

Contact Details

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This annual report has been reviewed and approved by the EREAFSL Board to ensure compliance with our school registration requirements. This report is published to provide information about Deception Bay Flexible School for parents / carers, young people, members of our school community, and other interested parties. This report has been compiled in accordance with the relevant Commonwealth and State Government reporting requirements.

Table of Contents

Message from our Head of Campus	3
School Context	4
School Overview.....	4
Distinctive Curriculum Offerings	4
School Policies	6
Characteristics of the Student Body	7
Enrolments by Year and Year Level	7
Student Body Characteristics	7
Student Outcomes.....	8
Student Attendance	8
NAPLAN	8
Senior Secondary Outcomes	8
Post-School Destinations	8
Social Climate.....	9
Student Wellbeing	9
Family and Community Engagement	9
Satisfaction Surveys.....	9
Staff Profile	11
Teacher Standards and Qualifications	11
Workforce Composition	11
Professional Development	12
School Financials	12
School Income	13
School Expenditure	13

Message from our Head of Campus

In 2024, DBFS showed some of the highest level of engagement in programs right across the school, evident in the high numbers that continued to turn up each day. Young people completed more classwork than ever, and each young person engaged not only in classroom learning, but in a large range of out-of-the-class events and activities. Such activities included sport, music, art, hospitality, coffee-making, Big Ears challenges, and First Nations events. A highlight for many of the students were the Senior Formal, Christmas Party, Halloween activities and the Disney-themed Participation Party. Our young people exercised their leadership skills through high quality engagement in a variety of activities, TAFE qualifications, school-based traineeships, community volunteering, day sailing, rallies and marches for local causes, bike maintenance, candle and jewellery making, gardening and success in part-time jobs.

Young people showed amazing maturity to work together to create whole school working agreements, and responded by raising the bar around the principle of respect and how this was shown to each other on site each day. A number of elders engaged with our community, including our local Police Liaison Officer and respect was shown with First Nations peoples and cultures through NAIDOC Week activities, the Sorry Day walk, Respect Day, conversations around the renewal of our Reconciliation Action Plan, and increased involvement in the Cultural Connections program.

Staff also engaged in ongoing professional development throughout the year. The Doing Schools Differently Conference, which was held this year in Brisbane, highlighted the enormous growth in Alternative Education, provided opportunities for skill building in a variety of areas, and establish connections with a variety of other organisations engaged in the industry. Further to this, all staff engaged throughout the year in Professional Supervision, seeking continual growth and engaging in high quality reflective practice.

Our weekly Wellbeing Program provided an opportunity for Young People in both Middle and Senior Schools to meet separately and discuss relevant topics on areas of personal growth, including issues of respectful relationships, healthy lifestyles and social media. With the guidance of external counsellors and youth worker supports, our Young People expanded their problem-solving skills. They engaged in honest and respectful conversations, along with many Collaborative Problem Solving meetings to resolve issues and develop skills, and demonstrated great improvements in positive interactions and encouraging words to help each other achieve their potential.

School Context

Co-educational or single sex	Co-educational
School Sector	Catholic (in the Edmund Rice Tradition)
Year Levels Offered	7-12
Additional Information	Additional information about our school can be found at: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- mySchool website- EREA Flexi website

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Deception Bay Flexible School is a part of Edmund Rice Education Australia Flexible Schools Ltd who provide a second, third or fourth chance to young people who have disengaged from mainstream schools, with a focus on radical inclusion, hope and opportunity. Deception Bay Flexible School commenced operation in 2006 as a registered co-educational Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition.

At Flexis, we do things differently. We walk, learn and work together with young people on Common Ground; we build relationships, and every member of the community commits to doing their best to work within our four principles of Respect, Participation, Honesty, and Safe and Legal.

Across our Flexi Schools and Special Education Schools in almost every state and territory in Australia, we support young people with strengths-based, trauma-aware learning. Often young people come to our Flexis thinking they cannot learn – we show them they can. We make sure young people feel safe, welcome and empowered to succeed. We provide young people with the opportunity to define what will work best for them, with services to adapt to their needs.

First Nations influence

Since the very beginning, we have walked in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, advocating for change and promoting reconciliation. At Flexis one third of our young people and 10% of our educators identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

As a priority, we are working to strengthen the cultural capacity of our entire workforce. We are working to make sure the system values and respects First Nations peoples and perspectives, to build Indigenous leadership at every level of our organisation, and to ensure that First Nations young people experience the highest quality education possible in the safest and most dynamic schools in the country.

DISTINCTIVE CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

Deception Bay Flexible School offers holistic learning experiences that address the social needs of our young people, and promotes their emotional, physical, spiritual, and academic development. Our education programs are attuned to the individual by an assessment of need and delivery within a supportive environment. The purpose of this personalized approach is to engage the young person with their learning and empower them to take responsibility for their actions and learning, achieve greater autonomy and self-reliance and to engage in the transition to further education and/or employment.

