

WILLIAM ROSS NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Setting Expectations for Students

I am old enough to remember a time before the wide-spread use of emails, social media and mobile phones. These communication devices have been, in my opinion, both a blessing and a curse.

There are certainly many positives in the convenience of using these devices. We are able to send messages in seconds rather than waiting days for the postal system. We can make phone calls wherever and whenever we need to. Connection to others is much more rapid.

The contrasting position involves a number of factors. From what I see, most of the issues that we see with the incessant communication could be addressed by people 'switching off' or undertaking a 'digital detox'. However, many of us have become programmed to check, and respond to, communication at many times of the day, including when we are not actually working. In some professions, people are responding to emails and social media when they should be performing other tasks as part of their jobs.

The Queensland Government, via the Department of Education, is attempting to address some of these issues for teachers. They released a document entitled "Communicating with your child's school" which outlines some suggested timelines for responding to communication. It's also a useful document for parents and carers about the types of things they can expect communication about.

I have attached a copy to this Newsletter for your convenience. I hope that it is as useful to you as I hope it is to the teachers.

Rob Slater
Principal



Communicating with your child's school

We value open and respectful communication with parents and carers, to support student learning.



You can expect schools to:

- recognise and celebrate your child's achievements
- report on your child's academic progress
- communicate about your child's learning, wellbeing and development
- inform you of any serious issues concerning your child
- alert you on the same day if your child is absent without a reason
- forward requests needing your consent or payment
- provide regular school updates and notify you of school events
- offer opportunities and ways to give feedback
- offer parent/carer-teacher interviews twice per year.



You should not expect:

- an immediate response to non-urgent inquiries - it may take a minimum of 2 or more business days
- staff to return calls or reply to emails outside standard business hours (including evenings and weekends)
- a response from staff to social media messages from their personal account
- access to teachers' personal phone numbers or emails
- teachers to discuss school matters when not at work (e.g. if you see a teacher outside of school hours in the community)
- meetings with staff during the school day without an appointment
- to be allowed on school grounds if you have been aggressive or harassed staff or students.



Contact your child's school if:

- your child will be absent, providing the reason
- you are concerned about your child's learning, social progress or wellbeing

- there are changes to your child's medical information
- there are changes in family circumstances
- you notice safety issues or behaviour changes at home
- issues arise that may affect student and/or staff safety at school
- you need to make or change an appointment.



When contacting your child's school:

- contact the school administration for general inquiries
- follow the school's processes for requesting meetings or contact with teachers
- for more complex or sensitive issues, request a face-to-face meeting to give the matter the attention it needs
- allow staff time to respond to your inquiry, remembering that teachers' priorities during the day are in the classroom.



How you can help your child's school:

- keep your contact details up-to-date
- read school communications
- use polite language in all spoken and written messages
- be open to ideas and willing to compromise if needed to reach an agreement.



If you are unhappy about something that has happened at school, you can make a complaint:

- first raise your concern with the school by making an appointment or sending an email
- if you're not happy with the outcome, you can speak with the principal or take your [complaint](#) to the school's [Regional Office](#). All complaints about staff or school operations are handled fairly.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 16th - Friday 20th June

Year 10 Exam Block

Students only need to attend school for exam

Monday 16th June

School Futsal Championship

Tuesday 17th June

Pyjama Day

Student Council Fundraiser

Sunday 22nd June

Year 12 Bunnings BBQ Formal Fundraiser

Fairfield Bunnings

Monday 23rd - Thursday 26th June

ATSIAP State Final

to be held in Brisbane

Tuesday 24th - Friday 27th June

Year 7 Camp

to be held at Kinchant Dam

Tuesday 10th June

Year 12 QTAC Information Session

1.30pm - 2.30pm

Tuesday 10th June

Instrumental Music Bootcamp

9.00am - 3.00pm in P Block

Friday 27th June

Final Day Term 2

Monday 14th July

First Day Term 3

Friday 18th July

Year 10 JCU Open Day

Sunday 20th July

Year 12 Bunnings BBQ Formal Fundraiser

Fairfield Bunnings

Monday 21st - Friday 25th July

Year 10 - 11 Subject Talks

HODs to speak on parade

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th July

Challenge Games

Sports Reserve

Friday 25th July

Model United Nations Event

PA Block

Monday 28th July

Parent Teacher Interviews

Year 7 - 9

Tuesday 29th July

P&C Meeting

6.30pm in the Administration Building

Wednesday 30th July

Inter House Athletics Carnival

Sports Reserve

Friday 1st August

Year 7 Immunisations

Friday 1st August

Year 10 Immunisations (catch up only)

TUTORING

Students have the opportunity to access tutoring for different subjects each week. See below for tutoring times and rooms.

