Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children.

Walt Disney
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Welcome to Payne Road State School, a beautiful school tucked away in a green and shady environment bordered by Fish Creek. We are a smaller school large enough to be able to offer our students the full range of extracurricular programs and resources and small enough for children to be able to follow their interests and to maximise their participation in the life and activities of the school.

We deliver contemporary learning programs aligned to state and national curriculum and enhanced by a range of experiences and extra-curricular activities that engage our children purposefully in using their learning to shape, influence or respond to the world around them. We are committed to providing a rich and relevant set of curriculum opportunities for all children.

Our school motto “Aiming Ever Higher” is reflected in our focus on every child in every classroom learning every day. There is a strong emphasis on ongoing student literacy and numeracy development and achievement across all ability levels in our school. We have established a reputation for learning gains across the years of NAPLAN well above the state average performance.

Our school has been recognised for excellence in Science and Innovation and commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability. In 2014, Payne Road State School was the only primary school state finalist in the Queensland Showcase Awards for Excellence in Innovation, won the Peter Doherty Award for Excellence in Science Education and is recognised for environmental leadership with a five star rating as a Cleaner, Greener School by Keep Queensland Beautiful.

We have a strong commitment to the ongoing development and learning of teachers supported by professional learning and frameworks for greater consistency and continuity across the school based on effective pedagogical skills.

I am confident our staff, curriculum, organisational arrangements and partnerships can provide an excellent teaching and learning environment for all children irrespective of age or development.

The administration and staff of Payne Road State School are dedicated professionals who will strive to provide the best possible learning experiences for your child and work hard to ensure your child learns in a positive and supportive environment.

On behalf of the school community, I extend to you and your family, a very warm welcome to Payne Road State School.

Stephen Rowe
Principal
OUR VISION

Every child in every classroom learning every day and using that learning to influence, shape or respond to the world around them.

OUR MOTTO: AIMING EVER HIGHER

We aim to provide an engaging and stimulating learning environment where children’s motivation to learn grows from experiences that engage them in real life and life like interactions and empowers them with the knowledge that positive action to shape and influence the world adds purpose and value to their learning.

In our smaller school setting, there are multiple opportunities for all children to learn and actively participate in a rich and diverse range of classroom and extracurricular environmental, musical, artistic and thinking programs. In this learning environment, we seek to develop young learners who demonstrate:

- Commitment to being their best
- Motivation and engagement in learning
- Curiosity about their world
- Confidence to try new things
- Persistence in seeking solutions and problem solving
- Respect, responsibility and safety in managing their own behaviour
- Leadership and informed decision making
- Resilience and courage
- Cooperation and teamwork
- Kindness, friendliness and consideration for others

OUR SCHOOL IDENTITY

- Large enough to have the full range of resources, programs and specialists as a larger school
- Small enough for children to be able to follow their interests and to maximise their participation in the life and activities of the school
- Aspiring to be the best that we can be
- Expectations for success in learning and high standards of behaviour
- A futures orientation based on a meaningful and purposeful curriculum supported by the use of learning technology as an integral part of learning and teaching
- Frequent and regular opportunities to engage in learning activities that challenge, enrich and extend student’s thinking and abilities
- Commitment to environmental stewardship and action to contribute to a more sustainable world
- Quality teaching based on commitment to personal and professional growth
- Relationships underpinned by respect and dignity, diversity and inclusion, leadership and accountability and ethical standards of behaviour
- Knowing our students well
- Commitment to teamwork and the development of the skills of cooperative learning
- An active, committed and supportive school community
OUR SHARED BELIEFS

We believe that the best opportunities for children to learn occur when:

Our Learners
- Are valued, encouraged and supported in their learning
- See purpose in their learning and make links to life like and real life contexts
- Are actively engaged in and enjoy their learning
- Develop effective literacy and numeracy skills
- Develop both collaborative and independent learning skills
- Develop and utilise ICT skills as 21st Century learners

Our Parents and Carers
- Understand the important role that the home environment plays in children’s learning
- Contribute to the building of positive and mutually supportive home and school relationships
- Are kept well informed on school events and participate in and/or support school activities
- Are kept informed on their child’s development and progress
- Address matters of concern in timely and appropriate ways
- Have confidence in the school to respond to their concerns and meet their child’s needs

Our Staff
- Know and understand their students’ learning needs and take steps to ensure that every child is learning in every classroom every day
- Plan and implement quality teaching and learning programs
- Meet the accountabilities of their roles and responsibilities
- Are committed to striving for continual development and refinement of their skills
- Actively engage in professional development and training
- Are professional and motivated in their work and relationships with students, parents, colleagues and members of the school community
- Are positive and proactive in addressing student concerns or issues with parents
- Are supported in their work by peers and the school leadership team
- Engage in high standards of moral and ethical behaviour