Year 7-9

- V9 Australian Curriculum: Mathematics, English
- Visual Art
- Humanities & Social Sciences
- History
- Health & Physical Education
- Technologies

Year 10

- V9 Australian Curriculum (English, Mathematics)
Career Education Short Course

Year 11-12

- Essential English
- Essential Mathematics
- Short Course – Literacy
- Short Course – Numeracy

Year 10 - 12 Electives

- Sport & Recreational Studies
- Social & Community Studies
- Industrial Technology Skills
- Music in Practice
- Workplace Skills – Cert I
- Applied Digital Technologies - Cert II
- Visual Art – Cert I & II
- Hospitality – Cert II
- Automotive Servicing - Cert II
- VET Micro skills & Skill sets

Cocurricular offerings

Deception Bay Flexible School provides extensive opportunities for young people to participate in cocurricular or non-classroom activities at their level and within their areas of interest. The broad range of opportunities or choices for young people includes activities described as cultural, sporting, and intellectual and/or service related.

Cocurricular activities offered at Deception Bay Flexible School in 2024:

- Cooking
- Textiles
- Music
- Outdoor Education & Recreation
- Gym
- Team Sports
- Information, Communication & Technology
- Bible Studies
- Service Learning
- Cultural Connections
- Events Committee
- Social Skills
- Bike Maintenance
- Driver Education
- First Aid courses
- Anger Management
- Healthy Relationships
- Student Leadership Formation
- Senior Leadership Camp
- Responsible Service of Alcohol
- Food Safety Certificate
- First Aid Certificate
- Cert III in Business
- Cert II Health Services

SCHOOL POLICIES

In accordance with registration requirements, our key school policies are publicly available via our website.

How to access our school policies:

1. Click on the EREA Flexi Schools website link <https://www.flexi.edu.au/>
2. Click on 'Flexi Schools' or 'Special Schools' from the top menu
3. From the school directory find and click on our school
4. Click on 'School Documents, policies and reports' from the bottom of the page to access our school policies.

Note: If you are unable to access our website, please contact the school for more information regarding our school policies.

Characteristics of the Student Body

EREAFLSL and Deception Bay Flexible School welcome students who have a diverse range of personal characteristics and experiences. These characteristics and experiences may be attributed to physical, religious, cultural, personal health or wellbeing, intellectual, psychological, socio-economic, or life experiences. We provide a range of personnel and resources to support access to, and participation in, learning for all young people.

Our student body are domestic students from several different cultures and nationalities. The following tables provide an overview of our student population:

ENROLMENTS BY YEAR AND YEAR LEVEL

	2024
Year 7	6
Year 8	20
Year 9	25
Year 10	24
Year 11	35
Year 12	18
TOTAL	128

(data derived from Commonwealth Census data submissions for the years displayed)

STUDENT BODY CHARACTERISTICS

	2024
Male	48.44%
Female	46.09%
Gender Diverse	5.47%
First Nations	28.91%
NCCD	87.50%

(data derived from Commonwealth Census data submissions for the years displayed)

Student Outcomes

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Overall student attendance at our school in 2024:

Overall attendance rate	38.5%
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Student attendance rate by year level in 2024:

Year 7	45%
Year 8	38%
Year 9	37%
Year 10	36%
Year 11	36%
Year 12	39%

(attendance rate is generated by dividing the total of full-days and part-days that students attended, and comparing this to the total of all possible days for students to attend, expressed as a percentage.)

How non-attendance is managed

Deception Bay Flexible School manages the attendance of its young people in accordance with our Attendance Procedure and supporting guidelines which outline the processes for managing and recording young people attendance and absenteeism. We are committed to celebrating and encouraging young people attendance through consistent practices of roll-marking, record keeping, monitoring, proactive follow-up, and ongoing engagement and relationship building practices with our young people and their families and carers.

NAPLAN

Where relevant, our reading, writing, spelling, grammar, punctuation, and numeracy results for the Years 3, 5, 7, and 9 NAPLAN tests are available via the My School website.

How to access our NAPLAN results:

5. Click on the My School link <https://www.myschool.edu.au/>
6. Enter our school name in the search field
7. Click on 'View School Profile'
8. Click on 'NAPLAN' from the top menu to access NAPLAN information.

Note: Our schools participation in NAPLAN will vary from year to year dependant upon the student cohort. Please contact the school for more information regarding NAPLAN.

SENIOR SECONDARY OUTCOMES

Senior secondary outcomes at our school in 2024:

Percentage of young people awarded a VET qualification (Cert I, II, III, IV etc.), including School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship	56%
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POST-SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

At the time of publishing this Annual Report, the 2024 post-school destinations survey data for our school was not available. This report will be re-published to include this post-school destinations data once it becomes available in late September.

Social Climate

STUDENT WELLBEING

At Deception Bay Flexible School, the wellbeing and best interests of our young people is our primary consideration. Together with our young people, their families, external service providers, and the community, we build positive learning environments and safe and support spaces to address young people's wellbeing. Through elements of leadership, inclusion, young people voice, partnerships, and support, our pastoral care program is designed to foster supportive relationships to monitor student progress, to advocate on their behalf, to provide advice, direction, and support during difficult personal issues, and overall to support our young people in the achievement of their stated personal and education goals.

