Introducing Junior Secondary at Townsville State High School

In 2015 Townsville State High School will welcome Year 7.

As part of Education Queensland’s Flying Start Initiative we will respond to the Junior Secondary Six Guiding Principles to provide quality educational experiences for all students.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

- Our philosophy is based around the provision of a seamless curriculum supported by strong, positive relationships with increased opportunities and learning outcomes for students.
- Our aim is to maintain student enthusiasm for learning and build self-esteem so that school and learning is a positive and meaningful experience for all.
- Students are connected to themselves, their peers, their school and the community and prepared for and in control of their future by being lifelong, well connected, resilient learners.

Townsville State High School

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Distinct Identity:
Junior Secondary students are supported to develop their own group identity within the broader school community, and have a strong sense of belonging and ownership of their school and their learning.

- Refurbished classrooms and flexible learning areas
- Designated Junior Secondary precinct
- Year 7 camp initiating the school’s leadership development and wellbeing program
- A strong focus on the development of group identity whilst fostering a sense of belonging and connectedness to the whole school (e.g. generating Reef spirit through team-building activities)
- Distinct Junior Secondary uniform.

Quality Teaching:
- Specialist staff have been recruited and committed to the Junior Secondary curriculum programs
- Literacy and Numeracy skills development will be a focus for all students
- Full complement of Secondary Curriculum subjects
- Access to specialist laboratories, workshops, kitchens and creative arts spaces
- We are working closely with primary schools to ensure curriculum continuity for students.

Student Wellbeing:
- Core teachers in Year 7 and 8
- A supportive, caring and inclusive school community
- High expectations based around the School Wide Positive Behavior Support program
- Teaching of Social Skills, resilience and peer relationships based on Behaviour Expectations
- Access to Support staff—Guidance Officer, Community Education Counsellor, School Based Youth Health Nurse, Behaviour Support Teacher, Youth Support Co-Ordinator, School Based Police Officer, School Chaplain— to provide extra specialist support
- Well developed Community Links to supplement the programs run by the school

Parent and Community Involvement:
Students, teachers, parents and community members are professionally connected through:
- Parent information evenings
- Parent/Teacher interviews
- Parental involvement in school activities and celebrations
- P & C meetings
- Leaders attend the TSHS P & C meetings
- School website and Facebook page
- JS teachers and parents to communicate with student diary
- Reef Curriculum Advisor

Leadership:
Student leadership is a focus across all JS year levels which includes leadership development programs and identified roles:
- Year 9 JS Captains (1 Boy & Girl)
- Year 9 JS Student Council President
- Year 9 JS Reef Captains (1 Boy & Girl/Reef)
- Year 8 Student Council Reef Leaders (1 Boy & Girl / Reef)
- Year 7 Student Council Reef Leaders (1 Boy & Girl / Reef)
- All identified student leaders to participate in meaningful roles & have appropriate responsibilities.
- Leadership retreat for all identified leaders & potential leaders (teacher identified).
- School Camps & Activities

Local Decision Making:
- Local school communities influence the shape of the Junior Secondary model, reflecting local needs.
- Parent consultation:
  - parent reference group
  - email and website updates