



Annual Implementation Plan 2024

Our Centre Vision: *Inspiring science beyond the classroom*

Mission Statement:

[Toohey Forest Environmental Education Centre](#) is committed to the development of students as responsible and informed citizens through scientific literacy. Improved scientific literacy enables informed decision-making about local, national and global issues. Scientifically literate citizens:

- Are interested in the world around them
- Are able to identify questions, investigate and draw evidence-based conclusions
- Reflect critically on information, data or the claims made by others
- Make informed personal decisions and choices

Our Purpose:

Toohey Forest EEC provides students with engaging learning opportunities and experiences deeply immersed within the natural and built environments. Students experience connections within the various fields of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and Geography. To ensure authenticity to real world science, Toohey Forest EEC partners with a variety of external agencies, including Griffith University, to provide learning opportunities relevant to P-12 school-aged students.

The main challenges for 2024 are:

- (i) Ensuring program alignment with the [Australian Curriculum Version 9](#)
- (ii) Review, revise and develop senior programs in response to the implementation of the new [Science in Practice 2024 Applied Senior Syllabus](#) and revisions to the senior [Biology](#) and [Geography](#) syllabi
- (iii) In partnership with select external organisations, including [Griffith University](#), continue to develop STEM Horizons for High Achievers program experiences that are not easily replicated in schools
- (iv) Establish the centre as a facilitator for professional learning

Key Priorities for 2024

1. Teaching and Learning

- Develop and trial new programs that align with the F-10 Australian Curriculum V9 [T1-4]
- Trial programs that align with the new Science in Practice 2024 Applied Senior Syllabus [T1-2]
- Refine existing Biology and Geography programs to align with revisions to the QCAA syllabi [T2-3]
- Explore opportunities to incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture into program delivery, professional learning, and signage [T1-4]
- In conjunction with Griffith University, develop and trial a year 10 citizen science program focused on the koala population in Toohey Forest [T2-4]

2. Human Resources

- Continue to support improved leadership density whereby staff have increased ownership of select centre operations and activities [T1-4]
- Continue with the casual employment of Griffith University students to support senior student program delivery [T1&4]

3. Establish the centre as a facilitator for professional learning

- Establish (i) secondary science (ii) primary key teacher networks, with the scheduling of regular meetings [T2-4]
- Establish connections with select organisations (e.g. Education Futures Institute, Griffith University) to develop professional learning opportunities for early career teachers [T1-4]

Darren Shepherd - Principal