie on Cedar Pocket Rd the school has a calm, settled, rural feeling.

The school believes in the complete student and focuses around four school values:

Care of Self, Care of Others, Care of Learning and Care of School.



We are taking enrolments for 2024 now



Gympie East State School

A: 219 Cedar Pocket Rd, Gympie QLD 4570

P: 5487 7111 | W: www.gympieeastss.eq.edu.au

Focused on student's futures

GYMPIE Special School caters for students from Prep through to Year 12 who have an intellectual disability.

Located next door to Gympie High School, they provide quality learning programs to ensure students achieve their best outcomes.

The high staff ratios and small class sizes means they are able to support students' individual learning needs.

Students are supported to reach their potential in a welcoming, caring and safe environment with extensive support and a range of academic, social and emotional programming to ensure their success.

The highly committed staff provide carefully planned learning opportunities to engage students with the Australian Curriculum, making sure learning is individualised and age appropriate.

Students are encouraged to learn through activities and experiences



that include explicit teaching, play, excursions and inquiry.

An important focus for the school is making sure every child is able to communicate effectively, and they use a wide range of augmentative and alternative communication devices and systems to give students a voice.

Therapists and consultants support the staff to provide purposeful learning opportunities backed by best practice.

The positive culture of Gympie Special School ensures students are engaged and supported to achieve academically, as well as socially, culturally and through sports.

The school has had several students selected to compete in Wide Bay Athletics and Cross-Country teams as well as Nationals for Cross Country.

As they are a Prep to Year 12 school, they cater for students throughout their schooling years, developing deep, caring relationships with students and their families.

Prep students are very well supported in the Early Years section of the school.

Working together with families to ensure the best post-school options for students is very important and they support their senior students to access TAFE, work experience and post-school options and gain a QCIA certificate at the end of their schooling years.

Gympie Special School Enrolling NOW for 2024

Prep to Year 12 programs
Welcoming, caring
& safe environment



Gympie Special School
Moving forward, learning together

5480 2333 | 52 Cootharaba Road Gympie
QLD 4570 | www.gympiespecs.eq.edu.au
find us on Facebook

Support to achieve

CHATSWORTH State School believes that every child can achieve their very best.

The vision at Chatsworth State School is to empower students to acquire, demonstrate, articulate and value knowledge and skills that will support them to participate in and contribute to the global world.

Their experienced and dedicated staff make sure learning activities are engaging and fun for all students and curriculum meets national standards, whilst nurturing positive student welfare.

The school puts into practice core values of safety, respect and life-long learning - proudly calling students the Chatsworth Champions.

An active and dedicated P&C work closely with the school to ensure all classrooms are air conditioned, have a refrigerator and are equipped with the latest technologies.

The staff are delighted to offer a full range of extra curricula activities for students to pursue their interest and talents in sport, the arts, outdoor education and extension and academic excellence.

Chatsworth School's prime hilltop location has a view of the surrounding rolling green hills with beautifully kept grounds and learning spaces.

The school has developed an inclusive, innovative and



Students from Chatsworth State School on a beach excursion.

engaging Prep program, giving students a great start to their schooling.

For more information on the perfect sized school - not too big, not too small-visit the website or phone to take a tour with the principal.

“Learners Flourish”

CHATSWORTH STATE SCHOOL *Enrolments are being taken for 2024*

Chatsworth State School is on the north side of Gympie, with panoramic views of the Gympie area. We are a small country school with our educational journey, starting in 1900! Contact our Principal Scott Thompson to arrange a tour of the school and to discuss your child's education program.

All classrooms are air-conditioned, with interactive white boards, fridges and STEM Resources. Our Library boasts a full computer lab, large reading collections and several learning spaces, all equipped for a variety of lessons.



Phone: (07) 5481 3777

Fax: (07) 5481 3700

Email: principal@chatsworthss.eq.edu.au

Please go to our website

www.chatsworthss.eq.edu.au

to have a look at our school.

Opportunities

THE educators at Gympie South's priority has always been about opportunities for the children to be able to succeed, whether this be at sport, music, the performing arts, chess or academics.