SCIENCE

Tuesdays 3.10 - 4.00pm B05

ENGLISH

Wednesdays 3.10 - 4.00pm The Hub

MATHEMATICS

Tuesdays 8.00 - 8.40am R06

HOMEWORK CLUB

Wednesdays 3.10 - 4.00pm The Hub

Take the opportunity to build your knowledge with the assistance of our dedicated teachers.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

YEAR 7 – 9

Year 7 - 9 Parent / Teacher interviews will be held on Monday 28th July from 3.30pm - 6.00pm (with the last appointment being 5.50pm). Interviews are 10 minutes each.

Parent / Teacher bookings will open on Monday 14th July at 9am and close on Wednesday 23rd July at 3pm.

2025-2026 LOCAL SPORTING CHAMPIONS PROGRAM NOW OPEN

I am pleased to announce the opening of Round 1 of the 2025-26 Local Sporting Champions program.

With the financial demands many families face, sports and recreation are often set aside. This funding aims to ease that burden and I strongly encourage everyone to jump on board and apply.

The program provides financial assistance for coaches, officials and competitors aged 12-18 participating in state, national or international championships.

If successful, applicants will receive \$500-\$750 towards the cost of attending their championships.

- Base Grant: \$500
- Applicants travelling 800km - 1999km to their nominated championships: + \$100
- Applicants travelling internationally or greater than 2000km to their nominated championships: + \$200
- Applicants residing in a rural electorate: + \$50

Applications close at 5pm on Thursday 31st July 2025, so get in quick!

For Expression of Interest, click here form.jotform.com/251488677217065

Regards,

Andrew Willcox MP

Federal Member for Dawson

Shadow Assistant Minister for Manufacturing and Sovereign capability



**GOLD COIN DONTATION
COLLECTED DURING PEC**



Pyjama Day

TUESDAY

17TH JUNE 2025

**WEAR YOUR FAVOURITE PAIR OF PJS AND HELP
TO RAISE VITAL FUNDS TO SUPPORT CHILDREN
LIVING IN FOSTER CARE.**

MOVIE AT BOTH BREAKS

WERE: HUB

WHAT: THE BEE MOVIE

POPCORN: \$3 PER BAG

HOT CHOCOLATE: \$3 PER CUP



**MUST WEAR SCHOOL
APPROPRIATE CLOTHING:**

NO SINGLETS

SCHOOL SHOES ONLY



Tuesday, 10 June 2025

Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the **Disability Discrimination Act 1992** and the Disability Standards for Education 2005, in line with the **NCCD guidelines** (2019).

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process.

The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy) (<https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy>).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal](https://www.nccd.edu.au) (<https://www.nccd.edu.au>).

NCCD Fact sheet for Parents, Guardians and Carers
(https://www.nccd.edu.au/sites/default/files/nccd_parent_fact_sheet_english_0.pdf)

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Principal

SCHOOL CLEANERS' DAY

School Cleaners' Day is celebrated this week, on Monday 16 June.

We want to take a moment to celebrate and thank all of our cleaners for the incredible work they do to keep our school clean, safe and welcoming. Their skills, attention to detail and dedication make a huge difference for our students, staff and families every day.

Let's show our appreciation and say a big thank you!

THANK you !!





TOWNSVILLE READY-SET-CONNECT

Make connections that **matter**.

Event Sponsor 

FREE TO ATTEND!

Ready-Set-Connect is a fun and engaging speed-networking event connecting disability service providers with the people who need them.

In this interactive format, service providers will showcase their products and services, while attendees discover local service options and make valuable connections, opening the door to greater choice and control.

WHO?

