

Amaroo Environmental Education Centre

Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024

School Profile

Amaroo Environmental Education Centre (EEC) is a day visit centre situated in the Darling Downs and South West Region of the Department of Education and Training. The Centre is located on the site of the old Kleinton State School, approximately 22kms north of Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia.

We design, promote and deliver highly effective environmental and Indigenous education and wellbeing programs and courses for schools (P-12) and for the community, including building capability of schools with professional development for teachers.

In 2015, Amaroo EEC celebrated 40 years and in that time has delivered programs and courses to for over 100,000 students from the Darling Downs and South West region; however we are continually looking for new ways of improving our service to schools.

Our three pillars that underpin our *modus operandi* are environmental sustainability and Indigenous perspectives which aligns with two of the Cross Curriculum Priorities of the Australian Curriculum i.e. *Sustainability* and *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures* and the third pillar is Wellbeing which supports the General Capability of Personal and Social Capability.

We provide a manageable level of service delivery and diversify programs across all three modes of: Destination, Expert & Partnership. Within these 3 models we design, develop and deliver **programs**, **events** and **courses** for students, teachers and the community. We align all our centre programs to the Australian and Queensland Curricula with specific focus on Science, History and Geography and Humanities and Social Sciences.

Amaroo is an Indigenous word which we believe means '*beautiful place*'. The Traditional Custodians where Amaroo sits are the Jarowair of the Wakka Wakka nation. We acknowledge all Traditional Custodians and Elders on whose Land we journey.

Vision

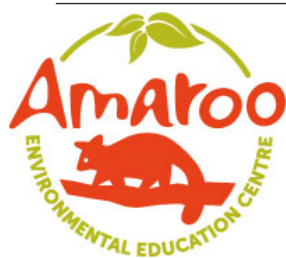
The vision for Amaroo EEC is for **a community that cares for self, others and the environment to achieve enough for all forever.**

Values

At Amaroo EEC we:

- Demonstrate respect, care and compassion for ourselves, others and the environment
- Promote responsibility for our actions for a sustainable future
- Encourage integrity of and stewardship for all life on earth
- Model understanding, tolerance and inclusion of all peoples, cultures and perspectives





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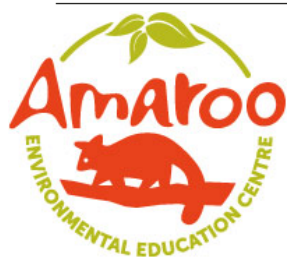
Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024

Improvement Priorities

Service Delivery

Success indicators				
1. 1. All Introductions and Acknowledgement of Country are delivered with consistency and alignment to the program theme or "Big Idea", "Student Blanket Role" and are age appropriate.				
2. 2. Client Feedback Survey data from visiting teachers is consistently highly positive.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
SD1. All staff focus on the Centre's vision in their Welcome and Acknowledgement; i.e. caring for ourselves, others, the environment/Country.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD2. For all the programs create specific age appropriate student "Blanket Roles" and "Call to Action" that are related to the "Big Idea".	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD3. Develop a Centre Data Plan populated with relevant data sets.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD4. Develop a program evaluation template that clearly articulates the data to be collected and how it will be used in the continuous improvement process.	✓			
SD5. Continue to develop productive partnerships with other organisations (e.g. SEQ Landscapes; DDEC; TRC; WQ-TB; DDSW STEM Hub, Murri Rangers, Gummingurru) to support the implementation of environmental and Indigenous education across the Darling Downs and South West Region	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD6. Expand the implementation of Conservation Land Management Cert II course to 24 students from 4 State High Schools in the Toowoomba area.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD7. Implement a Kids Teaching Kids session for students in the Toowoomba North Provincial Cluster of schools each year.	✓	✓	✓	✓
SD8. Monitor and review staff time allocated to plan, prepare, manage, design, develop and deliver programs.	✓	✓	✓	✓





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Improvement Priorities

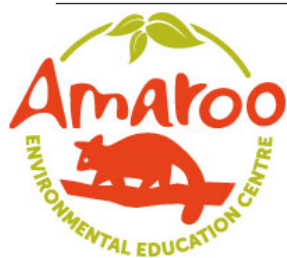
Curriculum

Success indicators				
1. 1. All our Program Overviews are updated to align with the Australian Curriculum and Queensland Senior Syllabus, where appropriate.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
C1. Review our Curriculum Synopsis to capture the updates of our Program Overviews and Course Outlines.	✓	✓	✓	✓
C2. Refine our Senior Geography and Biology excursion programs to align with the new Queensland Syllabus.	✓	✓		
C3. Review Centre programs to ensure Indigenous perspectives are embedded, where appropriate.	✓	✓	✓	✓
C4. Review Centre programs to ensure environmental sustainability aspects are embedded, where appropriate.	✓	✓	✓	✓

