

**Flagstone**

**Creek**

**State School**



**INFORMATION**

**BOOKLET**



## FLAGSTONE CREEK STATE SCHOOL

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Flagstone Creek  
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**Web Site:** [www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au](http://www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au)

### ***Mission Statement:***

To prepare each child for a useful, satisfying and productive life as part of the community through attention to social, intellectual, emotional and physical needs.

### ***School Staff 2019***

**Teaching Principal:** Mr David Prestridge

**Teachers:** Mrs Melissa Scanlan  
Mrs Caroline Evans  
Mrs Jenni Barkhuizen

**Teacher Aides:** Mrs Linda Tracey  
Mrs Michele Armit  
Mrs Trena Gaffney

**Administration Officer:** Mrs Helen Van Luyn

**Cleaner:** Mrs Trena Gaffney

**Groundsman:** Mr Lee Mitchell

## ***Introduction***

This booklet aims to provide useful information for new families to Flagstone Creek State School. It is hoped that the booklet will inform you of facilities, procedures and organisation which are functional parts of the school.

## ***History of Flagstone Creek State School***

Flagstone Creek opened on 18 January, 1886, with an approximate enrolment of thirty. Today, the school caters for children from the areas of Lilydale, Carpendale, Flagstone, Upper Flagstone, Back Flagstone, Rockmount and Stockyard. Prior to 1963, when a school bus run was instituted, two smaller schools, Mt Campbell and Rockmount, were in existence. Carpendale School closed in 1982.

The school facilities have shown a natural improvement over the years with a new classroom block being built around 1965; and the old Iredale one-teacher school building being relocated at the Flagstone Creek School in 1976 for use as a library. In 1993 a new modular building was constructed to cater for increasing enrolments.

## ***Admissions***

Children born 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015 will be eligible to attend Prep in 2020.

The State Education Act states:

For the purpose of enrolment of a child, a Principal may require a parent/guardian to produce documentary evidence of the date of birth.

## ***Absentees***

If students are absent from school parents should phone the school. If the office is unattended, please leave a message stating your child's name and the reason for the absence. If you know in advance that your child is going to be absent, an early note to the teacher is helpful.

## ***Arrival at School***

School commences each day at 8.45am. Students should be at school by this time to allow them to settle down and prepare for the day.

## ***Behaviour***

See Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

## ***Bus***

Application forms for Bus Travel are available from the Office. All children using school buses wait inside the school grounds where a teacher will supervise them. The children must conduct themselves in a polite and safe manner when travelling to and from school.

## ***Bicycles***

The riding of bicycles to this school is discouraged because of the availability of the school bus.

## ***Care of School Property***

Parents are asked to help us by keeping an eye on school books and library books loaned to children. Books are costly items and we expect that borrowers look after them.

## ***Complaints***

See attached Policy.

## ***Consent Forms***

Often children need to have consent forms signed by parents before they participate in swimming lessons, interschool sports, educational excursions and other activities.

These forms should be signed and returned at the appropriate time if the child is to take part in that particular activity.

## ***Conveyance Allowance***

Applications for Conveyance Allowance are available from the school. Eligibility is shown below:

### ***Class A***

Payable to parents or guardians of children who are conveyed each day by private vehicle to and from the nearest primary school, provided that the children cannot travel to this school by school road transport service.

Students must reside more than 3.2 kilometres by the shortest trafficable route from the nearest State School.

### ***Class B***

When a child lives more than 3.2 kilometres from the nearest school by the shortest trafficable route and must use an unrestricted licensed passenger bus to travel to school or use a licensed bus to travel to a transport service or railway, the parent or guardian may claim a refund of the normal weekly fare paid to travel on this licensed bus.

### ***Class C***

When a child lives more than 3.2 kilometres from the nearest school by the shortest trafficable route and is conveyed by private motor vehicle more than 3.2 kilometres to a school transport service, licensed bus or railway station in order to attend school, the parent or guardian may claim a conveyance allowance.

If the distance travelled by private motor vehicle exceeds the distance travelled by school transports service, licensed bus or train to school, a class A allowance should be applied for in lieu of a class C allowance.

In calculating distance where mentioned above, the journey between house and school, the shortest trafficable route is to be taken.