Our School
- Has clearly identified strategic directions towards school improvement
- Has high expectations for successful student learning and behaviour
- Provides appropriate school based frameworks and programs that align to the designated curriculum
- Provides a safe, supportive and challenging environment for learning
- Identifies staff needs and plans and provides for appropriate and effective teacher learning and development
- Is open and transparent in meeting its accountabilities to the community and DETE
RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOUR PLAN

Our Responsible Behaviour Plan outlines our system for facilitating positive behaviours, preventing problem behaviour and responding to unacceptable behaviours. Shared expectations for student behaviour are clear, and assist our school to maintain a positive, productive learning and teaching environment, where all school community members have clear and consistent expectations and understandings of their role in the educational process.

We believe that each individual:
- Can make choices about how they act and treat each other.
- Is responsible for their behaviour and the choices they make.
- Should accept the consequences of their actions and understand the importance of making amends.
- Can choose to change their behaviour.

THREE BASIC SCHOOL RULES

Our school community has identified three basic school rules to teach and promote our high standards of responsible behaviour. These rules have been agreed upon, endorsed by all staff and the P & C. They are aligned with the values, principles and expected standards outlined in Education Queensland’s Code of School Behaviour.

BE RESPECTFUL
BE RESPONSIBLE
BE SAFE

Clear expectations for these basic rules are reflected in classroom rules that are displayed, known and understood easily by students. They underpin our anti-bullying strategies and are regularly communicated through class social skills programs, class discussions, assembly messages and newsletters. Our school’s Positive Behaviour Plan clearly identifies both proactive measures to reinforce and acknowledge desired behaviours and responsive processes and strategies to underscore school expectations and address inappropriate behaviours.

FIVE KEYS TO SUCCESS

Five key values are taught as five keys to success and are embedded in the You Can Do It program delivered in classrooms. Our school is committed to sustaining a positive focus on developing important qualities for personal development, high standards of responsible behaviour and social/emotional well-being in age-appropriate ways. Our five key values are:

CONFIDENCE
PERSISTENCE
ORGANISATION
GETTING ALONG
RESILIENCE
Transitioning to School
Payne Road State School provides a range of opportunities for children and families transitioning to school to become familiar and comfortable within our setting. These are outlined in our Prep Parent information pack and on our school website. We have built closer ties with our nearby centres to strengthen out ties even further and to provide opportunities for staff to develop closer relationships, mutual learning and better information sharing on our young learners.

PREP
Our Prep classrooms are large and spacious and located at the front of our school in close proximity to our junior school classrooms.

Our Prep students are an integral part of the larger school and quickly feel at home in our junior school precinct. Our Year 5 students develop buddy relationships at the beginning of each year with our preppies supporting them in Year 1 as school leaders in Year 6.

There is a strong oral language focus in our Prep early literacy and numeracy programs where active hands-on learning is featured. The Australian Curriculum forms the basis of teaching and learning expectations in English, Maths, Science, History and Geography. Prep students access PE and Music programs delivered by specialist teachers as part of their curriculum. Teacher aides are full time in Prep for two-thirds of the year and for 16 hours a week in the final term as they prepare for transitioning into Year 1. Additional teacher aide resources are also provided to target specific learning needs and early support programs.

Our Prep teachers regularly promote and invite parent participation in celebrations of learning and special days and develop a close relationship with their families, working in partnership to provide the best start to school for all children.

Prep – Year 6
Our class groupings are comprised of a majority of single year level groups and a number of multi-age classes. A strong feature within our school is the high standard of planning, resourcing and focus on student learning outcomes. We know our students well.

The key learning areas of English, Maths, Science, History and Geography are implemented in alignment with the Australian Curriculum expectations. The Arts, Health and PE, Technology and LOTE are addressed through the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Framework (QCARF). Year level planning is focused on connecting elements of different subject areas to ensure students build and apply their knowledge and skills within and across learning contexts.
Motivation and engagement in learning are essential for building a love of learning and empowering students to believe that they can use their learning for real purposes. A strong feature of learning at Payne Road State School is the emphasis on planning for real-life and life-like learning contexts and experiences that involve students in responding, shaping or influencing the world around them. Our curriculum focuses on developing threads throughout our curriculum unit organisation that link units and years of learning and targets the developing of our students as active and informed citizens who are:

- Literate and numerate
- Environmentally conscious
- Informed and able to take positive action
- Capable users of digital technology
- Creative
- Healthy

As a school, we take pride in our ability to know our students well and to provide for the ongoing learning and development of students at all levels of achievement. Students have a host of opportunities to follow their interests and to maximise their participation in the full range of activities offered by the school.