They also ensure their school and learning spaces cater for children.

Beyond the front fence, the school is welcoming and calm, with large open outdoor spaces and gardens that provide flexible learning opportunities for the students.

Gympie South provide their students, ways that best support their learning and learning style – with a variety of desks, chairs that sit outside what is 'normal'.

However just as important is ensuring learners are ready for lifelong learning no matter how that is presented.

The faculty know that when learners are happy and engaged they will succeed, ensuring Gympie South students achieve their best academic results.

This is the "heart" you will see and feel on coming to the school and this is what Gympie South have always been about.

**Engagement • Culture • Academic
Out of the Box • Well-being**

#wholechildeeducation

Gympie South State School

P: (07) 54830 444

A: 50 Exhibition Rd,
Gympie QLD 4570



Wolvi State School

Discover the educational gem that is Wolvi State School, just a stone's throw away from Gympie. Secure your child's spot for the enriching year ahead – enrolments for 2024 are now open!

Tailored Growth: Our passionate educators take pride in nurturing each student's unique potential. Whether your child is an eager learner or requires a bit more attention, we're committed to their growth and success.

Values Beyond Education: Education is more than books; it's about character. Our curriculum is designed to instill values that will serve your child for life, fostering positivity and empathy.

Active Minds, Active Bodies: We believe in holistic education. Through sports like athletics and basketball, we cultivate active lifestyles and sharp minds, ensuring your child's development is well-rounded. Join us in laying the foundation for your child's future.

Connect with us today at 5487 6777 or email us at admin@wolviss.eq.edu.au.

Together, let's set them on the path to greatness!



- Individualised Curriculum
- Supportive Environment
- Student Engagement



Enrol Now For 2024



Address: 936 Kin Kin Rd, Wolvi QLD 4570

Email: admin@wolviss.eq.edu.au

Phone: (07) 5487 6777

Shaping today's expectations

THE Mary Valley State College curriculum sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills needed for life and work in the 21st century and establishes common standards and high expectations of achievement for all students.

Students are encouraged to reach their full potential in a caring and safe environment which encompasses extensive student support and a rich variety of academic and social and emotional learning programs to ensure their success.

Small class sizes that cater for the individual learning needs of all students is what sets MVSC programs ahead of the rest.

Distinct identity, quality teaching, student well-being, inclusivity, parent and community involvement, leadership and local decision-making are the key principles of the MVSC.

Learning involves developing a relationship of trust.



The college aims to create a relaxed, secure and supportive environment where children are encouraged to investigate and explore to achieve their individual potential.

MVSC provides both formal and informal learning situations where the children learn through activities and experiences that involve teacher direction, play, excursions and inquiry.

The Prep year is a welcoming learning environment with exciting

things to do, see, touch and experience.

Primary students are nurtured and supported to develop a growth mindset and a belief that they can be successful if they put in the effort.

Students are engaged in garden and cooking programs as well as numerous extra-curricular activities alongside the regular curriculum.

The Junior Secondary curriculum ensures the foundations for success are developed so the students can be prepared for tomorrow's world.

Students engage in a variety of elective offerings and work experience opportunities and are encouraged to take part in community events.

Year 7 and Prep enrolments are currently being taken for 2024.

Contact the friendly administration office staff for more information.

Regarding enrolment packs see the website at www.maryvalleysc.edu.au.



Mary Valley State College

Preparing today's students for tomorrow's world

Mary Valley State College is a small Prep to Year 10 School built around your children's needs. We offer

- Small class sizes
- Individualised programs
- Less time travelling to and from school and a nurturing, caring environment that knows ALL of its students.

Our curriculum is built around the **Australian National Curriculum** and ensures that the foundations for success are developed so we can prepare our students for tomorrow's world. Subjects include core learning areas- English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities & Health/ alongside elective areas of Food Studies, Design Technology, Digital Technology & ICT (including robotics/ coding and drones), Visual Art, Media Studies, Music & Drama. Social & emotional learning & wellbeing programs are offered to all students from P-10 and secondary students are able to access a project/interest lesson once a week and also apply to be a part of a Hands on Learning course. The school has a strong sustainability/recycling focus and active gardening program.



