Vision
A community supporting young people to realise their potential: forever learning, forever teaching, in the service of humanity.

Mission
To provide a unique, learning-centred environment that progresses young people through an integrated and developmental approach to education.

Through meaningful student engagement in learning, we aspire to develop interpersonal, intrapersonal, physical and cognitive competencies, empowering young people to lead purposeful, fulfilling lives.

What's coming up at Silkwood?

New Families Morning Tea
Date to be advised

High School Information Session
Thursday, 8 March, 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Thursday, 29 March
Last day Term 1

Tuesday, 17 April (new date)
First day Term 2

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL
Parents are asked to telephone the School before 8.30am on the morning of absence on 5655 0300 or email attendance@silkwood.qld.edu.au.

Unexplained absences will be investigated. The School requires a medical certificate when a student is absent due to illness for three or more consecutive days.

QUICK SCHOOL CONTACTS
Student Absentee Notification
P: 5655 0300 before 8.30am
E: attendance@silkwood.qld.edu.au

School Fee Account Enquiries
E: schoolfees@silkwood.qld.edu.au

Outside Hours School Care – Bookings/Enquiries
P: 0475 824 342 E: silkwood@helpinghandsnetwork.com.au

Class Matters
Please contact your Class Teacher or Learning Manager through the School Portal

FACILITATOR'S NEWS

Monday is the day that, Terry, our new Principal joins us. You will be seeing Terry and I out and about as we begin a three week orientation and getting to know Silkwood program. If you see us around, please feel free to stop us and say ‘Hi’ to Terry. Although I do have formal meetings planned for our families a casual chat and friendly hello is a wonderful way to help connect Terry to our beautiful community!

Valerie Campbell-Hogg
CEO

SILKWOOD TEAM BIO

Terry O’Hanlon-Rose (Principal)

Terry O’Hanlon-Rose, Principal of Silkwood School, is one of Australia’s leading educators and researchers in Education and Training. In 2009, he received one of seven National scholarships awarded by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER), “Working in partnerships with VET organisations to build research capacity”.

Terry presented at the INAP (Innovative Apprenticeships Network) Conference in September 2009 in Turin, Italy, after his research work was successfully reviewed by a panel of Peer Researchers. His research into “Boundary Crossing: Transitioning Students to Work through Authentic Employment-based Training” in an Australian Senior Secondary VET program has been a catalyst in developing a framework in establishing Individual Training and Learning Plans for students in many senior schools throughout Australia.

A Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and a Fellow of the Business Educators Association Queensland, Terry has undertaken research in the field of Authentic Employment-based Training and Education models. He holds higher degrees in Business, Information Technology and Education and also holds a degree in Science, majoring in Environmental Science and Geophysics and was awarded the DeBono Award for innovation in Education.

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As an educational administrator, Terry has been committed to providing standards of excellence throughout his educational career, spanning over 30 years. He established the Australian Technical College North Brisbane (now the Australian Trade College) which fast became the leading Australian Technical College in Australia, based on individual learning pathways for all students. Terry has held several executive positions on educational committees, both at a state and national level, including Chair of VETNetwork Australia, the National VET Outbound Mobility Steering Committee and the Queensland Committee for The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) as well as the Board of the Asia Pacific Network of Mixed Methods Research.

Terry has been a regular presenter at conferences (international, national, state and local) and is highly regarded by his educational peers. His publications include contributions to VETNetworker, Innovative Apprenticeships (Promoting Successful School-To-Work Transitions), the Journal of Mathematics Teaching, VOCAL Magazine and recently developed skills through his work with the manufacturing and electrical industries.

In alignment of his belief of life-long learning through participating in authentic, real-life experiences, he has been a consultant to other CEOs and Managing Directors. He brings with his Principalship a wealth of hands-on, learner-centred approach to education, training and development.

Terry believes in giving back and is regularly involved in charitable activities aiding victims of domestic violence and assisting the homeless people through fundraising, regular street visits and collecting items of clothing, toys and toiletries which are given to shelters, and other charities to assist these people in their everyday lives.

