



school  
silkwood



Inspiring students to explore, innovate and thrive  
in their learning adventure ... it's The Silkwood Way.



## The Silkwood Way

At Silkwood School our vision is to create an education where a love of learning shines bright and students and families are part of a learning community that is committed to making a difference in the world.

Central to our vision is The Silkwood Way, an educational approach that embraces teaching the Australian Curriculum in a way that inspires students to explore, innovate and thrive in their learning adventure.

At Silkwood every student's learning journey is enhanced through exploration, discovery, curiosity and creativity ... every day.

We are advocates for progressive, innovative and student-focused learning, where learning extends beyond the accumulation of knowledge to develop intelligence through the processes of thinking,

relating, feeling and doing. Our personalised approach to learning challenges conventional schooling and encourages the individual to seek out the best for themselves.

With a focus on opportunity, individuality and a diversity of ways to learn, we aspire to encourage the boundless potential of every student. We believe it is our duty to overcome the unsurmountable, to re-imagine possibilities and to make a tangible difference for every student.

**Put simply, this is The Silkwood Way.**



## Why we do what we do

Simply put ... we want to make a difference to young people's lives through education.

The traditional education model was born out of an era where intelligence was focused on content knowledge and the need to grow an industrialised workforce, and it has served us well. However the world has dramatically shifted and we now have a deeper understanding of human development. At Silkwood, we believe education must reflect this shift.

While content knowledge is important, we also place great value on learning how to learn. Traditional school environments and conventional classroom settings support a style of learning that is subject and outcome focused. While we value and include aspects of this focus, we see that young people need greater opportunity to:

- learn in different ways,
- self-manage, and
- choose content and context they value and connect with.

The idea that school prepares students to pass tests and that tests measure the success of a learner is challenged at Silkwood. Students learn how to reflect, assess and set their own goals for improvement, empowering them to take charge of their own learning.

Our students develop intelligence through knowledge, experience, creativity and thinking in ways that keep curiosity and imagination alert and a love of learning alive. Success in the 21st century will require design thinkers, innovators, change agents and entrepreneurs – people who are able, and empowered – to adapt in a quickly changing world.

Silkwood stands apart from other schools. We are re-imagining education, reclaiming a love of learning for young people and transforming how students and families engage with education.

**This is The Silkwood Way!**

*Inspiring students to explore,*



## What we do

We acknowledge that re-imagining education isn't easy, but we see it as our duty to support our students to explore their dreams and become the best version of themselves.

Silkwood School stands for uncovering legitimate learning pathways that will inspire and compel every student to think freely and explore knowledge deeply by igniting interests, building on talents and exploring possibilities. Learning should be an adventure and The Silkwood Way motivates students to discover this for themselves.

Silkwood embraces the positive structures of the Australian Curriculum in a way that intentionally enhances the schooling experience. Our driver is purposeful and engaging learning experiences for every child through the integration of progressive educational ideas.

It is expertise and boldness that has enabled Silkwood to develop a meaningful approach to education. This consciously distinctive and progressive schooling model encourages a different mindset, one where:

- teaching and learning possibilities are flexible,
- innovative thinking comes as a direct result of nurturing individuality, and
- the quest for learning is the norm for each student.

The Silkwood Way recognises that every child has capacity for growth and there are many pathways to achieve this. By closely focusing on each individual child, Silkwood carefully crafts a learning pathway to support, nurture and bring out the very best in each student. Silkwood School is the only credible alternative for Gold Coast parents who are seeking a contemporary and innovative school environment that challenges conventional schooling models.

*innovate and thrive in their learning adventure ... it's The Silkwood Way.*



## Connection

We live in a world where there are more opportunities to connect than ever before. Learning to connect is an essential element in the Silkwood program and we encourage learners to explore and reach out beyond the classroom to enhance their opportunities. Expansive and interactive natural spaces, strong IT systems, and our large network of community mentors and partners, ensure students have the best opportunity to connect and collaborate. Being at Silkwood means being part of a vibrant and connected global community.

## Learning for life

Silkwood School is a dynamic learning community where all stakeholders in the educational journey – students, staff, family and broader society – share a collective responsibility to cultivate a love of learning and spirit of enquiry. The building of meaningful connections to self, others, place and the wider community ensures the beginning of a lifelong learning journey.

Our developmental teaching methodology supports every student's growth at each learning stage, from early childhood to young adulthood. The Silkwood learning journey is rich with authentic opportunities to progress and develop passions and skills and build positive relationships for life.

## Who we are

The Silkwood team shares a vision to empower students to believe they can create, share and innovate to achieve their dreams. Our qualified team of Educators, Administrators, IT and Site crew bring their energy, wisdom and inspiration to this vision. Our relationships with our students and responsibility to create a thriving and engaged learning community set us apart. Our mission to nurture and challenge students along their learning journey means we embrace the best of existing teaching practice and then re-imagine even more inspirational ways to learn. It's all about finding pathways that truly fulfil each student and bring out the leader within.

To some, it's thought to be leadership, but to Silkwood it's who we are.

## Where we learn

We believe that Silkwood School is truly unique and inspired by our location and facilities. Our stunning bushland setting in the Gold Coast Hinterland provides an extraordinary backdrop for every student's learning adventure. Native habitats are complemented by architecture that enhances and supports Silkwood's learning programs.

Surrounded by thousands of trees, interpretive bush trails, two flowing creeks and interactive learn-scapes, our facilities provide the perfect canvas to bring the school day to life. Our learning environment has been carefully designed to foster a love of nature and to provide inspiration to explore, grow and learn every day.



## Freedom

Without freedom of thought and expression, Silkwood simply would not exist. The vision and framework for our learning community is clear and attracts a range of families who bring their own values and ideals which add to the vibrancy of our community. This combination creates a colourful and diverse community that embraces inclusivity.

Silkwood students are confident in their ability to have freedom of thought and expression. Diversity is celebrated and connecting and caring for each other is an integral part of belonging to our inclusive and welcoming community.

Silkwood encourages boldness, a 'give it a go' attitude and the celebration of journeying and progress. The encouragement to grow through action and effort is at the heart of The Silkwood Way and every student is nurtured and encouraged to challenge themselves and find a way to explore their dreams.

  
Be inspiring... get connected... make a difference.

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*We think outside the square  
We believe it is possible  
We enliven imagination and creativity  
We explore greatness*

*We are bold and caring  
We embrace what works and work to make it better  
We seek wisdom through innovation and fun  
We see learning as a great adventure*

*We are curious and flexible  
We discover through exploration  
We value progress and doing our best  
We know growth requires action!*

*We challenge convention  
We value difference  
We are individuals who are part of a world community  
We understand inclusivity means empowering all*

*We learn about ourselves  
We are inspiring  
We make connections  
so we can make a difference ...*

***It's The Silkwood Way***