Healthy relationships

PRODUCTIVE, healthy relationships between students, staff and families are a cornerstone of Gympie Central State School's culture. Located in the heart of Gympie, the school has professional, skilled and dedicated staff.

The parent community places great value on a high-quality education supported by a teaching and learning program that ensures every student has the opportunity to succeed. Gympie Central State School's academic program is based on the Australian Curriculum and is complemented by a broad range of Arts programs including outstanding strings and brass instrumental programs.

They are big enough to provide a range of extra-curricular opportunities, well-resourced support programs and staff; and small enough to treat every child as an individual and maintain a family-orientated sense of community. The school is hosting an open morning on Saturday 14 October at 9am, as well as three transition mornings on 19 October, 31 October and 15 November. These are open to new and existing families. Prospective families are encouraged to contact the office to arrange a tour of the school to find out what Central can offer your child.



Gympie Central State School

A small school with big opportunities

- Ensuring every child succeeds through Inclusive Practices, Engaging Teaching and a strong focus on Wellbeing.
- Balanced and age appropriate approach to learning in the early years
- Targeted intervention for support and enrichment
- Lunchtime programs and supported play spaces
- Breakfast club and chaplaincy program
- Successful music and instrumental program- strings, brass and percussion
- Interschool sport for senior students
- Technology focus- iPads/ 2 computer labs/ robotics/ coding
- Large, double teaching spaces for all classes and new playgrounds



Address: 20 Lawrence Street, Gympie

Phone: 07 5480 2111 • Email: principal@gympiecentralss.eq.edu.au

TRUTH

COURTESY

KNOWLEDGE

12634578-RR44-23

Feel difference

FROM the moment you enter Marawarra Independent School's five acres of elevated, beautiful green space in the Kybong community, you'll feel the difference. When you hear the younger class squealing with delight, exploring imaginary games in their boat on the lawn, you'll hear the difference.

When you see the older students working cooperatively on their personal interest projects, you'll see curiosity in action that nurtures independent learners of the future.

Wandering the student-tended permaculture garden, life greets you, and you'll find yourself inhaling deeply.

Marawarra is an intentionally small, child-centred P-10 school and is the place where everyone knows your name.

Marawarra – respectful, responsible, resilient.



Marawarra Independent School

Enrolling now for 2024



📞 0439 102 261

📍 967 Old Bruce Highway, KYBONG QLD 4570

🌐 www.marawaraindependentschool.org.au

✉ admin@marawaraindependentschool.org.au

12635065-SM44-23



Vibrant, strong

AMAMoor State School is a vibrant, small school located in the heart of the beautiful Mary Valley, 15 minutes south of Gympie.

The school has a strong, supportive community and a long and proud history of over 100 years. Amamoor's motto, 'Learning, Working, Growing' represents the values of their family-friendly school. Amamoor State School provides a quality, values-based and inclusive education. The school also has the added benefits of both a Playgroup and a Homework Centre.

Playgroup is run every Friday from 9-11am, while the supervised Homework Centre is open from 3-4.30pm daily, at no cost to parents.

The school community look forward to welcoming you to Amamoor.

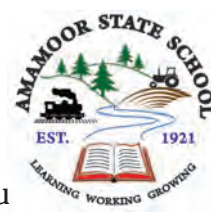


Amamoor State School Enrolling now for 2024

2 Elizabeth Street
Amamoor Qld 4570

07 5401 1333

admin@amamoorss.eq.edu.au



1322007-0144-23

WIDGEE STATE SCHOOL

**ENROLMENT
NOW OPEN
FOR 2024**



12631012-SM44-23



2156 Gympie Woolooga Rd, Upper Widgee,
QLD, Australia, Queensland



(07) 5484 0888



the.principal@widgeess.eq.edu.au



Students at Widgee State School last year helped the school to celebrate its 150th Birthday.

Caring world

WIDGEE State School is a Prep-Year 6 multi age, three classroom model in a rural setting.