GET SET FOR THE GAMES

PREPARATION IN THE LEAD UP TO THE GAMES

IMPORTANT SCHOOL INFORMATION AND CHANGE TO TERM 2 START DATE

The GC2018 Commonwealth Games are coming and things are going to get very busy. We have been advised by the GC2018 Travel team and the Department of Education to expect that travel times will begin to be impacted in the last two weeks of Term 1 (Week’s 8 and 9).

BE PREPARED

The Get Set for the Games website is full of helpful information to help you prepare and plan for the GC2018 games. To learn more about how you could be affected, please click the link below: [https://www.getsetforthe.games/how-you-could-be-affected](https://www.getsetforthe.games/how-you-could-be-affected)

TEMPORARY CHANGES IN WEEK’S 8 AND 9

MORNING PROCEDURE

To assist parents with the logistics of getting students to school (and themselves to work), in Weeks 8 and 9 we will be providing supervision on site to enable early drop offs:
- Primary School students in Years 1-6 can be dropped off from 7.30am (Helping Hands Before School Care is available for Prep-Year 6 students from 7.00am).
- High School students in Years 7-12 can be dropped off from 7.00am.

AFTERNOON PROCEDURE

After school pick up will continue as usual.

Helping Hands Network will be open as usual to provide after school care for Prep-Year 7 students.

We understand and that it is difficult to predict the impact of traffic delays during Weeks 8 and 9, therefore, for families who find themselves unexpectedly delayed, we will provide supervision at the High School until 4.30pm (Years 2-12). Prep-Year 1 students not collected from drop off will be taken to Helping Hands Network, charges apply.

Please note; supervision at the High School is not replacing existing Helping Hands bookings, it is being provided for unexpected/unavoidable delays. If you expect regular delays will affect your travel route, please make a booking with Helping Hands Network - [http://www.helpinghandsnetwork.com.au/our-schools/silkwood-school](http://www.helpinghandsnetwork.com.au/our-schools/silkwood-school).

To support the School during this time, we ask families to be prepared for unexpected traffic delays and have an alternative plan in place: arrange for a friend, relative or Silkwood parent to collect your child/ren when you expect to be delayed; carpooling is another option and is a practical way to ease demands on the roads, plus it is a great choice for the environment.

CONNECTING CARPOOLERS

If you would like to find someone in your area to carpool with, please contact the school office to advertise in our School Newsletter. Phone 5655 0300 or email reception@silkwood.qld.edu.au. Alternatively, contact your Class Carer or pop a notice up on your class Year Group Facebook page.

** CHANGE TO TERM 2 START DATE **

In addition to expected traffic impacts during Weeks 8 and 9 of Term 1, we have been advised by GC2018 Travel team and the Department of Education that Monday, 16 April is going to exceptionally busy on the roads, as 1000s of people depart the Gold Coast (athletes, officials, media and visitors). We had scheduled this day to be our first day of Term 2, however, based on this advice Term 2 will now commence on TUESDAY, 17 APRIL.

We appreciate that this is short notice, and sincerely apologise for any inconvenience caused. Helping Hands Network will be open on Monday, 16 April to provide vacation care.

SCHOOL BUS SERVICE

Information regarding changes (if required) to the School Bus service will be emailed to families separately.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The High School Office only will be open limited days during the holiday period for enquiries and uniform purchases:
- Closed for Easter: Friday 30 March – Monday 2 April
- Open three days only: Tuesday 3 April, Thursday 12 April, and Friday 13 April

UNIFORM SHOP

The School Uniform Shop is located at the High School Office. We kindly ask that families pre-order and collect uniform items prior to the end of Term 1.

Pre-Order items through Qkr! phone app:
1. Download Qkr! app or visit [https://qkr.mastercard.com/store](https://qkr.mastercard.com/store)
2. Register – select your country of residence as ‘Australia’ and follow the steps to register
3. Find our School by typing SILKWOOD in the search bar
4. Register your children
5. Purchase items
6. Orders will be available for collection from the High School Office the next business day (unless advised otherwise).
Fantastic seats are still available to GC2018 sessions, with adult tickets from $20 and children’s tickets from $10. Free public transport is included.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION SESSION

Learn more about our Year 7-12 programs

We appreciate that choosing an alternative Middle/High school for your child is an important decision towards their future. We therefore encourage all parents/carers to come along to learn more about Silkwood’s exciting Year 7-12 programs.

