



Bellenden Ker State School

***BELLENDEN KER STATE SCHOOL
PROSPECTUS***



Bellenden Ker State School

~Fulfilment Through Work~

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Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

We wish you a warm welcome to Bellenden Ker State School and look forward to a long and happy association with you and your family.

At Bellenden Ker we are proud of the friendly and supportive learning environment we provide for our students. School staff endeavour to offer the very best education to your child. Like you, we want to see every child develop into skilled and successful adults. We want all our students to strive to achieve their full potential. We value working together with our families, making the most of each others' knowledge and skills. Our school belongs as much to our community as it does to Education Queensland. Parents, extended family and caregivers are encouraged to participate in all of our school events. We encourage families to spend time getting to know about our school.

Our school is situated in the picturesque foothills of Mount Bellenden Ker and we have a lush and beautiful learning environment. Our school is extremely well resourced and our children learn through a variety of mediums. Our multiage approach to learning ensures that your child's needs are accommodated for through our curriculum.

Once again, welcome to Bellenden Ker State School; a school that genuinely cares about its students and their families.

Regards,

Bellenden Ker State School Staff

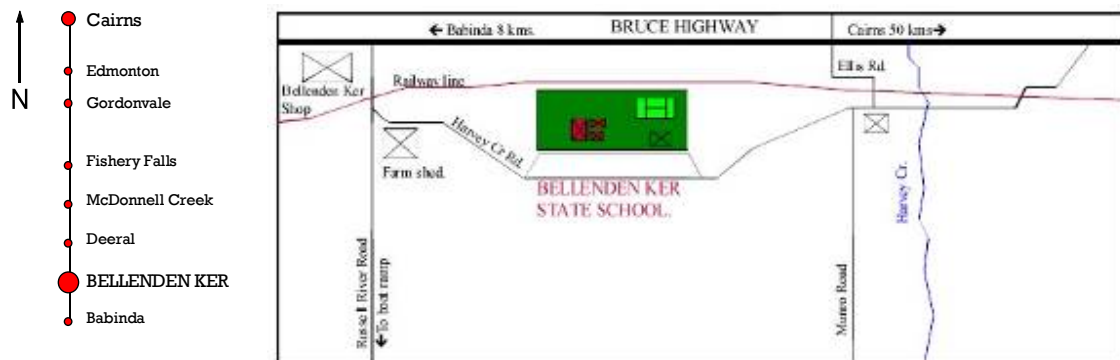
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MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of this school to foster educational achievement and the development as a human being, by active participation in a comfortable, stimulating environment, which is responsive to the needs of each individual and the society they will enter.

Bellenden Ker State School is set in a quiet rural area 12km north of Babinda and 50km south of Cairns. The school is situated on a quiet road with easy parking.



The school has two well-equipped **air-conditioned classrooms**; **Resource Centre**; **fridges** for children's lunches; well **equipped kitchen** with **oven/stove** and **microwave**; **well stocked library**; **networked computers, iPads**; a wide variety of software to meet the needs of all students' individual levels; **plenty of hands on equipment** in the classrooms for the children to use and a variety of **sporting equipment** for all ages.

The grounds have many **varieties of native trees** and well established **gardens**. The playground facilities include a **cricket practice net**, **basket ball court** and a **well lit tennis court**. We also have sufficient **undercover areas** catering for all weather conditions. A **Water Cooler** is situated under the school for children to access cold water on those hot summer days.

STAFF

PRINCIPAL/TEACHER	-	Ms Erika Mollee
ADMIN OFFICER	-	Mrs K Smith
TEACHER AIDES	-	Miss F Trindall/ Mrs J Schep
CLEANING STAFF	-	Mrs R Costabeber

Visiting Teachers

Physical Education	-	Cluster Teacher Students learn a variety of sporting skills.
Learning Support	-	Cluster Teacher Provides individual or small group support for children who need extra help or extension.
Lote Teacher	-	Cluster Teacher For Years 4 thru 6 . Students learn about the culture of Japan and how to speak the language.
Music Teacher	-	Cluster Teacher Students learn music appreciation; how to develop singing voices; how to read musical notes and play the recorder.
Instrumental Music	-	Cluster Teacher Offered to the students who are 9 years and over . Instruments available for loan from school. For more information, see page 7.

SCHOOL POLICY

Our aim is to **enhance individualised learning** through a child-centered approach to teaching.

Our Policy Is:

- 1.** To impart knowledge, skills and understanding to the highest standard possible for each child in the various areas of the curriculum.
- 2.** To develop in the children, through class teaching, excursions, group work, sport, school projects and by example, such character traits as honesty, initiative, co-operation, team spirit, self-discipline, sportsmanship and consideration for others.
- 3.** To develop the child's curiosity, imagination and aesthetic appreciation.
- 4.** To relate learning experiences as much as possible to the students physical and cultural environment. This is **successfully achieved** through the **Multi-age philosophy** applied here at Bellenden Ker State School.