The 55 students at their small school focus on the core learning areas of literacy and numeracy from the Australian Curriculum.

The school motto is 'Pride and Right' where they develop the individual students who care for each other and the environment as part of their school vision.

The school are currently developing an outdoor learning area which is intended to develop all round students, building on the core importance of innovation, cooperation, negotiation and communication all of which support the school motto.

Smoothing the big transition

THE move between primary and secondary school happens alongside the transition from childhood to adulthood.

With this comes many changes – changes to bodies, emotions, behaviours and attitudes.

Teachers and staff understand these changes and can provide information and support.

Friendships developed during secondary school can provide peer support and help children develop social skills and self-esteem.

Making new friends and feeling comfortable are especially important when children start secondary school.

It is important to remember, however, that your child friendships may change as they develop a sense of themselves and make sense of the world around them.

A child's relationship with their parents and family may similarly change.

Students adapt to transition in different ways.

If you feel that your child is having difficulties, it is important to discuss your concerns and ask for help if needed.

Parents have an important role in supporting their children's progress at school.

It is also important to know that there are staff with specific roles to support student well-being and student learning available in schools.

Health and fitness is all about making healthy lifestyle choices, such as walking or cycling (instead of using the family car) to help reach the target of at least 30 minutes of exercise a day, only eating takeaway food occasionally, getting a good night's sleep, which for teenagers can be up to 10 hours a night, restricting computer, TV and video games to a maximum of two hours, and encouraging your child not to do these activities in their bedroom and eating a variety of fresh and healthy food every day, aiming for five serves of vegetables and two serves of fruit a day.

Cigarettes, alcohol and drugs must play no role in the life of a 12-year-old.



Parents are the key to making the transition from Primary to Secondary school easier on their kids.

As parents we have a responsibility to ensure that our children understand that.

We also need to model responsible behaviours ourselves.

While it is the responsibility of your child's school to support a healthy lifestyle, at the end of the day it is you as parents who need to take the ultimate responsibility for the behaviour of your child.

Many children start secondary school expecting to make new friends.

At the same time, they are concerned that they may lose contact with their current friends, particularly if they're changing schools.

For some children, the desire to stay with their group of friends influences where they would prefer to go to secondary school – and if they move to a different school they wonder how they will keep in touch and sustain their friendships.

Friends help each other make the transition from primary to secondary school easier.

Friends are people that your child can talk to, share things with, confide in and sometimes argue with.

Remember, conflict is a normal part of growing up.

Conflict is not necessarily bullying, even though it may be upsetting and need resolution.

Parents and friends play different roles in the life of children.

You influence your child's long term decisions to do with values and morals.

Your child's friends are more likely to influence short term choices, such as the way they dress and their interests.

Strong relationships with you and your child's friends help your child grow into a well adjusted adult with strong social skills.

Right now, your child's friendships will tend to be based on sharing similar interests, acceptance and sharing.

Same-sex friendships are the norm during the first years of secondary school.

Guidelines steer CCC way

COOLOOLA Christian College's vision is to partner with families in raising their children to know God and recognise His plan for their lives.

Schools are about learning and growing.

In fact, we are all on a learning journey.

Having something to help guide our path through life is important.

At Cooloola Christian College they have the CCC Way: 6 guideposts that direct them as they learn and grow, from the littlest learners in the Early Learning Centre to the Senior students in Year 11 and 12.

These guideposts are:

- Focussing on Faith: God created the world, and He has a purpose and plan for our lives. This guidepost helps the CCC community to understand God's love for us.
- Leading Learning: Students, parents and staff, are active learners. In



order to grow, we must continue to focus on learning in both formal and informal settings. CCC provide excellent options in both academic and career pathways.

- Shaping Character: CCC regard personal character development as highly as academic achievement. It is an important part of the journey in becoming the people that God

intended us to be.

- Building Community: Community is an integral part of College life. They are continually contributing, enhancing, serving and blessing one another as they live and work together.
- Valuing Stewardship: CCC take care of the resources they have been blessed with and ensure they are treating them with the proper respect and gratitude.
- Supporting Wellbeing: A wide variety of support services are available to students, parents and staff. When a member of the community is struggling, they will walk beside them.

