

Toilet and Changeroom Facility Policy (Version 24.1 – 22 January 2024)



Aims

- To maximise access to students' toilet facilities during the day to promote the health, wellbeing and learning opportunities of all students.
- To provide good quality toilet facilities throughout the school.

Rationale: Why we are writing this policy?

The school recognises that well-maintained toilet facilities where students feel comfortable and safe and have open access to throughout the school day, are essential for health, wellbeing, and learning.

We value and respect our students and want them to be able to benefit from good provision and practice.

Objectives: What do we want to achieve?

- To ensure that this policy is both accepted and upheld by the whole school community - school staff, students, parents/carers, cleaning and ancillary staff.
- To keep toilets open and available to students throughout the school day. While students can use toilet facilities at break and lunchtimes if they need to, we ensure students have access at all times. We recognise that toilet needs are highly individual and do not conform to regimental timetables.
- At secondary level, to cut down on the need for students to leave lessons, we provide regular and frequent enough toilet breaks (every 70 minutes). We recognize that some students only feel comfortable going to the toilet when others are not around and will allow children to quietly sign in and out of class to use the toilet.
- To ensure that the toilet and change room facilities are suitable for the range of anticipated users, including students with disabilities and special needs, with adequate lighting, fixtures and fittings.
- To ensure the toilet and change room facilities cater for the needs of all students from cultural and religious communities, and ensure these needs are met in a sensitive, informed and appropriate manner.
- To ensure that the toilet facilities provide visual and aural privacy for users, ensuring a spare supply of cubicle door locks.
- To ensure that all toilet areas have properly maintained supplies at all times of water, soap, hand drying facilities and toilet tissue in dispensers, provided at a convenient height.
- To ensure sanitary disposal units in all female cubicles, serviced on a regular basis and to provide sanitary dispensers in female A toilet block.
- To implement and maintain an effective toilet cleaning, supervision and inspection regime to ensure proper standards of provision and cleanliness, throughout the school day.
- To locate drinking water supplies and outlets in safe and appropriate locations, and not in toilet areas.
- To supervise the toilets at break and lunchtimes, if students perceive the need. If students assume this role, we will train and supervise them to ensure they carry out their duties correctly and do not restrict fellow students from using the toilets as and when they need to.
- To actively seek the views of the whole school community in relation to any concerns about toilet provision and access issues (ensuring a child friendly procedure for students to report deficiencies or problems) and to respond seriously to these and deal promptly with any problems highlighted by the students.

- To actively consult and involve the students in managing the toilets (via the Student Council, Senior Prefects or establish a working group).
- To encourage students to respect the toilets and each other (via the Student Council, in curriculum and connect lessons and times, and for students to establish a Student Code of Conduct in toilets and change rooms.
- To regularly include toilet management issues in all appropriate Executive, School Council, staff, and P&C meetings.
- To provide indoor social areas to discourage toilets from being used for such purposes.
- To implement and maintain annual reviews of the policy to monitor that it is being adhered to and remains relevant.

Procedures

- **Increased supervision**
 - Staff will be allocated on PGD in pairs (male/female) for the four toilets blocks at each break (A, D, Rainforest, Z) strategically
 - Staff will be provided with regular face to face training (Human Rights, Inspection, reporting, monitoring, supervision) regarding their duties in the areas.
 - Student leaders, prefects will be regularly consulted about student role in inspecting, reporting, monitoring (To be decided)
 - Regularly communicate information to all staff (briefing) and students (assembly)
 - Advocate to achieve a re-design of hand washing areas for improved passive supervision
 - Executive staff to engage in random playground checks for students out of class.
- **Improved record keeping**
 - When a student is released during class time, the class teacher will provide them with a note and record in ID attend
 - ID attend will be regularly monitored by DP
 - Concerns arising from patterns of behaviour are referred to SBYHN, GO, parent/carer, Engagement HOD as appropriate.
- **Decreased exposure to risk**
 - Only the toilet blocks in A & Z open before school and during lesson time.
 - D and Rainforest toilets will be unlocked by PGD staff member on arrival and locked at end of the break.
 - Halo vape detector systems will be installed in A & Z toilet blocks along with cameras (within regulation) outside nearby to assist identification.
 - Develop and regularly review a Code of Conduct in toilets and change rooms with students.

Individual exemptions

- Individual students with documented and verified needs will work with the relevant Deputy Principal, the Head of the Centre for Diverse Learners or the Guidance Officer to consider the specific needs of the individual student, develop and enact a plan if this policy is not suitable.

Human Rights considerations

https://www.qhrc.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/22021/QHRC_A3Poster_QldHRA.pdf

- **Protection of families and children (section 26)**
Families are entitled to protection. Children have the same rights as adults with added protection according to their best interests.
- **Health services (section 37)**
Everyone has the right to access health services without discrimination. This right also states that nobody can be refused emergency medical treatment.
- **Recognition and equality before the law (section 15)**
Everyone is entitled to equal and effective protection against discrimination, and to enjoy their human rights without discrimination.
- **Protection from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (section 17)**
People must not be tortured. People must also not be treated or punished in a cruel, inhuman or degrading way. This includes protection from treatment that humiliates a person. This right also protects people from having medical treatment or experiments performed on them without their full and informed consent.
- **Fair hearing (section 31)**
A person has a right to a fair hearing. This means the right to have criminal charges or civil proceedings decided by a competent, independent and impartial court or tribunal after a fair and public hearing.

Staff Protocols

- Greet students
- Explain no groups, set a reasonable capacity (1 for each cubicle in working order)
- Direct bag to 'the spot'
- Phones in bag (Empty pockets). Some sensitivity to girls menstruation needs
- Enter with an announcement 'Teacher on deck' if there is loud unexpected noises/damage
- **Students in there a long time. No action required.**
- Thank them for using facilities responsibly. Did they notice any damage?

Student expectations

- Reporting damage as soon as we see it;
- Using toilets at school for the purpose they were intended;
- Leaving them in a better state than when you entered;
- Not vaping, loitering, hanging around in groups or eating;
- Respecting everyone's right to feel safe in the toilets;
- Not being wasteful;
- Joining student action to make sure our toilets are loved.