Multiage Philosophy

Due to the small number of students at our school we have adopted a multiage approach to the structure of class. There are a great deal of advantages of running a multiage classroom.

Multiage promotes and supports the understanding that different ages groups can be achieving at the same academic level, while maintaining healthy social and emotional well being and development.

- Easier transition and adjustments
- There are always students who are familiar with class routines in turn this means there are more people to ask for help or assistance with day to day matters and procedures.
- Curriculum activities are designed to best meet the needs of all the students.
- It provides students with opportunities to achieve success yet be able to progress and meet more demanding and challenging tasks.
- It is vitally important to provide students with opportunities to feel and achieve success. This is where the academic aspect of school impacts on a child's social development.

Multiage classroom environments allow students to develop a greater ability to accept their own strengths and weaknesses and respect the strengths and weaknesses of others.

Other aspects that our school values about our multiage classroom;

- Age is not a socially determining factor
- General acceptance of difference
- Friendship goes across ages
- Milestones achieved at different ages (home and school)
- In built mentoring / support
- Different points of view
- Supportive environment
- No sense of failure
- Children doing different activities at different levels working to their own capacity.

The close ties between the school and community enhance their education. We hope you will become involved in the school and help us continue providing an education relevant to your child's needs.

SCHOOL RULES

Our aim is to provide a safe environment for all children and adults. We aim to achieve this by encouraging all children to remember the 5 C's:

COURTESY; CO-OPERATION; COMMITMENT; CARE; CONSIDERATION

- 1.** Hats and sun cream will be worn in the open at all times.
- 2.** Running/chasing games will be played in grassy areas only, not near or under the school buildings.
- 3.** Children must obtain permission from the teacher before leaving the school grounds, even to retrieve a ball.
- 4.** Children walking or riding to school shall obey the traffic rules.
- 5.** Use all equipment wisely. Safety First.
- 6.** Children may be allowed in the classroom at lunch time, only with permission and supervision.
- 7.** No climbing or sitting on port racks.
- 8.** After school, children must wait inside the school gate until the vehicle collecting them is stationary.
- 9.** Praise your friends for good work, deeds or efforts - "Be Positive".
- 10.** Bicycles are not touched by any student during school hours.
- 11.** No inappropriate jewellery is to be worn to school.
- 12.** Shoes are encouraged when traveling to and from school but must be worn at school at all times.

ENROLMENTS

For children enrolling in Years 2 to 6 existing workbooks and/or work samples (from the previous school) are welcome and can prove helpful in quickly identifying the needs of the child.

ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO YEAR 1/PREP

Department Regulations States:

Children entering Prep must be five (5) by 30th June in the year of his/her enrolment. Children entering Year One must have attained the age of six (6) by the 30th June in the year they enroll in Year 1. Children can be enrolled any time.

Please come to the office and see our friendly staff.

When enrolling children in **Prep** and **Year One**, a **BIRTH CERTIFICATE** needs to be presented to verify the child's age. Parents will also be asked to fill in forms, which advise us, what to do in case of an emergency; any allergies we should be aware of etc.

We look forward to meeting all of you. If we can help in any way don't hesitate to ask.

MEDICATION / HEALTH RECORDS

It is a requirement of the Department of Education that Teachers and Administrative Staff **do not administer medication** to any student without advice from parents. Parents need to fill in a **Medication Form** (available at the office) **before** any medication can be administered. Medication **MUST** be in the container with the label of doctor's prescription, so the officer administering the medication knows the correct quantities. Students should not bring medication to school without contacting the Teacher first. Also it is vital that Health Records are kept up to date. If there are any changes, please let us know.

ABSENTEE

A note signed by the parent/guardian or a phone call, outlining the reason for the absence, is required for ALL periods of absence. This notification can be before the absence (if known in advance) or on the day of the child's return to school. For student absences >10 consecutive days parents must submit an application for exemption from compulsory schooling.

BOOKS & SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

A School Book List is available at the school. All your children's equipment must be labeled clearly. The school is not responsible for replacing lost or damaged items. It is up to the children to look after their equipment. Currently parents pay a resource fee. The cost of this will be provided on enrolment.

EXCLUSION FROM ANY ACTIVITY

A **NOTE MUST** be supplied if a student is to be excluded from any school activity.