Their passion for both academic excellence and personal wellbeing shines through everything they do.

If you'd like to learn more about the CCC Way, you are invited to contact them at admin@ccc.qld.edu.au or call (07) 5481 1000.



Discover

The CCC Way

GREAT INCENTIVES for 2024!

CONTACT US TODAY:

 Call us: 5481 1000  admin@ccc.qld.edu.au  www.ccc.qld.edu.au

**ENROL
by 1 NOV**



12430039-AP4-23

School holidays and terms

2024 Queensland Term Dates

- Term 1 Monday 22 January - Thursday 28 March
- Term 2 Monday 15 April - Friday 21 June
- Term 3 Monday 8 July - Friday 13 September
- Term 4 Monday 30 September - Friday 13 December

2024 Public School Student Free Days

- Term 1 Thursday and Friday 18, 19 January
- Term 2 Thursday and Friday, 11, 12 April
- Term 3 Friday 30 August

Public Holidays

- New Year's Day Monday 1 January
- Australia Day Friday 26 January
- Good Friday Friday 29 March
- Easter Saturday Saturday 30 March
- Easter Sunday Sunday 31 March
- Easter Monday Monday 1 April
- Anzac Day Thursday 25 April
- Labour Day Monday 6 May
- King's Birthday Monday 7 October
- Christmas Day Wednesday 25 December
- Boxing Day Thursday 26 December




**ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE
GYMPIE**

2024

**ENROL NOW
YEAR 7 AND BEYOND**

ABOUT US

St Patrick's College aspires to be a community based on Gospel values of love, forgiveness, compassion, respect, sensitivity and justice, expressed through the Catholic tradition.

**AFFORDABLE
EDUCATION**

**STRONG
PASTORAL CARE
PROGRAM**

**RTO
ORGANISATION**

FOR MORE INFO
www.spcgympie.qld.edu.au
 5482 0600
sgympie@bne.catholic.edu.au

12631014-HC44-23

High support

ST Patrick's College Gympie, is a Parish based Catholic College catering for Years 7 to 12 in a coeducational setting.

In 2023, around 500 students are enrolled at the College. As an inclusive Catholic College, St Patrick's College Gympie welcomes students and families of all faiths and backgrounds who are prepared to engage with its Catholic identity and the full range of learning opportunities and experiences that are on offer. The College fosters an environment of high expectations and high support for all stakeholders. It has a reputation for successfully preparing its graduates to be positive contributors to society and sets high academic standards, Vocational Pathways and a commitment to individual student growth, both in the classroom and through the many sporting, cultural and outreach opportunities they offer.

St Patrick's College Gympie provides a strong Pastoral Care program with initiatives that assist families with the challenges presented by the modern society, while retaining the unique traditions and practices that are foundational and gives it a family friendly atmosphere.

St Patrick's has a very positive and transparent workplace culture which carries over into the relationships they have with the community.

Proven track record

GYMPIE State High School (GSHS) is one of Queensland's oldest state secondary schools and boasts a proud tradition of academic, cultural, sporting and community excellence.

The school stands on the hill overlooking the Gympie Region Aquatic and Recreation Centre in a revitalised precinct bounded by Cootharaba and Everson Roads. Although a school steeped in tradition, Gympie State High is a 21st Century school with innovative programs that prepare young people for the challenges of the future.

The school provides a diverse range of specialised curriculum offerings that are geared towards the emerging opportunities of the 21st Century. With the broad range of curriculum offerings – many in specialist areas – an education at Gympie State High School can open doors to successful pathways beyond school through university, training and in the workforce with destination data showing that graduates perform better than the state average in entering tertiary study, employment and training.

This diversity spans academic pursuits, university partnerships, vocational certificate courses and school based apprenticeships and traineeships. This is exemplified by programs in Engineering Technology, Interactive Digital Media, Sports Excellence (Centurions Academy), Marine and Aquatic Practices, the Gympie Music

School of Excellence (GMSOE) and Rural Industries School of Excellence (RISE).