- ✓ Support Coordinators / Navigators
- ✓ People with Disability
- ✓ Parents and Carers
- ✓ LACs
- ✓ Support Workers
- ✓ Social Workers
- ✓ Case Managers
- ✓ Teachers

Register at: onecommunity.net.au/Ready-Set-Connect

WHEN?
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Tue 15 Jul 2025

WHERE?
Brothers Leagues Club 14 Golf Links Drive,
Kirwan QLD

If you are a provider and would like to host a table to promote your services, please visit our website!

Get in touch with us  02 4003 4875  info@onecommunity.net.au



Could Saver Plus help with your education costs?

Saver Plus Information Sessions

We are running Information sessions for anyone thinking about joining the program and wants to learn more about how Saver Plus works.

Eligibility, income and participation criteria. To find out more head to <https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/>.

To Register please use the QR Code or Zoom Link Below.



[Click here to Register](#)

saverplus.org.au
1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

Get up to \$500 for education costs

Achieve a savings goal for 10 months, and **ANZ will match it up to \$500.**

To be eligible, you need to meet these requirements:



18 years or older



A regular income (you or your partner)



Attend free online financial education workshops



Are studying yourself or have a child at school, or starting next year



Current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card

[Saverplus.org.au](https://saverplus.org.au)

1300 610 355



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in partnership with The Smith Family and Berry Street. It is funded by ANZ and Department of Social Services.

Managing Your Mental Health Online

Digital Mental Health Gateway

Head to Health

Head to Health

A website that links Australians to free or low-cost online and phone mental health services, information and resources.
headtohealth.gov.au

Phone and Online Counselling



Lifeline 13 11 14

24/7 phone counselling, and online crisis support chat available each evening.



Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

National 24/7 professional telephone & online counselling for anyone affected by suicide.



Beyond Blue Support Service 1300 22 4636

Telephone (24/7), online and email counselling, and moderated forums.



1800RESPECT 1800 737 732

24/7 phone & online counselling for people seeking help for domestic violence situations.



MensLine Australia 1300 78 99 78

Advice, therapy and support for men with families and relationship concerns.



QLife 1800 184 527

Online chat or phone counselling for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people.



Open Arms 1800 011 046

Phone and online counselling for veterans and their families.



SANE Australia 1800 18 7263

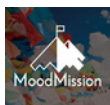
Phone counselling and moderated forums providing peer-to-peer support.



FriendLine 1800 424 287

A national support line "ready for a cuppa and a conversation" with trained volunteers.

Apps



MoodMission

A free app designed to help individuals overcome low moods and anxiety by discovering new coping strategies.



Daybreak

A website and app which supports individuals to cut back or take a break from using alcohol.



Smiling Mind

A free website and app teaching mindfulness meditation to young people and adults.



BeyondNow

A free app and online tool that helps users create a safety plan for when experiencing suicidal thoughts.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders



WellMob

Social, emotional and cultural wellbeing online resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



iBobbly

A social and emotional wellbeing self-help app for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 15 years and older.

Programs



MindSpot

Free clinician supported online programs for stress, worry, anxiety and depression in adults aged 18+.



THIS WAY UP

A range of self-paced online CBT courses for stress, insomnia, anxiety and depression. Courses can be done as self-help or guided by your own clinician. Courses are either free or low cost.



Mental Health Online

Free online programs for a range of issues, with self-guided or therapist support options.



MyCompass

A free, online interactive self-help CBT service for people with mild to moderate depression, anxiety and stress. It's also appropriate for people who simply want to build good mental health.



MoodGYM

A free, interactive program based on Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and Interpersonal Therapy (IPT) to help prevent and manage symptoms of depression and anxiety.



e-Couch

A free, self-help program with modules for depression, generalised anxiety & worry, social anxiety, relationship breakdown, and loss & grief.



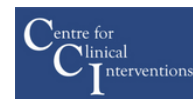
Healthy Mind

An Easy Read program to help people with intellectual disability to recognise and regulate thoughts and feelings.



ParentWorks

Online program for parents and caregivers providing evidence-based parenting strategies.



Centre for Clinical Interventions

Free downloadable self-help workbooks and modules for a range of mental health and wellbeing issues.

