



Annual Implementation Plan 2017

Our Centre Vision

Our vision for Toohey Forest Environmental Education Centre (EEC) is to be recognised as a centre of excellence providing science curriculum support for schools, particularly science related to issues of sustainability and the environment. Toohey Forest EEC is committed to the development of students as responsible and informed citizens through scientific literacy.

Improved scientific literacy enables informed decision-making about local, national and global issues.

Scientifically literate citizens:

- *Are interested in the world around them*
- *Are able to identify questions, investigate and draw evidence-based conclusions*
- *Reflect critically on information, data or the claims made by others*
- *Make informed personal decisions and choices*

Our Purpose:

Toohey Forest EEC provides a range of day visit programs to students ranging from Prep to Year 12. Program themes include sustainability, alternative energy, biodiversity, human impact studies, water quality assessments and flora and fauna studies.

In addition to student programs, Toohey Forest EEC links with various education and external agencies to provide professional development opportunities relevant to undergraduate University students and teachers on select environmental science and sustainability topics.

Principal's Forward

The main challenges for the year ahead are:

- *To reinvigorate the teacher peer review process with the aim of continuing to refine the centre's pedagogical framework, as well as the micro-skills and teaching strategies employed by individual teachers.*
- *Continuing to foster close relations with Griffith University consistent with the terms outlined in the Deed of Licence, including opportunities to partner with the Griffith Sciences and Education schools*
- *Continuing to refine the STEM Horizons for High Achievers program to support select high achieving students in years 6, 7, 9 and 11*
- *To continue to develop the technology utilised by the centre to further enhance service delivery and educational value for all schools.*
- *To explore opportunities to improve the educational value of both the physical surrounds of the EcoCentre and the 2 classroom areas.*

Key Priorities for 2017

1. Centre pedagogy

- *Allowing for all teaching staff to access knowledge and skill focused PD which is in keeping with individual Performance Plans and the outcomes of the new teacher peer review process [T1-4]*
- *To utilise the outcomes of the peer review process, as well as the visiting teacher feedback survey, to review the centre's pedagogical framework [T4]*

2. Relations with Griffith University

- *Continuing to meet with Griffith University management, select academics and post graduate students to explore opportunities to determine their ability to (i) value add to existing programs (ii) develop new programs / activities relevant to school-aged students (iii) support opportunities for teacher professional development [T1-4]*
- *To review and renew the Deed of Licence with Griffith University [T1-2]*

3. STEM Horizons for High Achievers.

- *To review existing program offerings to ensure their suitability for clientele [T1-2]*
- *Source new program opportunities in response to demand from schools [T1-4]*
- *Finalise and publish a report which focuses on the outcomes / achievements of the STEM Horizons for High Achievers program [T1]*

4. Incorporating ICT's to enhance service delivery and expectations of schools

- *Install new hardware (e.g. AR Sandbox) and software (e.g. iPad cafes) to enhance the use of ICT's in program delivery [T1]*
- *Development and trial of new programs focusing on robotics and coding [T 2-3]*
- *To examine options to 'digitise' the EcoCentre's internal and external spaces to create an online, virtual resource [T3-4]*

5. Continuing development of the EcoCentre classrooms and physical surrounds

- *Negotiate with GU staff to install new trails on the eastern and western sides of the EcoCentre (T1-2)*
- *Install new signage, including a plant trail, along new and existing paths [T1-2]*
- *Install iPads & security enclosures in select locations in the EcoCentre [T1]*

5. Develop and implement a Quadrennial School Review (QSR)

- *Consult with internal and external stakeholders to (i) determine where the centre is currently positioned i.e. SWOT Analysis (ii) develop a QSR which details centre aspirations / milestones during the course of the next 4 years [T1-2]*