As a gateway school in agriculture, programs in rural operations, agricultural sciences and horticulture has Gympie High leading the state in agricultural education. Extensive industry links allow for real world experiences for students. Success in attaining a Department of Agriculture and Fisheries grant sees Gympie High at the forefront of utilising technology in agriculture.

This development secures facilities for their ever-growing agriculture programs, Cattle Show teams and partnerships with universities in the field of agricultural science.

Gympie State High School is the only secondary school in Australia to offer Certificate IV in Digital and Interactive Games and leads the way in coding education. Graduates move into the range of 21st Century industries and into tertiary education in areas including gaming and design.

Recognised for their partnerships with universities, TAFE and local industries, students at GSHS receive a tailored curriculum that is suited to individual skills, abilities and interests.

Gympie State High School has provided excellence in public education for 110 Years and will continue to build on that tradition in the years ahead.

GYMPIE
State High School
Resilience, Diversity, Success, Tradition

Gold from the school

High Expectations
Diverse Curriculum
Experienced Staff
Programs of Excellence

1 Everson Rd Gympie 07 5489 8333 info@gympieshs.eq.edu.au
 www.gympieshs.eq.edu.au

Queensland Government

Making the right choice

Education: It is something that has become more and more important in our modern world.

But what is considered the right or best education for your child?

Sometimes how young people absorb information can depend on the way their formal education is balanced with extracurricular activities including sport or performing arts.

Other times students will appreciate spiritual guidance included in their daily schooling, allowing them to feel an integral part of that faith-based community.

Students have also been recognised to feel comfortable and supported in a school environment that allows them to start right from a young age and continue through to senior in that same supported and familiar environment.

There is always the opportunity to take on extra schooling opportunities to suit a student's individual needs or



find a path that suits their individual needs better as they age.

An education does not need to have a traditional basis anymore, but can be developed using interesting outdoor areas, modern classrooms that allow for unique learning environments, and even hands-on

learning outside the classroom.

Whatever type of schooling will suit your child the best, the Gympie region has a school, tutors or learning facility that will help your child achieve their very best and have the best possible start to their young lives.

Education Magazine Gympie Today

If you want to book a space in our
next Education magazine

Contact Caroline Vielle

P: 5321 3051

E: caroline.vielle@gympietoday.com.au

Gympie*Today*

More on offer

VICTORY College offers students a purposeful, Christian-based education where they are valued as individuals and given the right foundations to succeed beyond school.

Students at Victory College are encouraged to think, to develop good character, to be resilient and to learn how to serve others. Students understand the importance of self-discipline and maintaining the high standards set by Victory.

Parents choose the College for a number of reasons, with the most prominent being they are inspired by the safe, positive learning environment on offer. They like the impeccable grounds, the room for study and play, the modern facilities and the challenging curriculum. They also praise the values-based education and the teaching staff who are caring and insightful.

The College offers a broad range of after-school sports, a free after-school tuition service for students wanting to excel, a music program across the school and a subsidised bus service for students living outside of the Gympie township.

Victory College is located at 173 Old Maryborough Rd. For more information on the College please visit www.victorycollege.com.au. Parents are welcome to tour the College by appointment.




VICTORY COLLEGE

Equipping students to lead purposeful lives.

173 Old Maryborough Rd, Gympie
5482 8206 [victorycollege.com.au](http://www.victorycollege.com.au)



JAMES NASH
State High School
Engage • Empower • Excel



James Nash State High School is located in the Gympie Region of Queensland. Our aim is to ensure that our young people have the best opportunity to lead a life of choice, rather than a life of chance.

Our Vision: Empowered learners leading a life of choice.

Our Values: Positive, Respectful, Resilient, Hardworking.

Applications for 2024 are now open! Visit our website of Facebook page for more information about enrolling your child.

12633912-JC44-23

Engaging every student

JAMES Nash State High School is located in the Wide Bay Region of Queensland and is serviced by Education Queensland's North Coast region.

The school services the communities of Glenwood to the North, Kilkivan to the West, Amamoor to the South and Gympie to the East.