TUCKSHOP

Ice creams are available Wednesday and Friday.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Children from Years 4 to 6 have the option to receive instruction in a variety of musical instruments. The school owns these instruments. Children can borrow them from the school. Forms explaining the loan agreement are available at the school. The lessons are held during school hours.

LOST PROPERTY

Parents are asked to ensure that all articles of clothing and equipment are **clearly marked with the child's name** so that they can be returned to their owner. Unmarked items are placed in a Lost Property Box. Students and parents are encouraged to check though this box regularly to identify and collect their belongings.

MONEY AND VALUABLES

Under no circumstances should the student leave amounts of money or valuables in school bags. Money for excursions etc. should be paid when the student gets to school. Money should be secured in an envelope with either the student's name on the front or the relevant form enclosed. Students are discouraged from bringing toys and expensive items to school. **We cannot take responsibility for the safety of these.**

THIS INCLUDES ALL JEWELLERY

NEWSLETTER

The Bellenden Ker State School and Community Newsletter is sent home every **Friday**. If parents are to be notified about important information, a newsletter will go home on the alternate day. The newsletter contains information on current, past and future activities related to the School, P & C Association and Community News.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

We would like to encourage parents to assist in the school, whether the in the classroom or the library. We welcome all the help and appreciate the assistance. The area of work chosen depends on the needs of the Teacher, or the expertise the parents have. Should you feel you have a skill, or time to offer, please contact the school.

PARENT & CITIZEN ASSOCIATION

The P & C usually meet at school on a Wednesday of each month at 3:30pm. This may change at the next Annual General Meeting. The P & C Association are becoming increasingly more involved in the decision making in both policies and the general running of the school. **I urge you to make every effort to participate in P & C activities in the coming year.**

REPORTING

Student report cards are sent home at the end of each semester. Interim progress cards are sent home in terms 1 and 3. Interviews are arranged when the parent or teacher feels it necessary. We ask that you make an appointment to ensure that information required is readily available.

SCHOOL ROUTINE

The school day **commences** at **9.00am.** and **finishes** at **3.00pm.** No child should be at school **before 8:15am** as ***supervision cannot be guaranteed.*** This is for their own safety.

LUNCH BREAKS

First Lunch Break **11:00am. - 11.45am.**

Second Lunch Break **1.30pm. - 2:00pm.**

TRANSPORT

Parents who collect children each afternoon are asked to ensure that they are picked up as soon as possible after **3.00pm.** Should circumstances arise where a delay can be foreseen, parents are asked to make alternative arrangements to have their children picked up.

BUS

Buses are available to bring children to school from the North of the school.

MORNING

Fishery Falls to Bellenden Ker arrives approx. **8:00- 8:05am.**

AFTERNOON

Bellenden Ker to Fishery Falls departs **3:30pm.**

Bus children are supervised by the Teacher or Teacher Aide.

Supervision cannot be guaranteed after 3:30pm.

BICYCLES

The school has bicycle stands for children's use and they are requested to park their bicycles in these areas. Bicycles are not to be ridden into or out of the school grounds. Children should walk their bicycles until it is safe for them to ride. It is law if riding a bike, a **HELMET MUST BE WORN.**

DRESS STANDARDS

Students attending Bellenden Ker State School are members of an identifiable community. Our school's image and standing in the community is formed by the actions and deeds of our students both in and out of the school. It is the responsibility of every member of the school community to show our school in the best possible light.

Under Departmental policy, it is not compulsory for State School children to wear uniforms, but the children must be dressed neatly.

It is expected that all children adhere to the school's Dress Code, which is approved by the Parent and Citizens Association. The wearing of the school's uniform as the common standard of student dress is to be seen as promoting:

- ***A sense of belonging to, and pride in, the school***
- ***The ready identification of the students and the school***
- ***The removal of dress competitiveness among students.***

UNIFORMS

* SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE DURING WORKING HOURS.

GIRLS

Bottle green wrap around skirt or shorts

Red School T-Shirt with emblem/Combined School Shirts - \$26.00ea

Shoes - Prefer non-black soles (Protect the Tennis Court)

Hat Green/SUNSAFE

BOYS

Bottle green stubbies

Red School T-Shirt with emblem/Combined School Shirts – As above

Shoes - prefer non-black soles (to protect the Tennis Court)

Hat – As above

Adult sizes are available – Combined & Bellenden Ker School shirts \$26.00ea

- * **Prices may vary slightly depending on Supplier.**
- * **We do not aim to make a large profit from the sale of the uniforms.**

2016 SCHOOL YEAR

TERM 1 January 25 – March 24

TERM 2 April 11 - June 24

TERM 3 July 11 - September 16

TERM 4 October 4 - December 9

Public Holidays /Student Free Days – dates to be advised in School Newsletters.