Young People



Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800

24/7 phone and online counselling for youth (5-25yrs).



Niggle

A free app for youth designed as a self-help toolkit for all things related to mental, social and emotional wellbeing.



eheadsace

Internet chat, email or phone support for young people (12-25yrs) with a range of issues.



ReachOut

Practical tools, support and moderated forums to help youth get through everything from everyday issues to tough times.



The BRAVE Program

Prevention, intervention, and treatment of anxiety in young people.



BITE BACK

Free online activities, psychoeducation and positive psychology aiming to promote wellbeing and resilience in young people.



FOR THE
NORTH



WIN A TOYOTA RAV4 CRUISER

PLUS PERSONALISED PLATES AND \$500 FUEL CARD!

VALUED AT \$60,027



SCAN FOR TICKETS

**TICKETS
\$25**



Drawn 3 September 2025 at the Cowboys Leagues Club, 335 Flinders Street, Townsville Qld 4810. Open to Qld residents (Permit no. 259084) and NSW residents (Permit no. GOCAU/2619) only. Tickets available online only. Terms & conditions at raffletix.com.au/cowboysforthenorth2025.





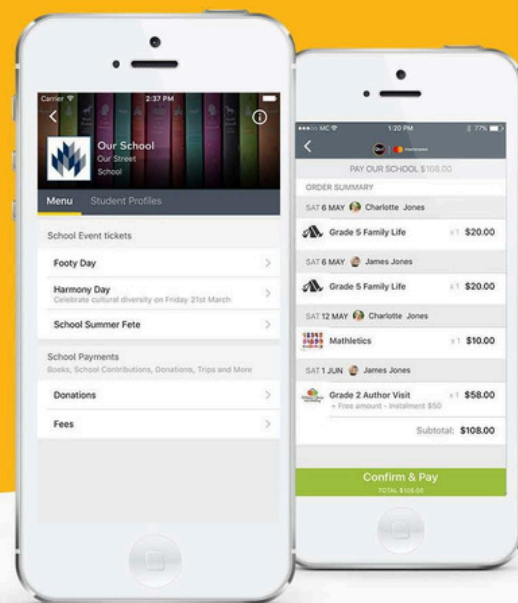
masterpass

For quicker, hassle-free school payments, try Qkr! today

Introducing Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') by Mastercard, the secure and easy way to order and pay for school items from your phone at a time and place that suits you.

With Qkr you can:

- Pay for a variety of school items;
- See your receipts on the app and get them sent by email if required.



Getting started is easy - try it yourself today

Step 1 Download Qkr!

on your Android phone or iPhone. iPad users can download iPhone app



Step 2 Register

Select your Country of Residence as 'Australia' and follow the steps to register

Step 3 Find our school

Our school will appear in 'Nearby Locations' if you're within 10kms of the school, or search for our school by name.

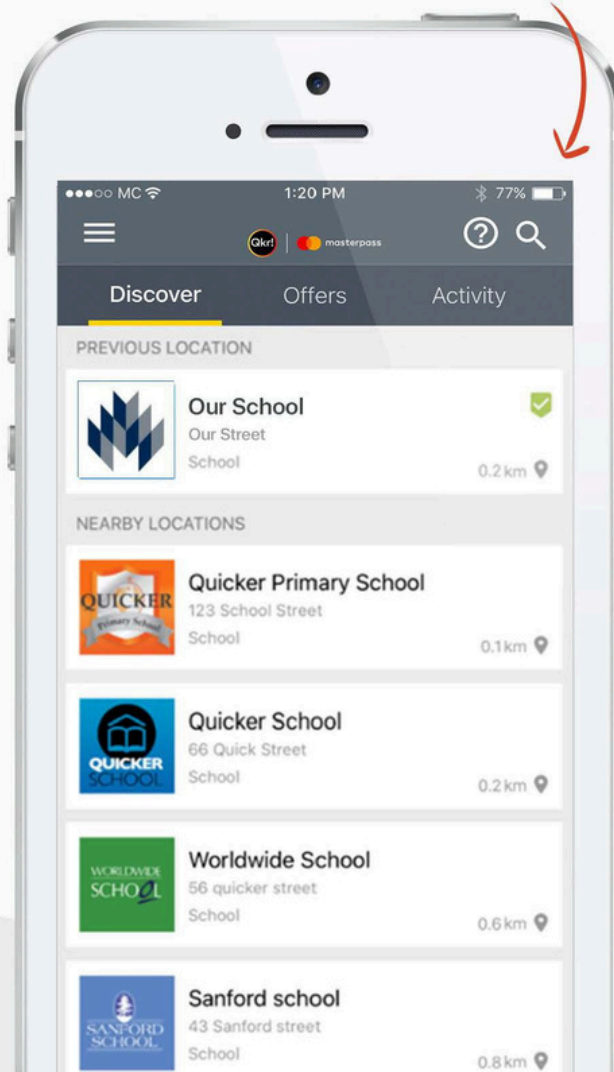
Step 4 Register your children

When first accessing our school you will be prompted to add a student profile for your child. This allows you to make orders and payments for them.

If you have made a purchase you can select our school from 'Previous Location'

If you're within 10 kms of the school, you can select our school from 'Nearby Locations'

Search for our school name

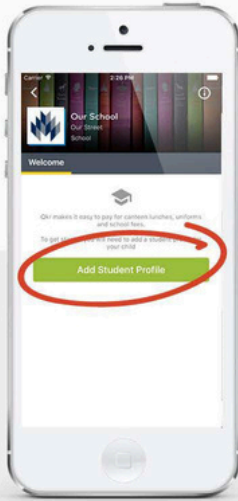




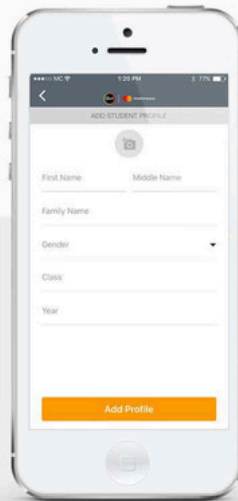
masterpass

Add your children's details in Student Profiles

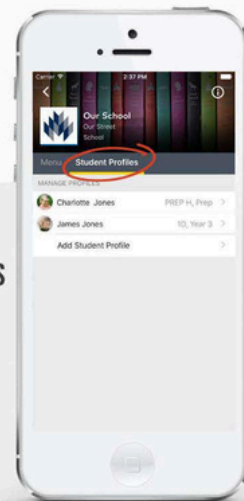
Select
'Add student profile'



Add each
child's details

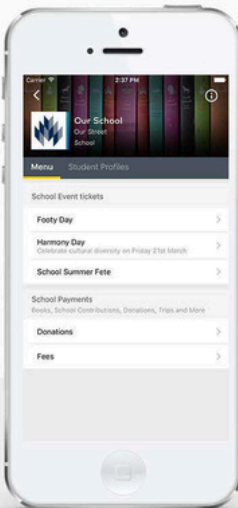


Manage each
child's details in
Student Profiles

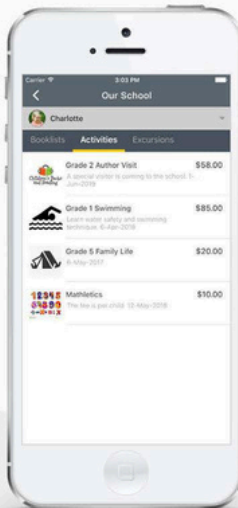


Purchase school items

Select a menu
from our school

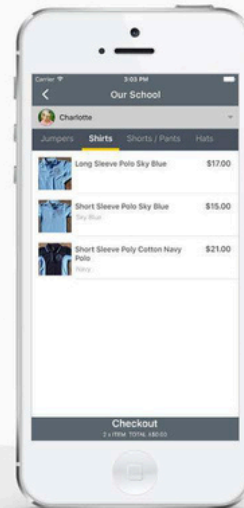


Select child
you are
ordering for



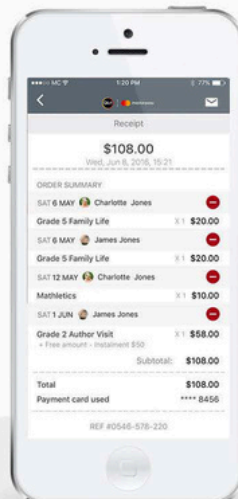
Select your items

Tap 'Checkout'
then confirm and pay



Making payments

Add up to 5 cards to your wallet



At checkout select which card to
pay with.

