



NEWSLETTER

GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

TERM 1 WEEK 5

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2024! What a great start Term 1 has been for GHS, with many positive events already happening both in and outside of the school. It has been busy for all staff with lots of exciting changes happening, excursions, sporting events, Year 7 Camp and many positive awards being handed out by the GHS PBL team.

In this issue of our school newsletter, you'll find key updates and information on:

- **Upcoming Events**
- **Principal's Message**
- **Sport News**
- **School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships**
- **Excursion News**
- **WISE & SLIP News**
- **GHS PBL News**
- **Around the School News**
- **Student Support Officer Intro**
- **Reminders for Uniform & Attendance**
- **Alumni News**
- **P&C Meetings - SAVE THESE DATES**

ON THIS MONTH - March

NAPLAN	13&14
NAPLAN catchups	15&18
P&C Meeting 6pm	20
National Ride2School Day	22
YAM Year 10	27
Easter Friday	29

ON NEXT MONTH - April

Easter Monday	1
YAM Year 10	3
Smashed Production	
- Alcohol Education Show (Yr 8 & Yr 9)	9
YAM Year 10	10
Year 10 Immunisation	10
Last day of Term 1	12



*Wishing everyone a
happy and safe
Easter Long Weekend*



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

We've had a great start to the year at Grafton High School, picking up where we left off at the end of 2023. We started the year on a high following another set of outstanding HSC results from our Year 12 2023 cohort, our staff engaged in some very valuable reflection and learning. Our Year 7 cohort started the year with a few nervous faces and quiet moments, but have settled in and are thriving. We welcomed new teachers to the school, with Ms Clayton in CAPA, Miss Rose in CAPA, Mr Payne in English, Mr Jelinek in TAS, and Miss McGarvie in PDHPE.

2024 brings the implementation of a new statewide behaviour policy and procedures. Some things will be similar in practice, but key changes include the application of this policy to events that occur outside of school, but with a clear and close connection to the school, and the more serious approach to possession or use of vapes and other restricted substances is important for us to maintain a safe learning environment.

We have revamped our breakfast club for the start of 2024. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, students who have missed breakfast can attend and be fed quality food before attending class. The right food and nutrition is very important for students to be able to concentrate and learn in class, and we are pleased to be expanding the offerings available this year at breakfast club thanks to various donations. Additionally, students and families who need assistance with food at school on any given day should speak with their Year Adviser, who will then help.

Our school improvement teams have reformed this year, with all staff contributing to our strategic directions which have slightly changed this year in response to feedback and available information. Our directions for 2024-2027 will be Student Growth and Attainment, High Expectations, and Sense of Belonging. We believe a renewed focus on building a sense of belonging among students will be important in building resilience, wellbeing, and ultimately, student outcomes and achievement in the coming years. Within this focus, there will be an enhanced focus on building our career pathways and transition programs across the school, which will involve seeking input and participation from local businesses and community at various times of the year.

I encourage all parents to continue using our fortnightly summaries to spark conversations at home about education and learning as the year progresses, and I look forward to all of the positive things that 2024 will bring.

Scott Dinham
Principal
Grafton High School





SPORT NEWS

NSW CHS ROWING

The NSW CHS competition was held on the Clarence River, Grafton. All students from Grafton High had a successful day, overcoming personal challenges and representing their school with pride. What a wonderful two days on the river racing schools from across NSW. Congratulations to Grafton High boys, who were second in this year's male point score.

Silver MU15 Quad Scull: Nick, Vinh, Oscar, Nafis, cox: Kiya

Bronze MU15 Double Scull: Oscar & Nick

Bronze MU15 Single Scull: Vinh

Bronze MU17 Double Scull: Ethan & Oden

Silver Championship Women's Single Scull: Sophie

Sophie joined the women's inter regional quad scull along with Zoe, Elise, Esther, cox: Chelsea.



TOUCH FOOTBALL

In Week 2, GHS had the U15's boys and girls touch football teams travel to Woolgoolga for a gala day. Both teams played extremely well and from that event 9 students were selected to represent the Mid North Coast at the North Coast Trials. From those 9 students, 3 students were selected to represent the North Coast at the CHS championship. Congratulations Poppy, Emmiline and Bridgette on your selection and we wish you luck at the CHS Championships in Mudgee!



FURTHER ACCOLADES - GHS OPEN GIRLS HOCKEY TEAM 2023

Late December 2023 our girls' hockey team was named the CHS 'North Coast Region Sporting Team of the Year'. At a recent school assembly the girls were presented with this team award. These girls were successful in winning the final of the CHS State Knock Out competition in 2023.

This is a major achievement and the first time our girls' school hockey team have won this award.

Congratulations to each of the players who were a part of the gold medal winning team.



We are looking to recruit further players and add to this group this year. There will be opportunity for more female players to join this team with five senior players leaving the group and one player currently overseas.

Training will start soon in term 2 for the girls and boys groups at GHS.

Zone trials will be held in Week 9 this term in Grafton.
Information available soon.

