

# **EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY IN QUEENSLAND**

A unified Queensland Education for Sustainability (EfS) Strategy based on the 2019-2020 Discussion Paper

The Queensland EfS community are seeking:

- Government commitment and agreement to the principles in the EfS Discussion
   Paper which endorse the Government's Queensland Plan educational strategies of:
   being future-focused, advancing practical based learning, and building capacities for
   lifelong learning.
- Collaborating and partnering with the QLD EfS community to implement the recommendations of the EfS Discussion Paper.
- Demonstrate the Government's commitment to finding solutions to unsustainability by including **EfS on their election platform**.

# Recommendations



### **Understanding Sustainability**

Whole school professional development, achievement standards and AITSL standards, tools and frameworks, inclusive and clear messaging responsive to best practice.



### **Building Partnerships**

Collaborative approaches including regionally based facilitators, shared responsibility between government and the EfS community, steering body to coordinate improved access to information and resources.



### **Imagining the Future**

Build capacity for sustainability and resilience into education, deliver creative and innovative opportunities and VET ensuring employment pathways for youth into emerging industries.



### Taking action

Digitally monitor and measure performance of resource management utilising tools to provide action-oriented learning experiences, improved ATSI education and relationships that enhance EfS, report change within school communities.

Contributors include: Sustainable Schools Network Limited, Australian Association of Environmental Education (QLD Chapter), Glowing Green Australia, Professor Jellybean, Independent Schools Queensland, Eco Schools, City of Cairns, Jacobs Well Environmental Education Centre, Holloways Beach Environmental Education Centre, Brisbane City Council Waste and Resource Recovery Services Branch, Early Childhood Teachers' Association, Tangaroa Blue, Natura Education, City of Townsville, City of Gold Coast – Water and Waste Directorate, Griffith University School of Education, Australian Institute for Disaster Relief and Reef Magic Education

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#### **Deliverables**

The Discussion Paper curated by Sustainable Schools Network outlines how EfS can:

- Generate substantial economic savings for schools
- Stimulate local, community based green economy opportunities
- Prepare students for opportunities within sustainable economies
- Enhance the wellbeing of students and staff
- Improve community capacity to face change (e.g. COVID 19 social, health and economic challenges)
- Improve ecological sustainability and STEAM learning outcomes, and vocational pathways for students
- Enhance Indigenous perspectives in schools and community partnerships leading to authentic delivery of the cross-curriculum priority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, and improved First Nation students' engagement and outcomes
- Create more resilient and climate ready schools
- Improve awareness and outcomes of the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Model whole school sustainable approaches, responsive to the different roles and responsibilities of all within the school community

#### Infrastructure the SSN, AAEE & broader EfS community offers State Government:

- **Established** unified partnerships with strategic, evidenced-based action plans for EfS that deliver professional development for teachers, administrators and students to build capacity around a shared understanding of EfS
- **Established** community based, vocational education training aligned with emerging sustainable or green industries that are proven to effectively build pathways and capacities for a work-ready youth workforce
- **Established** infrastructure and experience in creating and maintaining regional and school based EfS hubs
- **Established** protocols and research-based processes that monitor, measure and report change within school communities
- **Established** QLD-based websites that provide up-to-date, research focused digital resources for schools to gain access to credible materials and monitoring tools, nationally recognised information databases, reliable service providers and leading edge professional conferences
- Established partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander communities throughout QLD that endorse EfS

We would love to hear from you <a href="info@ssn.org.au">info@ssn.org.au</a> <a href="www.ssn.org.au">www.ssn.org.au</a>