As such the school has a diversity of students with an underlying common thread of a connection to their rural surrounds and the associated values and beliefs. James Nash High was founded in 1977 and has a current enrolment of 1300 students expected to grow to nearly 1400 by 2025.

The school is committed to developing independent self-assured yet humble young citizens.

They provide the learning opportunities for this to occur through a gradual release process across the six years of high school.

At James Nash SHS, they understand that lifelong success requires lifelong learning.

Uni - an investment in future

Gabriel Laidler-Burns

CHOOSING a University is a big decision.

It's at least three to five years of your life.

You're going to be spending a lot of time on campus and you'll also be spending a lot of money.

In choosing a University it is important to take the due diligence and see what each University has to offer.

Whether you're in Year 10, 11, or 12, it's never too early to attend University Open Days so you can check out the campus and get advice about different degrees.

Doing this can also help with understanding the career prospects of the degree and subsequent courses you can choose.

Consider the costs of the degree you want to pursue, a bachelors degree in Australia can cost between \$20,000 to \$45,000, consider the



career you want after University and how valuable it is to you.

Another important part to check out is the University's global ranking, if you wish to work overseas, the ranking and reputation of the University may matter.

Look into the quality of lecturers, find out the impact on your student experience by learning the sizes of lectures, any hands on personalised support they may offer and whether

lectures may be offered online for flexibility.

Look for the opportunities the university can provide you to get and find work experience while studying to get you the best career prospects.

Discover the faculties and technology the University has on offer and whether they benefit you.

Do the research and University might be the way to your future.



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CAREER
STARTS
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Ph: 5481 2486

12515780-AV46-21

EDUCATION 2024

Regional Training

Win-win deal

LOCALLY owned organisation, Regional Training not only provides quality classroom - based training but is also an industry leader in providing training for students undertaking traineeships. Traineeships can be either school-based, part-time, or full time and offer fantastic opportunities for students. Not only will the student completing the trainee gain a qualification while getting valuable industry experience, but they will also get paid to do it. Traineeships are a real win/win for all involved, from the business owner's point of view trainees can provide very real benefits. If you'd like to find out more contact Regional Training on 5481 2486 or visit www.regionaltraining.qld.edu.au.



Protection for the precious

EACH year road crashes cause unnecessary trauma to too many Queensland families.

Far too many of our precious youth are adversely affected by serious road trauma soon after leaving school or obtaining their provisional licence.

The Roadcraft model of effective, safe, low-risk, defensive driver education is potentially lifesaving with many young course participants citing it should be compulsory.

Roadcraft has been providing this very effective risk reduction driver education to people of all ages for over 43 years.

While Roadcraft applauds the proactive schools which have wisely chosen to make Roadcraft's student driver education course a compulsory part of their senior curriculum, their aim is to have all secondary schools embrace this essential "all of life" learning.

A school-organised group booking of 24 students, enables Roadcraft to offer this course at a heavily discounted price.

Roadcraft is now taking bookings for 2024 and thanks to the Department of Transport and Main Roads Community Road Safety Grant funding, this course is heavily subsidised.

Roadcraft also conducts Bicycle and Road Safety



Education for primary school students, Prep to Year 6, and offers these courses in groups of 25 or 30 participants.

This two-and-a-half-hour course covers bicycle, bus and pedestrian safety and passenger responsibility.

Funding for this course may also be available in 2024.

For enquiries phone 1800 060 064, email enquiries@roadcraft.org.au or head to the website at www.roadcraft.org.au for more information.

Roadcraft's mission is to prevent road trauma by providing **effective road safety education** to road users of all ages.



Courses for all ages

Primary school groups

- Road and bike safety awareness

Secondary school groups

- Safe, low-risk defensive driver awareness courses for Year 11s (heavily discounted for school groups)

Novice drivers

- Learner driver awareness courses
- Provisional driver awareness courses



Effective education

- 1:4 Educator student ratio for practical components
- Modern dual-controlled cars
- Purpose built driver training facility
- Qualified and experienced educators

**Who's driving to Schoolies?
Make sure it's a Roadcrafter!**

Roadcraft
DRIVER EDUCATION SPECIALISTS



Kick-start your career

THINKING about your career options and exploring further educational and training needs after high school?

At TAFE Queensland, they believe that providing career pathway and skills development opportunities for Year 12 students and high school leavers in the Gympie region is an especially important and beneficial outcome for young adults and the local community.

TAFE Queensland is committed to engaging with high school students and career starters and raising awareness about the potential career opportunities available to them, whether that's through degrees, diplomas, trades training or apprenticeships.

TAFE Queensland is proud to be contributing to the skills growth and employment opportunities of Gympie's youth through the Fee-Free TAFE program.

Fee-Free TAFE means you could be eligible to study and gain a nationally recognised qualification for little or no cost – so there's no better time than now for high school graduates and school leavers to kick start their career.

Through their courses, study options and practical training facilities, TAFE Queensland is proud to be supporting the career development and skills growth of Gympie's young adult population and producing skilled, industry-ready graduates.



Define your greatness and kick start your career with a host of free TAFE courses available next year.

Whether you're considering a career in health, aged care, early childhood education and care or wanting to train as a tradie, TAFE Queensland can help you start your career with an entry level course through a certificate III qualification as well as apprenticeships and traineeships.

Visit www.tafeqld.edu.au for more information or call 1300 308 233 to explore your options.

FEE-FREE

SEIZE YOUR OPPORTUNITY WITH FEE-FREE TAFE

// ENROL NOW

tafeqld.edu.au/child-care

MAKE GREAT HAPPEN

tafe Queensland

RTO 0275

12638496-KG44-23

New beginnings at any age

LOCALS tell how UniSC Gympie has changed their lives.

Bindi Horvath dropped out of school after Year 10, had her first child at 18 and worked a series of jobs from hairdresser to legal secretary to cleaner.

"In 2019, I enrolled at the University of the Sunshine Coast's Gympie campus and started a Bachelor of Nursing Science mid-year I'd always loved writing and had nursing in the back of my mind but didn't think I was smart enough. I was a high achiever through school but expected a university degree – to be beyond my capabilities. I chose Gympie 99 percent because it was the closest campus and 1 percent because I loved how small it was; I didn't feel like I would get lost in a sea of faces and random names. In 2022 I gained employment at Gympie Hospital as an Undergraduate Student in Nursing (USIN). I now work as a graduate nurse at its Acute Services



Unit, where I did placements."

For Gympie's Rachel Astill, starting university with her then teenage daughter made all the difference. After all, not many people decide to tackle their first degree in their early 50's.

"I thought, 'I'm too old for this. I can't do this'. So it took a bit of persuasion to overcome the self-doubt but I surprised myself," said Rachel, who is about to begin a career as a qualified counsellor after many years raising a family and

working in hospitality.

Rachel was 51 years old when she was convinced to take the first step towards a new way of life and join her daughter in enrolling in UniSC's free Tertiary Preparation Pathway (TPP) at its Gympie campus in July 2019. Rachel believes a university degree would have remained out of reach had TPP not been offered at the local Gympie campus.

"I'd never written an essay in my life prior to starting TPP so that was a big challenge to overcome. ... It was comforting to walk into the first class and see a mixture of ages and realise that university is not just for school leavers."

"I proved that it is never too late to get out of your comfort zone, back yourself and try something new. The biggest change has been my confidence in my abilities. I discovered that I really am capable."



Kick-start your future with UniSC

Did you know the University of the Sunshine Coast (UniSC) is right here on your doorstep?

At UniSC Gympie we're all about helping you discover new opportunities with our range of study options. So if you haven't studied in a while, the Tertiary Preparation Pathway is a free bridging course to help kick-start your future! You can study on campus or choose one of UniSC's online degrees.

Whatever you choose, know you will have our support throughout your exciting uni journey.



usc.edu.au/gympie

UniSC Gympie
71 Cartwright Road
Gympie



GympieToday

Class of 2023 Formals Feature

A pictorial keepsake of our local Year 12 High School Students

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