**Curriculum Enhancement**

In addition to in-class provision of a range of challenging and stimulating activities and programs, our school provides opportunities for students to engage in additional rewarding and stimulating learning tasks. Some of these activities are at a whole school level while others are offered at age appropriate times. They include:

- Earth Smart Science School - sustainability focus throughout our school programs
- Environment Club – this program engages learners in practical environmental tasks including vegetable gardens, planning and caring for the school and local environment and learning about sustainability. Environment Club meets twice weekly. There is also an annual camp for Environment Club
- Science Week Activities, challenges and learning celebrations
- Specialist Sustainability Officer.
- Science Week activities and challenges held annually
- Bright Sparks (A rich and varied range of options are offered to students in Years 3 to 6 in areas such as bridge building, robotics, photography, dance, drama, legomation, cooking and craft during the final week of Term 3)
- Music – Specialist Music teacher, Instrumental Music Teachers including concert band (brass, woodwind and percussion) from Year 5, Strings from Year 3, Extension through GRIPPS, String Camps, Band camps
- School Choirs
- Musical performances: Local venues, Musical Mayhem, Kaleidoscope
- Health and Physical Education – specialist teacher, interschool/ district sport and swimming
- Interschool District and regional sporting competitions and teams, The Gap Cup - swimming
Camping Program for Years 4-6
Experience based curriculum opportunities with excursions and incursions
Digital learning opportunities – robotics, iPods, iPads digital cameras and videos
ICAS Competitions (English, Maths, Spelling, Science and Digital Technologies) for Year 3 – 6 students

Additional Extension and Enrichment Opportunities

- Student Enrichment workshops
- Maths Teams Challenge
- Various academic competitions e.g. assessments for schools (ICAS).
- Literacy and Numeracy week challenges.
- Student Leadership Program
- Optiminds

- Student Leadership Program
- Bardon Young Writers
- Engineers Spaghetti Challenge
- The Gap SHS Extension Programs in Mathematics and Art
- Science Week Challenges
- Instrumental Music Program

Excursions and Camps
All students will have opportunities to participate in excursions and camps which are offered at various times. These outdoor activities link directly to curriculum studies, leadership skills and/or team building. Camps conducted for students in Years 4 – 6 are held throughout the year and may range from two to four nights depending upon the age of children, the program and venue.

Student Leadership
Developing leadership in our young people depends on our school providing opportunities to learn about ways in which they can make a difference in the world around them. At Payne Road State School all students are provided with opportunities to develop leadership abilities through a range of representative and service modes.

Our school offers students avenues to explore their potential for personal growth and leadership through working with others, developing teamwork, exploring their interaction and influence within the school community and commitment to valuing and improving the school environment.

School Captains, House Captains, Sports Captains, Music and Library Captains are Year 6 positions for which students may nominate. The process of deciding these positions is finalised towards the end of Term 4 when eligible students are still in Year 5.

The Student Council consists of class representatives selected through a class voting process. Students meet regularly to explore ways of raising issues that are of student concern around the school and suggest strategies to improve them and actively raising funds that will benefit worthy causes or facilities at the school.
Instrumental Music Program
Payne Road State School offers an active and growing Instrumental Music Program for students wishing to enjoy the rewarding experience of learning to play a musical instrument and performing for an audience. Small group lessons occur during school time on a range of instruments including brass, woodwind, percussion and stringed instruments.
At the end of each year students are invited to apply for inclusion in the Instrumental Music Program for the coming year. All students who receive instrumental music lessons at school are required to commit to play in a band or orchestra. Regular opportunities are provided for students to perform both in school time and out of school hours at fetes, concerts and other special performances.

Choirs
Payne Road State School has three choral groups: Beginner Choir and Senior Choir and Senior Vocal Group. Beginner Choir is made up of students in Years 1, 2 and 3. Senior Choir involves students from Years Four to Six. Singing groups rehearse before school or during lunch hours and perform at various events at school and in the community.

Our school conducts an annual concert coordinated by the P & C Performing Arts Sub Committee, Music and Instrumental Music teachers. This involves all students from the school performing in class or ensemble items.

LOTE and Cultural Studies
Chinese (Mandarin) is taught to all students in Years 5 and 6 through 90 minutes instruction per week by a specialist LOTE teacher. They engage in activities that promote learning of the Chinese language, writing, social and cultural aspects. Students in Year 4 have a half hour per week of Chinese cultural study.