DBFS provides a range of weekly wellbeing support for young people, from mindfulness activities and self-regulation skill-building, Collaborative Problem Solving meetings, and the weekly wellbeing course for both Middle & Senior School. Young people are also provided the option of engaging with our on-site counsellor once a week, along with drug and alcohol counselling through Ted Noffs. Art Therapy session throughout the year also allowed young people to express themselves in new ways.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

At Deception Bay Flexible School, we consider our families and carers as partners of the school in their young person's education experience. Families and the wider school community are welcomed into our school throughout the school year for various events and activities as interested parties of our school and our young people. Deception Bay Flexible School continuously plans and seeks out ways to partner with families and community, recognizing the benefit of these partnerships for our young people, our school, and our community.

DBFS participated in a variety of community initiatives, including annual events Clean Up Australia Day, International Women's Day Breakfast, March Against Violence, Australia's Biggest Morning Tea and our very own Sorry Day Walk. We engaged actively with government agencies to support Young People in engaging positively with support systems in the community. We also had regular visits from our Police Liaison Officer, Uncle Roy, along with a number of visitors from other schools and organisations for our NAIDOC Week activities. Deception Bay Flexi continued to maintain its partnership with other Flexi schools in the community, along with organisations such as Younity in Deception Bay and a variety of local businesses and training organisations, to provide employment opportunities for a variety of Young People.

SATISFACTION SURVEYS

The tables below show selected data from the recent EREAFSL Opinion surveys for Deception Bay Flexible School (sent to young people, parents / carers, and staff to measure satisfaction with our school in 2024).

Young People opinion survey data

Percentage of young people surveyed who agree that:	2024
Staff help motivate me to learn	89%
Staff at this school treat young people fairly and with respect	85%
Our school has high expectations around each young person following our Code of Conduct	86%
I am given opportunities to do interesting things	89%
Young People are supported at this school to work with the 4 principles and common ground	90%

Parent / Carer opinion survey data

Percentage of parents / carers surveyed who agree that:	2024
My young person gets a good education at this school	100%
My young person likes being at this school	100%
My young person feels safe at this school	100%
My young person's learning needs are being met at this school	100%
Staff at this school expect my young person to do their best	100%

Staff opinion survey data

Percentage of staff surveyed who agree that:	2024
I enjoy working at this school	87%
Young people in our school are encouraged to do their best	87%
I am given opportunities to be creative in my work	85%
I receive training on Child Safeguarding and Child Protection	93%
Young people safety is taken seriously in our school	84%

Staff Profile

TEACHER STANDARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

Deception Bay Flexible School requires its teaching staff to hold a valid Teacher Registration with the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT) and must meet the requirements of the QCT Teacher Registration Eligibility Requirements Policy which relates to qualifications, suitability to teach, English language proficiency, experience, and professional standards.

Qualifications

The below table depicts the percentage of teaching staff and school leaders who hold the listed qualifications:

Doctorate or higher	0%
Masters	21%
Bachelor	58%
Diploma	21%
Certificate	0%

WORKFORCE COMPOSITION

The staff at Deception Bay Flexible School are highly qualified, experienced, and generous professionals who consistently contribute to our school in a manner that goes above and beyond expectation.

The following tables provide an overview of our staff profile and workforce composition:

Staff numbers

	Headcount	FTE
Teaching Staff	19	14.0
School Leaders	14	7.50
Non-Teaching Staff	14	12.10
TOTAL Staff	47	33.60

Staff characteristics

	2024
Male	27.66%
Female	72.34%
Gender Diverse	0.00%
First Nations	8.51%

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Deception Bay Flexible School ensures that all school staff, in particular its teaching and leadership staff, are provided regular opportunities and access to professional learning that builds knowledge, understanding, and skills.

Professional development activities undertaken by staff in 2024 included:

- Doing Schools Differently Conference (all staff)
- Reboot Trauma-Informed Practice
- Stronger Smarter Institute Leadership Course
- Sounds-Write Training Course
- Yarn Safe - Mental Health for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People
- Flexi Formation Foundations
- Collaborative Problem Solving Training - Tier 1 & 2
- Essential Assessment

School Financials

(All financial data derived from Commonwealth Financial Questionnaire data submissions for the year displayed)

SCHOOL INCOME

The 2024 school income for Deception Bay Flexible School reported by financial year accounting cycle using standardised national methodologies and broken down by funding source is available via the mySchool website.

How to access our Finance data:

1. Click on the My School link <https://www.myschool.edu.au/>
2. Enter our school name in the search field
3. Click on 'View School Profile'
4. Click on 'Finances' from the top menu to access funding information.

Note: If you are unable to access the mySchool website, please contact the school for our financial data.

SCHOOL EXPENDITURE

The 2024 school expenditure for Deception Bay Flexible School reported by financial year accounting cycle using standardised national methodologies and broken down into salaries, allowances, and related expenses, non-salary expenses, and capital expenditure is depicted in the graph below:

