Blackwater State High School prepares young people to lead full and satisfying adult lives, and to handle the challenges of the contemporary world.

**High Academic Outcomes**

*Amy awarded the “Lord Florey Award” recognising students who are in the top 1% of academic students across Australia!*

Students from Blackwater State High School achieve academic standards comparable with the highest standards in Queensland. Our School Dux from 2006 was awarded the Bid O’Sullivan Scholarship for $20,000. This student has taken out a prestigious award “Lord Florey Award” that acknowledges the top 1% of academic achievers across Australia. Seniors from 2006 are currently studying at the University of Queensland, QUT & Central Queensland University. Courses the students are studying range from Engineering, Science, Journalism and Education. Students have also been successful in obtaining bursaries or scholarships through the Blackwater Mineworkers Club and BMA.

Blackwater High School has received an OP 1 for the past 2 years, with the 65% of students receiving an OP between 1-15 compared to like schools such as Emerald SHS 59% and Marist College 60% (Courier Mail, 2007). All students who sat for the QCS test received their first or second QTAC preference.

**Quality teaching and Learning**

We embrace the professional standards for teachers as prescribed by both Education Queensland and the Queensland College of Teachers. This framework provides engaging, relevant and challenging teaching and learning. We also access the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) specialists for specific subject areas, with many of our staff, employed by the QSA as senior subject area panellists for the Rockhampton Region.

Our professional development for staff has a strong focus on providing advice and training to teachers on a regular basis to ensure that teaching and learning in the classroom remains of the highest standards.

**Extensive Curriculum Opportunities**

Blackwater State High School provide students with a breadth of subjects, opportunities and expertise. Through vocational education and training opportunities, our students not only study a wide range of school subjects, they also have access to a variety of courses, many provided through TAFE Institutes.

In 2006, Blackwater SHS had the highest amount of students completing or continuing a School Based Traineeship or Apprenticeship in the region. We currently have over 50 students completing a School Based Traineeship or Apprenticeship in areas including, mining engineering, diesel fitting, electrical, retail, beauty therapy & hairdressing.

The program is leading the way not only in the region but state wide for placements in the mining industry. With the highest amount of apprentice diesel fitters enrolled through CQIT – Emerald for any school across the region.

Students can elect to complete a Certificate 3 Early Childhood, Certificate 1 Engineering & Certificate 1 Furnishing, Certificate 2 Office Practices. Other students have accessed courses including tourism, sport and recreation and beauty therapy, externally through TAFE with the support from the school.

98% of Apprenticeships & Traineeships from the 2007 intake for BMA and Curragh were from Blackwater State High School students.
Strong values

We continue to support the important values education that began in your child's primary school. It is imperative that our students understand the importance of respect, responsibility, integrity, excellence, open-mindedness, cooperation, participation, care, fairness and democracy. In this way, we can help your child to:
- develop a love of learning
- pursue excellence and high standards
- develop care and respect for themselves and others
- take pride in their work
- exhibit a strong sense of fairness and social justice
- actively participate as citizens.

These values are strongly reflected in our school’s “Responsible Behaviour Plan for students.”

Excellent support services

One of the core strengths at Blackwater State High School is the vast network of people who work to ensure that every child successfully adapts to their new school environment. The wide range of support services that help students manage their change to high school include:
- Year 8 Core Teachers
- Head Of Department, Middle Schooling
- Year Level Coordinators
- Guidance Officer
- School Based Nurse
- Support teachers for students with learning difficulties
- Community Education Councillor
- Indigenous Education teacher aides
- Youth Support Officers

A focus on middle years

Helping children in their ‘middle years’ has been identified as a priority at Blackwater SHS. We are committed to providing an interesting and effective transition program for our students entering high school in 2008. We have also fostered partnerships with the primary schools to ensure that we have developed a highly successful middle years program. We endeavour to make the move for students and parents to high school as easy and comfortable as possible.

Our program has a strong focus on quality outcomes for students and in 2007 we were awarded the Showcase for Excellence in Middle Schooling for the Rockhampton Region.

Access to Technology

All students and staff have access to high speed internet and e-mail facilities. Access to technology at Blackwater SHS is a high priority, currently we have a 3:1 ratio of students to computers, exceeding Education Queensland required standards.

The use of Information Communication Technologies (ICT’s) is integrated into all subjects in all year levels to support learning experiences. Examples include Science students' access to digital Microscope technology, Art students’ use of programs such as Photoshop and Movie Maker and Graphics students use the program AUTOCAD.

Specialist computer subjects are offered from Years 8 – 12. Students are able to access computers daily through the Resource Centre or through organised lunchtime arrangements.

High academic outcomes, quality teaching and learning, extensive curriculum opportunities, strong values, excellent support services, a focus on middle years and access to technology – seven good reasons to enrol your child at Blackwater State High School

Find out more

For further information call 07 49869555 or visit www.blackwatershs.eq.edu.au

Year 7 Parent Information Session
13/9/2007
Blackwater SHS Library
6.30 – 7.30
Transition & Year 8, 2008
Principal’s Address
Questions answered
Childcare available for children between 2 - 12
(provided by our CERT 3 Childcare Students)