Interhouse Competition
The school has 3 houses based on Aboriginal names. Children are assigned a house when they enrol and brothers and sisters are in the same house.
- Nooroo (Speed) Red
- Amaroo (Lovely Place) Green
- Moongara (Spirit) Yellow

An annual Interhouse Sports Carnival is conducted during Term 2 and children learn a range of athletics skills as part of their regular PE program. Students in Years 3 – 6 participate in Field events, while students from all years compete in the Track events. Early Years students have a novelty sports day and engage in rotational tabloid and ball game activities on an alternative day. Students also undertake preparation and compete in the annual Cross Country event.
Interschool Sport

On Friday afternoons all Year 5 and 6 students participate in local Interschool sporting competitions. The range of sports is dependent on the coaching skills of teachers within the school and include Soccer, Netball, Softball, T Ball and Cricket.

Swimming

All children in Years 1 - 6 are able to participate in swimming lessons held at the Ashgrove State School pool in either Term 1 or Term 4. These are undertaken by qualified instructors and parental payment is required to subsidise the costs including bus transport to and from the venue. A swimming carnival is held during the year for children in the Middle and Upper Primary classes during the final weeks of the year.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Our school offers a range of support for students with learning difficulties. The classroom teacher and the classroom learning program are fundamental to the nature of this support and additional assistance is usually provided within the classroom setting. In some areas of specialised, intensive and targeted support, students may be withdrawn for short periods to work with on specific programs such as MiniLit and MultiLit delivered by trained teacher aides. Teachers undertake case management responsibilities for all children in their class in relation to learning support. Case Management support is provided by the STLaN, HOC and/or the Speech Language Therapist.

Our Student Support Services operate in a team environment involving the Learning Support Teacher, Guidance Officer, Head of Special Education Services, Special Education Teachers, Speech Language Therapist and Head of Curriculum. Processes of information gathering and assessment form the basis of determining levels of student need and assist in the development of Individual Support or Educational Plans. Referrals for students with exceptional capabilities related to gifted and talented are also addressed by this team.

Students with Disabilities

Payne Road State School’s programs are based on an inclusive model of provisioning. Our school is resourced for students with disabilities under similar resourcing provisions as other state schools based on the identified needs of those students. A Head of Special Education Services coordinates resources, program delivery and the ongoing monitoring and review of Individual Education Plans.

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

Learning technology is used as a tool for creativity, research and specific skill development across the curriculum and is an integral part of many aspects of student learning. A student technology continuum ensuring continuity of computer skills across the school is included in our School Curriculum Plan. Students at Payne Road State School have opportunities to engage with a range of learning technology including interactive whiteboards, a bank of i-pads, i-pods, computers, digital cameras, scanners and video cameras, enabling them to develop competencies in ICT skills.

The school is fully set up for wireless technology and bandwidth maximisation is scheduled to occur towards the end of Term 3. The school has an air conditioned Computer Classroom equipped with 30 computers and a data projector. Teachers are able to book time in this facility on a regular basis.
Students in Years 5 and 6 have access to a class set of laptop computers. Several computers are also located in each of the other classrooms and classes have access to a small bank of laptops.

Technology also plays a role in providing a communication link between our school and the wider community through our informative school web site. School programs, newsletters, learning links and school events are regularly updated at www.payneroadss.eq.edu.au

**Interviews and Communication**

Parents wishing to talk with class teachers or students are asked to ring before school or after school to avoid interruptions to class learning time. Alternatively a message or a request for the teacher or administration team member to return the call can be left with office staff to pass on to the teacher during breaks. All teachers have access to email accounts. While some topics are well suited to email, it is important to remember that email is not always read on the day it is sent and some matters are more effectively dealt with using other forms of communication.

The Principal and HOC are available for interviews and meetings regarding student related issues on an appointment basis and can be contacted by phone or email.

**Parent/Teacher Interviews**

Teachers are available for parent/teacher interviews throughout the year on an appointment basis. Teachers will formally offer an opportunity for this to occur towards the end of Term1 and Term 3. Written reports are issued at the end of each semester.

**Parent Handbook**

Upon enrolment, a parent handbook outlining school routines, procedures and general information is issued to all new families.

**P & C**

Our school aims to be responsive to the needs of our students, parents, teachers and community. In our continuing quest for school development and improvement, programs, policies and procedures are reviewed on a regular basis. Our School Council and Parents’ and Citizens’ Association provide avenues for consultation and feedback in shaping and responding to school initiatives.