Pay with any cards accepted
by the school.

Once your payment is approved you
can continue to the home page, or
view your receipt.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: QParents

Commencing in 2025, our school will be using QParents for communication and distribution of vital information to our school community. We encourage you to read through the information below and take the necessary actions.

In practical terms, this means;

- All permissions for student activities and excursions, media and online consent and SRS participation will only be accepted through QParent. Paper based permission requests will be phased out by the end of term 2.
- Student report cards will no longer be mailed or emailed to families; they will be available through QParent or by pre-arranging collection at the school office only.

To ensure you remain up-to-date with key information relating to your student, it's essential that you register as a QParents user.

About QParents - The QParents web and mobile application provides parents with secure, online access to their child's student information, including:

- Digital consent forms and managing permissions – only available via QParent
- Academic report cards – only available via QParent
- Viewing unpaid invoice details, payment history – only available via QParent
- Viewing and updating personal student details, including medical conditions and address – only available via QParent
- Excursion and activity payment online
- Attendance and absence details, as well as the ability to notify the school of a future absence
- Behaviour information
- Class timetables
- Downloading exam timetables and assessment planners
- Enrolment details
- Upcoming events list showing school events, exam and assessment dates, and excursions.

Further information can be found on [QParents website](#) and [Department of Education - QParents](#).

If you have not received an email from the school inviting you to register for QParents, or your invite has expired, please contact the school office on 4726 7666 or email SchoolAdmin@williamrossshs.eq.edu.au.

Student information security

QParents is a secure portal that meets strict industry standards and all student information presented in QParents is surfaced from the [OneSchool](#) system used by Queensland state schools.

If you have any concerns about the registration process and/or providing ID online, please contact the school so that we can make alternative arrangements to initiate this registration for you.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school office to speak to one of our QParent experts.

Tracey Harker – Business Manager

QParents



Registration fact sheet

What do I need to register for QParents?

To register, you will need:

- your unique invitation code sent to you by your child's school
- an active email account
- each child's EQ ID number
- 100 points of ID to verify your identity.

How do I verify my identity?

To verify your identity online, you must provide at least 100 points from the online documents list:

Document	Points	Document	Points
Australian passport	50 pts	Australian marriage certificate	40 pts
Australian driver licence	50 pts	Australian change of name certificate	40 pts
Australian birth certificate	50 pts	Australian visa (foreign passport)	20 pts
Australian citizenship certificate	40 pts	Medicare card	20 pts

What if I can't verify my identity online?

If you are unable to provide 100 points of ID online, you can still register for QParents.

During the registration process, select the 'not enough ID' option and then visit the school to have your identity verified.

The school can verify your identity using a combination of 100 points of the following documents and the additional identity documents.

Document	Points	Document	Points
Passport	60 pts	Marriage certificate	40 pts
Driver licence	60 pts	Citizenship certificate	40 pts
Birth certificate	50 pts	Change of name certificate	40 pts

Additional identity documents

You will also need to show at least one additional document from List 1 or two documents from List 2.

List 1	List 2
Learner driver's licence	Bank statement showing your name and address (less than 6 months old)
Working with Children Check (blue card)	Utilities statement showing your name and address (less than 6 months old)
Adult proof of age card	Pensioner Concession Card
Queensland Weapons Licence	Department of Veterans' Affairs entitlement card
Industry Authority cards (issued by the Department of Transport and Main Roads)	Health Care Card or Seniors Health Card or other Department of Human Services entitlement cards
	Student identity card issued by an Australian education institution
	Queensland or Australian Government staff identity card

Still unable to verify your identity?

In exceptional circumstances, school principals may approve QParent accounts under the 'Known Person/Community Standing' option.

When will my account be activated?

Once your identity has been verified, the school will activate your account.

Need help?

Additional assistance is available from:

- QParents help page at qparents.qld.edu.au/#/help
- call 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
- contact your child's school.