As with our Parent Introductory Courses, we offer these Information Sessions to deepen your understanding of the unique education offered at Silkwood.

WHEN: Thursday, 8 March, 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Bookings essential, please contact the school office – reception@silkwood.qld.edu.au or 5655 0300.

CLASSES IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS ISSUE...

STARBRIGHT PREP NEWS

What a great start to the year we have had in Starbright and we are really settling into a lovely routine.

We have finished our first Integrated Unit about Gillwill’s walkabout and have now started our second unit that introduces us to the Upper-Case Alphabet. We have met Koki, a girl from the Torres Strait Island of Meriam Mer and are following her story as she travels around the world in her canoe.

We love practicing our names with a range of tools and our favourite has been the watercolour paints. In Craft, we have started sewing our names on our meditations pillows and some children are now on to stuffing and blanket stitching their pillows shut. We are so thankful for all the parent helpers we have had this term that help make our sewing possible.

We are looking forward to continuing our exciting learning.

Miss Melanie and Miss Michelle

YEAR 3 NEWS

Year 3 has been very busy this term so far! We have finished our first Integrated Unit of Hebrew Tales and are now moving on to our Gardeners’ unit. With that comes a very exciting excursion to the Rosser Park Botanical Gardens.

In English, we have been learning about information texts and are going to begin to write our own pieces in the coming weeks. In Maths, we are becoming experts in place value and are shifting our focus towards addition and subtraction. Our veranda out the back of the classrooms is finished as well! We have had wonderful learning time out there as well as eating our morning tea and lunch outside. We are very lucky!

Christine

YEAR 5 NEWS

Year 5 has had weeks filled with fun and learning adventures. First up, in the morning, we enjoy having the time to get to know each other. We use this special Discovery Learning time for mindful practice as well as enjoying our beautiful creek. We are also exploring the program Rock & Water and have started to read the novel ‘Wonder’.

As we are using laptops from here onwards, the Integrated Unit Bits & Bytes taught us all about Cyber Safety, how to use Word and PowerPoint, the appropriate use of email and how to use reliable sources to research effectively. Thanks to Bits & Bytes we are now ready to use our learning tool effectively and responsibly.

This week we started exploring the world of the amazing Ancient Egyptians. We will be learning about ancient mythological stories and tales as well as their history and lifestyle. Next week, Year 5 will visit the Abbey Museum for an archaeological digging experience and will also getting to know the ancient art of mummification. Hopefully, all our students will come home safe and sound 😊.
Year 5 competed in their own Winter Olympic Category: Bob Sleigh building

In the afternoons, Sandra, our E-Learning manager, is teaching us how to use Scratch to program our own games. We are also getting to know our totem animal – the Native Bee and get the chance to explore two different ball games like netball, AFL, soccer and touch, as a preparation for next term’s Interschool Sport.

Eve

YEAR 6 NEWS

We have truly hit the ground running in Year 6 this year!

Our students having been busy working on their ‘Australia our Nation’ Integrated Unit, in preparation for our Canberra Camp at the end of the term. This has been particularly interesting for us this year, when studying a timeline of our history, given the pending Commonwealth Games.

This week we move onto our next Integrated Unit, ‘Landforms and Landscapes’ which gives students an opportunity to develop an understanding of land formations, earth systems and the significant of landscapes to people.

We’ve been working on a number of skills in our Experiential frame including developing our Street Art skills, using a range of mediums including ink, stencils, chalk and markers to create their own tags and artwork. We’ve also collaborated with Year 5, developing our soccer, netball, AFL and touch football skills in preparation for Interschool Sport next term.

We’re looking forward to a great year in 2018!

Nikki

YEAR 11 NEWS

In Week 1 of the term the Year 11s and their advisors, Christie and Rosalie, ‘hit the ground running’ with a program of settling in and getting-to-know-you activities. Highlights of the week included the Sand Tracks Future Mapping activity, a visit from Alexis who equipped the students with comprehensive goal-setting strategies, and a combined Years 11 and 12 outing to Paintball. The week culminated in a pizza lunch and a spectacular paper fashion construction workshop and run-way show.