The P & C is an active and committed team of parent, school and community representatives that meets on the third Thursday of each month. With its various sub-committees, the P & C undertakes discussion and planning to promote and deliver a range of activities and fundraising projects that enhance our children’s educational opportunities, learning environments and facilities. Their ongoing support is an invaluable asset and a strength of our school.
Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)
Payne Road State School’s OSHC is run under the auspices of the P & C and has an excellent reputation for its program and management well outside our immediate school and is second to none. It provides a wide range of care options including Vacation care and is very well supported by our school families.

Other P & C Services
The P & C also offers a Uniform Shop, Tuckshop twice weekly with online ordering options, a Back to School Booklist service and employs a Facilities Officer to manage the rental and hiring of school facilities. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/PayneRoadPandC

OUR FACILITIES AND RESOURCES
Payne Road State School offers a diverse range of quality learning and teaching spaces with access to additional facilities that provide for flexible or subject specific needs. These include:

✓ Classroom teaching spaces with digital access, interactive whiteboards and air conditioning in all classrooms and learning spaces
✓ Large, spacious and well equipped Prep classrooms
✓ Digital learning technologies - computer classroom, one-on-one laptop access for upper primary classes, i-pads, i-pods, digital cameras, video
✓ Wireless access to all classrooms and learning spaces
✓ Learning Resource Centre with computerised borrowing facilities and internet access.
✓ Attractive green and leafy grounds bordered by Fish Creek
✓ Outdoor learning areas including quality vegetable gardens, shade house and native bee colony
✓ A high quality and well maintained school oval
✓ New hall with stage, performance and sporting options
✓ Second hall with wooden floors
✓ Music room with instruments for classroom and instrumental music programs
✓ Staffroom/Community meeting room
✓ Multi-purpose activities building (Outside School Hours Care Building)
✓ Modern and well equipped Senior and Junior Adventure Playgrounds
✓ Cricket practice nets and cricket pitch
✓ Floodlit flexipave multipurpose court (tennis, netball, basketball)
✓ Under cover eating/play areas and walkways
✓ Shade covered sandpits
AN AWARD WINNING SCHOOL

2015
★ 2015 Finalist Healthy Waterways - Waterways Warrior
★ 2015 Greener Cleaner Schools Five Star Rating

2014
★ Victory with Volunteers Award Winner
★ QAST Queensland Top Ten Tuckshop Award
★ Queensland State Finalist - Showcase Awards for Excellence in Innovation (the only primary school in this category)
★ Greener Cleaner Schools Four Star Rating
★ Brisbane Spotless Suburbs - Environmental Innovation and Protection Award, Catchment Champion and Overall Schools Winner
★ Brisbane North Optiminds Challenge - Honours in Social Science and Language Literature
★ Showcase Excellence in Schools Regional Award - Innovation in Education
★ Brisbane City Council Big Strides Green Heart Showcase Award Winner
★ Peter Doherty Excellence in Science Education Award Winners

2013
★ Department of Education and Training Staff Excellence Award Winner
★ 2013 Brisbane City Council Sustainability Awards Finalist

2012
★ Showcase Excellence in Schools Regional Winner
★ Victory with Volunteers Awards, Silver Youth Music Awards, NEiTA Award Finalist

2011
★ School Partnerships Award, Engineers Challenge Winners, Gold Youth Music Award

2010
★ Tuckshop of the Year in Queensland
★ 2011 Early Childhood Inclusion Award
★ Silver Fanfare Music Award
Payne Road State School
171 Payne Road
The Gap 4061

Contact Details

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School Office Hours
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

We welcome your enquiry.
A Smaller School with So Much to Offer

- We know our children well
- A small school achieving big results
- Big enough to have extra-curricular offerings and services similar to much larger schools
- Small enough for children to follow their interests and maximize involvement in the life of the school
- An engaging, purposeful curriculum with links to real life contexts and interactions
- Targeted support, intervention and extension in literacy and numeracy
- A clean, green school set in a spacious, well-resourced learning environment
- Commitment to stewardship for the environment and sustainability
- A rapidly expanding e-learning environment
- An active, caring and supportive school community

Our Recent Awards and Achievements

2014 ⋆ State Finalist – Showcase Awards for Excellence in Innovation ⋆ Five Star Rating as a Cleaner Greener School ⋆ Brisbane North Optiminds - Honours in Social Science, Language Literature ⋆ Brisbane Spotless Suburbs - Environmental Innovation, Protection Catchment Champion and Overall Schools Winner ⋆ Victory with Volunteers Award Winner ⋆ QAST Queensland Top Ten Tuckshop Award ⋆ 2013 ⋆ Peter Doherty Award for Excellence in Science Education