Facilities

Success indicators				
1. 1. Our facilities, grounds and resources are developed and maintained to the highest quality to improve student learning through all our programs, courses and events.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
F1. Install information signs on buildings and in gardens to identify specific features.	✓			
F2. Create an environmental sensory trail for early years programs.	✓			
F3. If the neighbours property is acquired, develop a Master Plan for vegetation restoration, fire management and program utilization for student learning into the future.	✓			
F4. Upgrade the bus and car park area for better disability access.	✓			
F5. Celebrate the construction of the Eco Classroom through an Official Opening on 5th June 2021, World Environment Day.	✓			





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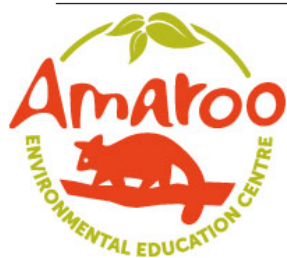
Human Resources

Success indicators				
1. 1. Seeking high professional standards for all staff through the development, implementation and review of their Performance Development Plans.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
HR1. All teaching staff are encouraged to attend relevant professional development events such as: Earth Day Environmental Education Expo, Australian Association for Environmental Education, Bush Therapy and Indigenous Conferences, and Earth Education Workshop.	✓	✓	✓	✓
HR2. Align staff professional development with key teaching and learning departmental priorities identified in Every Student succeeding – State Schools Improvement Strategy 2021-2025 and budget for staff development.	✓	✓	✓	✓
HR3. Teaching staff to investigate the use of digital technologies in programs to enhance student learning.	✓	✓	✓	✓
HR4. Implement and monitor the Amaroo EEC Staff Health, Safety and Wellbeing Plan.	✓	✓	✓	✓
HR5. Develop a Human Resources Succession and teacher capacity plan for the centre.	✓			
HR6. Develop a staff professional development log based on individual Annual Performance Development Plans.	✓	✓		

Teaching and Learning

Success indicators				
1. 1. Maintain high quality environmental and Indigenous education and wellbeing programs, courses and projects for schools and the community in the Darling Downs and South West Region.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
TL1. Incorporate strategies for individual students to articulate learning goals at the beginning of their excursion and processes to self-reflect on learning goals and provide feedback at the end of the daily program.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TL2. Develop a targeted assessment strategy across selected programs at Amaroo EEC.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TL3. Implement dimensions of the Learning Beyond the Classroom 5th Pedagogy in the delivery of centre programs.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TL4. Identify highly successful teaching strategies to inform program delivery and teacher feedback processes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TL5. Monitor teaching practice with a focus on student engagement and learning outcomes.	✓	✓	✓	✓
TL6. Develop regular observation sessions for all staff and use the observation process as a form of quality assurance of our program delivery.	✓	✓	✓	✓





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Leadership

Success indicators				
1. Leadership development opportunities for all staff are part of their Performance Development Plans, where appropriate.				
2. Leadership in environmental sustainability is demonstrated through our operations, facilities management and teaching practice.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
L1. Principal to provide coaching and mentoring support and assistance to O&EEC Principals.	✓	✓		
L2. Principal to support the Queensland Association for Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre Leaders (QAOEECL) through working groups and as Vice President.	✓	✓		
L3. Encourage all staff to participate in leadership roles related to environmental and Indigenous education and Wellbeing both within the centre and the community.	✓	✓	✓	✓
L4. Align staff performance development plan with individual responsibilities for key strategies within Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)	✓	✓	✓	✓
L5. Provide opportunities for University students to experience environmental education programs.	✓	✓	✓	✓
L6. Revise and update the Amaroo EEC School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP) 2021 - 25.	✓			

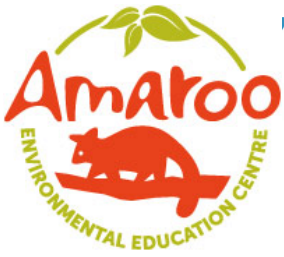
Community Partnerships

Success indicators				
1. Amaroo EECs partners are actively engaged in our projects, programs and course for the mutual benefit of all stakeholders.				
Strategies	2021	2022	2023	2024
CP1. Informal arrangements are fostered with all our partners for the mutual benefits for all.	✓	✓	✓	✓
CP2. A Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) or equivalent is developed through authentic negotiations with all our Indigenous communities.	✓			

School Improvements

Improvement Name	Description
Program Design, Development and Delivery process review.	Revisit program design, development and delivery procedures which include Big Idea, Student Blanket Role and Call to Action.





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Endorsement

This plan was developed in consultation with the school community and meets school needs and systemic requirements.

Principal

P and C / School Council

Assistant Regional Director