## ***Excursions***

During the year classes may be taken on day trips to places of interest in connection with particular subjects. Parents will be advised in advance of such trips and asked to sign a consent form. If a bus is hired, a fee to cover transport costs will be levied. All excursions are approved by the P. & C.

## ***Fire Drill / Lockdown***

Fire drills and lockdowns are a regular feature of the school program. A system of evacuation of the school is practised each Term. A teacher's responsibility is to get the children out of the classroom and away from the buildings and to supervise the children.

## ***Grounds***

Infrequent working bees are held when necessary to complete special projects. Your assistance will be eagerly sought at such times.

## ***Hats***

The school staff wish to influence the children in respect to the wearing of hats and the necessity for it. With the safety of children in mind, a brimmed hat or legionnaire style cap must be worn. Caps without the legionnaire 'back' are unacceptable and children wearing them will not be permitted to play sport, take part in Physical Education lessons or play in the sun during breaks.

Hats with the school emblem are available for purchase from the school.

## ***Head Lice***

Head lice are prevalent in many areas of Queensland. Parents should check their children's hair frequently as cross-infection can easily occur. An effective treatment can be purchased from a local pharmacy.

## ***Homework***

See attached Policy.

## ***Hours of Instruction***

8.55 to 10.35-	First Session
10.35 to 11.00 -	Morning Tea
11.00 to 1.00 -	Second Session
1.00 to 1.40 -	Lunch
1.40 to 3.00 -	Third Session

## ***Inter-School Sports***

The school participates in Carnivals each year. Some information concerning these is supplied below with more information circulated at the time of the relevant events.

## **Caffey Sports**

This athletics carnival is held at the Ropehill Sports Ground at Upper Tent Hill. It is usually on a Thursday in August. Schools from the local area participate.

## **Ma Ma Creek Exhibition and Sports**

These are fun-day sports held at Ma Ma Creek in conjunction with the local exhibition. These are usually conducted on a Saturday in August.

## **Caffey Swimming Carnival**

The carnival for children in Years 4 - 6 is usually held in late November at the Gatton Pool.

## ***Infectious Diseases***

**Chicken Pox** - Sufferers should be excluded for at least 7 days after the beginning of the illness and until the last lesion is healed.

**Measles** - Sufferers should be excluded for at least 7 days from the appearance of rash or until a medical certificate of recovery is produced.

**Mumps** - Sufferers should be excluded for at least fourteen days after the onset of the symptoms.

For other illnesses or infections, contact the school.

## ***Lost Property***

Parents should ensure that all articles of clothing and equipment are clearly marked with the student's name.

## ***Library***

The school has a well equipped library and children are encouraged to use it. The library is really a resource centre containing books, audio-visual materials and the like. Books may be borrowed at designated times and taken home.

Try to encourage your child/children to participate in library borrowing as this is a positive way to improve reading ability. Each child is to have a library bag (any bag large enough) to carry library books to and from school.

## ***Medication***

A teacher or other adult person on the school staff authorised by the principal to give medication to a student, may give oral medication, provided that:

- a parent has completed an *Administration of medication at school* form
- the medication container has a valid pharmacy label which includes the name of the prescribing health practitioner to confirm that it is prescription medication
- the student has received a dose at home without ill effect prior to the school administering the medication

Non-prescribed oral medications (such as analgesics and over-the-counter medications) should not be administered by teachers or other persons on the school staff.

### ***Money***

It will be necessary for children to bring money to school for various purposes, such as excursions and swimming. Where possible, please pay by EFT, BPoint, cheque or send the correct amount of cash in a sealed envelope marked with the family name and purpose of the money. A receipt will be attached to the next school Newsletter.

### ***Newsletter***

*SCHOOL TALK* is published each Tuesday to keep you informed and up to date with school news. It is also emailed to parents and is available on the school website – [www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au](http://www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au)

### ***Parents and Citizens Association***

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month in the school library, commencing at 7.00 pm. All parents are welcome to attend the meetings of the Association, which does excellent work in providing many amenities and improvements at the school, as well as providing input into the Annual Operation Plan and Budget.

### ***Parking of Vehicles***

For safety, no vehicles are to be driven into the school grounds during school hours - except in special circumstances.

### ***Physical Education***

Physical Education includes Health, Safety, Dance, Sport and Swimming. All children are expected to take part in all aspects. If there is a valid reason for not doing so, an explanatory note is required.