The Year 11 students have also attended the Jackaroo and Jillaroo Camp in Leconfield, New South Wales, where they thoroughly enjoyed a taste of Australian outback life.

Tai, the new advisor for Advisory 1, is currently settling into her new role and is keen to meet the parents of her group. Parents are encouraged to contact her for a meeting or a telephone chat. Please contact Tai through the Parent Portal.

Rosalie

SILKWOOD SPORTS NEWS

We have had a great start to our Sports Program this year and we are looking forward to bigger and better things as the year goes on!

Already we have had many Silkwood athletes out and about representing our school in their chosen Sports.

Congratulations to the following students:

- Tristan H (Year 6) → Tried for the Broadwater Baseball Team. Being the youngest student to trial for the Under 14’s, Tristan displayed excellent sportsmanship and determination at the trials and learnt some great skills that will set him in good stead for his next season. Well done Tristan

- Tobey C and Teo D (Year 4) → Competed at the Gold Coast Interschool Tennis Championships in the doubles Round Robin. The boys won 2 out of their 3 matches against some stiff competition.

- Xavier P (Year 5) and Eden D (Year 6) → Competed at the Gold Coast Interschool Tennis Championships in the doubles Round Robin. The boys won all of the games in their pool, and narrowly missed a semi finals spot in a nail biting tie breaker in the quarter finals against the team that later took out the competition.

- Angus S, Ethan S, Oscar S → The boys have made the U19’s Broadwater District Hockey team

- Polly S → Polly was selected in the U19’s Broadwater District Hockey team

Nikki Fields
The Silkwood School has a Buy Swap and Sell Facebook Group where parents can sell or giveaway their second-hand goods including second hand school uniforms. Please click on the link to join. This is an SCCA initiative.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/700798820062787/

CARPOOLING REQUESTS

Help Wanted!

We live a few hundred metres up Clagiraba Rd but are having difficulty getting our daughter to and from school as my husband and I both leave for work very early.

If you drive up Clagiraba Rd, or feel able to pick up and drop off Ella on your way through we would be incredibly grateful and are happy to contribute $50 each week towards your fuel.

If you think you may be able to help, please contact Lucy on 0427 602 920.

Hi Silkwood families,

Liam H, from Year 8 at Silkwood, is 14yrs old and is the very first and the only Australian Sodi Hire Kart Junior to be invited, along with 39 other drivers from around the world, to compete in the Sodi World Finals this year in Venice, Italy in June 2018.

This is the 3rd year Sodi has been represented by Australian endurance and senior sprints, but this year is the very first year any Junior driver will represent Australia.

Liam is currently #27 out of 1,206 junior drivers from around the world and ranked #1 Sodi Junior in Australia. Liam has broken multiple records with laps of the day, week, month and all-time record. He is quicker than most of the senior drivers on his home track. He currently holds the current track record of any junior or senior. Not bad for a kid who just got in his very first hire kart just over 12 months ago.

During last year’s race season of 18 races, he had 18 podiums, with 12 x 1st place wins (6 back to back to win and retain the #1 National Junior Champion), and 6 x 2nd places.

This year Liam also competed in the Endurance race events and will again this year and was a part of the winning team TSR who are also presenting Australia at the Sodi World Finals.

Liam is too young to compete in the Enduro race this year at the finals as you need to be 15.

Getting to the Sodi World Finals is all self-funded and he is needing help to cover the costs of flights, accommodation, transport to and from the track, race entry fees, and a full race
suit. Current costings are around $7,000 - $8,000 to get him there and to make this incredible opportunity he has created for himself a reality.

Liam has overcome many challenges, growing into the fine young man he is today, and now to have this incredible opportunity as the very FIRST and ONLY Australian Junior to represent Australia at the Sodi World Finals in Venice, Italy this year it is a huge honour and achievement.

Liam is such an inspiration and gives hope to so many other kids struggling. With his love, passion and dedication for karting, Liam wants to forge a career as a racing driver and follow in the steps of Lewis Hamilton and the exceptional career he has had, and it also just happens he too is dyslexic. Anything is possible.

We are hoping that you or someone you might know, can come on board with us to help support and sponsor Liam. For anyone who is able to sponsor over $1,000, we are creating, with a professional graphic artist, a custom t-shirt advertising these special sponsors with their name and/or logo so Liam can wear it to this year’s 2018 season of around 52 races here in Australia and races in Italy leading up to the June 2018 Sodi World Finals in Venice, Italy.

If you can help out in any way, please visit Liam’s Go Fund Me page: https://www.gofundme.com/liams-junior-sodi-kartworld-finals

You can check Liam out on his Instagram account of https://Instagram.com/liam.hydes/

Thank you for your support!
As digital devices become increasingly immersed into our lives, it is certainly clear they will continue to play a major role in the education, learning, entertainment and socialisation of our children’s lives.

This can be a scary prospect for a parent today as we are saturated with news about predators, pornography, cyber-bullying and sexting. And certainly these are real concerns, as is the safety of our children on these devices.

But these devices are not going anywhere and so we need to be smarter when it comes to helping our kids navigate this world. And for me, that means moving away from a fear-based approach, toward one that helps our kids get the skills, behaviours and thinking to become not only safe, but happy and resilient users of digital technologies.

Our kids are getting pretty good at keeping their passwords safe, not sharing private information, and thinking about talking to strangers online. All important lessons we need to continue to teach.

But being immersed in this world requires skills and behaviours well beyond safety measures. It needs to be an ongoing lesson in critical thinking, resilience, self-esteem, empathy and the promotion of good habits that they can carry with them throughout life.

Digital Resilience

The online world opens us up to comments, judgements and even abuse from people known and unknown, all coming from different backgrounds and situations, all with different beliefs, and all with a little extra keyboard courage or anonymity. Whilst we would like to be promoting kindness and respect online, this is not always the reality. We need our kids to be able to recognise and move on from the people whose opinions do not matter. The greater audience and the permanence of the online world also mean the effects of mistakes are magnified. They need to be able to withstand the very permanent and public nature of this world. There may always be a party they are not invited to, or a sleepover they were excluded from, so how will they deal with the constant flow of images appearing in their social media feeds?

Self-esteem away from the screens

There will always be comparison online. With access to so much and so many, there will always be someone prettier, smarter, skinnier, with more friends, more likes or more followers. We need to be constantly working on the self-esteem of our kids, both online and off. Conversations about our self-worth, where that comes from, whose opinions matters, what success and happiness really looks like, these all need to form part of the equation, not just how many likes you get on your latest selfie.

Digital skills

Our kids need skills to know how to handle different situations that arise online. Do they know how to abort a conversation that is going badly? How do they speak up in a group chat when someone is being excluded or spoken about in a nasty way? How do they deal with unwanted attention online? Do they have the words to respond to a nasty comment? Should they respond? As so much of their social life and connection to others will be based around online conversations, these are just some of the skills our kids need to have in order to keep those interactions positive.

Good habits

The earlier we start with good habits, the greater chance we have of them becoming behaviours they adopt throughout adolescence and beyond. So start out with your own rules to ensure these habits are formed. Maybe it is no devices an hour before bed, no devices in the bedroom, no devices at the dinner table, asking permission before sharing pictures of others. Making sure there is plenty of time for friends, extra curricula activities, outside play, chores, homework and good sleep. These all help us be in charge of our time management and the control we have over our devices, so they don’t end up controlling us.

Critical thinking

There is so much content online, so our kids need to be really good at determining that which is real, fake, relevant, helpful and worthwhile. This can be a difficult task (even for adults), but a crucial skill. Critical thinking must be an ongoing process every time they watch a video, look at a photo, read an article or connect with someone. Why was this written or produced? Is the language bias? Are they trying to sell me something? Is there research to back up their claims? Would this video have a warning if it was on TV? Is this worth my time? These are just some of the critical thinking questions kids need to be asking themselves every time they consume content online.

So whilst keeping our kids safe and giving them the skills to do this is of utmost importance, there is so much more to cyber safety than avoiding predators. The emotional and social well-being of our kids and the ability for them to be in the best position possible to learn, grow and thrive are imperative, and will help them become resilient and happy both online and off.

Martine Oglethorpe is a mother to 5 boys with a background in secondary education and a Masters in Counselling.

To learn more about Martine and our team of experts, click here www.parentingideas.com.au