### ***Religious Instruction***

Religious instruction classes are available at the school. These classes are conducted on Tuesday at 10:00am.

The faith groups who provide approved instructors to deliver religious instruction are:

RI Arrangements		
<i>Arrangements for Programs</i>	<i>Participating faith group/s</i>	<i>Program of instruction authorised by the faith group</i>
Cooperative program	Anglican Christian Life Centre, Gatton Gatton Baptist Church Gatton Church of Christ Lutheran Church New Hope, Lockyer Salvation Army	CEP
Single Program	Catholic Church, Helidon	Sunday Scriptures and Seasonal Activities

Students are allocated to these classes in accordance with the information provided on the initial enrolment form. This information remains operational unless the parent informs the school otherwise in writing.

Students who are not participating in religious instruction will undertake the following activities:

- follow-up of class work
- individual project.

Parents of children participating in these programs will be advised if a faith group requires funds to cover the expense of materials used by their children.

Details are also available on the school website – [www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au](http://www.flagcreess.eq.edu.au)

### ***Reporting to Parents***

Student progress reports are issued at the end of Semesters 1 and 2. Teachers also schedule parent/teacher interviews to discuss comments, ratings and general progress at this time.

Parents should feel free to inquire ***at any time*** throughout the year if there are matters of concern about their child's schooling. We ask that you contact your child's teacher to make an appointment.

### ***School Dental Service***

The Queensland Government provides free dental treatment. You will be advised when these visits are due.

### ***School Dismissal***

Most children leave school in the afternoon on the school bus at approximately 3.10 pm.

Some children are picked up in cars. We ask that all care be taken with vehicles in the pick-up area at the front of the school.

### ***School Requirements***

A full list of school requirements will be published at the end of each school year. They are also available on the school website – [www.flagcress.eq.edu.au](http://www.flagcress.eq.edu.au) Parents may be reassured that we will at all times attempt to keep costs to a minimum.

### ***School/Sports Uniform***

**\* = Items are available for purchase from the school.**

#### **Boys:**

\* Black/white polo shirt with school emblem

Black shorts

\* Black/white sloppy joe or spray jacket with the school emblem

Black track pants

#### **Girls:**

\* Black/white polo shirt with school emblem

Black shorts

Black skirt

\* Black/white sloppy joe or spray jacket with the school emblem

Black track pant

**Hat:** \* Black/white wide-brimmed hat with the school emblem

### ***Transfer of Students***

If a transfer to another school is required, the request should be made in writing or by seeing the Principal personally, stating the name of the school to which the child is to be transferred.

## **HOW CAN WE HELP ?**

Parents have helped when they have:-

- shown patience and courtesy while their child is speaking.
- read bedtime stories (especially to young).
- answered annoying questions (gladly, promptly, and honestly).
- explained current happenings.
- posed problems.
- encouraged daily routine (bed, rise, wash, eat, etc).
- allowed him/her to do large paintings and drawings.
- provided dressing-up materials.
- spoken clearly and carefully.
- corrected speech errors (without "nagging").
- used the correct name for things.
- listened intelligently to his/her comments.
- explained desirable behaviour.
- helped him/her to understand that there are usually two sides to any argument, dispute or discussion.
- given him/her opportunity to play with other children. Taken their children on trips, excursions and holidays.
- showed that ordered and cooperative family living is necessary and that certain rules and regulations are necessary.
- refrained from criticising others in front of him/her.
- respected his/her property (and encouraged likewise).
- taught him/her healthy attitudes to competition and to be a good loser.
- let him/her know (constantly) that he/she is loved.
- developed the questioning mind - by a word or comment that "challenged" his thinking,
  - i.e not always a simple answer.
- arranged suitable study facilities.
- encouraged an interest in books - if not a home supply at least the use of libraries.
- talked about school activities with him/her.
- made direct efforts to communicate with the school so as to develop some understanding of current "methods" and materials to give confidence in helping

with "home study".

- worked with a teacher in carrying out recommendations for home help.
- actively involved themselves in community activities e.g. School Committees, Working Bees.
- attempted to encourage a wholesome education program (selection of books, comics, TV programs).
- attached value to money e.g. pocket money.
- given positive praise wherever possible (encouraged child's self esteem).