OPEN BOYS BASKETBALL

Grafton participated in the Opens CHS gala day in Coffs Harbour. The boys played excellent against DHS winning by 39-45. The boys then went on to play against a strong CHSC, losing 53-24. CHSC then went on to win the day. In our final game, it was a "battle of the bridges" against South Grafton, who were too strong against our boys, losing 32-25. We will need to redeem ourselves in the future!

Travis was then selected to participate in the "possibles vs. probables". He participated and played really well and put his strong foot forward, but fell short to being selected due to a strong range of selection.

Great day out!
Mr Quayle



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations all competitors who attended the Grafton High School Swimming Championships in Maclean. Some very exciting swimming, and some hotly contested events. Some new records set across the day. Thank you to the staff and big shout to the student officials, who did an outstanding job across the day to conduct the event.



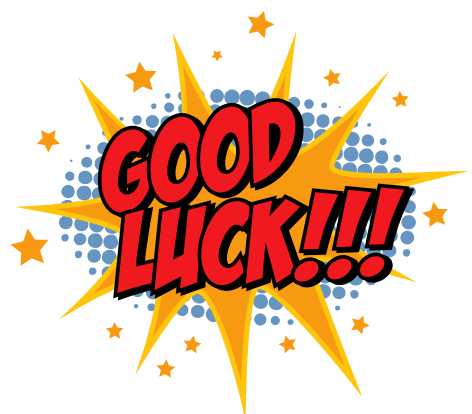
MID NORTH COAST SWIM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to the Grafton High School Swim team who contested the Mid North Coast Swim Championships in Coffs Harbour yesterday. Thank you all for your best effort and the level of responsibility you demonstrated throughout the day.

We wish all swimmers PB swims at the North Coast Swim Titles to be held at Casino Pool, 19th March, 2024.

I would like to acknowledge the staff and student officials for their assistance in conducting this event.

Mr Smith





SBAT

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

GHS would like to welcome back our Year 11 and 12 SBAT (School Based Apprenticeship Traineeship) students! The SBAT program at GHS is an option available to students as part of the Department of Education Educational Pathways Program (EPP).

Our GHS SBAT students are involved in a wide range of traineeships and apprenticeships. These include Early Childhood Education & Care, Individual Support in Aged Care, Certificate II Information Technology and Aquaculture. For the first time at GHS, we also have a student starting his Certificate III in Beekeeping!

GHS are grateful and thank all our employers and training organisations for supporting our students at GHS through their SBAT journey. Our SBAT students are also supported by Rachel Copeland, SBAT Engagement Officer. Rachel visits the SBAT students weekly on Fridays to assist them with their SBAT needs.



Meet:

Rachel Copeland

Job Description: SBATEO (School Based Apprenticeship Engagement Officer)

What does the job entail? I travel to various High Schools including Woolgoolga, Grafton, South Grafton, Maclean, Coffs Harbour and Toormina High School. My main focus is to guide students and help them successfully navigate through their training and SBAT pathway.

Best part of your Job?

I enjoy meeting up with the SBATs each week and watching them grow in confidence and maturity as they progress through their Apprenticeships and Traineeships.

GHS would like to thank Rachel for her time, commitment and expertise in assisting our students to find a successful school pathway.

Next newsletter we will introduce you to some of our new GHS SBAT students.

CAREER PATHWAY OPTIONS

Cree signing his training contract to complete a School Based Traineeship with Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries. He will complete his Cert II in Aquaculture as part of his HSC.





OUT AND ABOUT

Excursions



TEA GARDENS

YEAR 7 CAMP



Day 1 - Lots of water and plenty of mud! Activities included the Survivor Challenge and the Lost Island 'Mud Run'.

Day 2 - Abseiling, gully run, high ropes, back into the Survivor Challenge and then some impromptu barn dancing on the lawn.

Day 3 - Today we rotated through Alpine Rescue, Gully Crossing and High Ropes. A special shout out goes to our amazing senior student leaders who led and encouraged our students through their activities. For more photos see our Facebook page!





WISE & SLIP NEWS

Wise 1 and 2 have been enjoying their weekly Friday swimming and hydrotherapy sessions at South Grafton Pool.

It is wonderful we had many of our staff trained during the staff development days late last year in Water Rescue and we can now provide the great small group sessions for our students.



Wise 1 has welcomed a new year 7 student and have been busy in their classrooms exploring lots of sensory activities and enjoying community access on Thursdays.

Two students from Wise 2 have started work experience at Caringa and three students are preparing to start the new Tafe Start Your Futures program in Beauty and Automotive next week.



Wise 3 has welcomed three new year 7 students and have been enjoying getting to know them. They are loving their woodwork lessons with Mr Litchfield and as usual have been busy in their classroom and attending their mainstream electives. Three students have started work experience and two are preparing to start the new Tafe Start Your Futures program in Automotive next week.



SLIP 1 has been back at it on Fridays, trying to land a big one from the Clarence River. A few bream among the catfish have been caught. They too have had a couple of students begin Tafe studies and work experience.



SLIP 2 welcomed four new year 7 students to their class. They have been working well, adjusting to new teachers and routines. They have loved learning about Ancient Rome and are looking forward to starting their community access program this week.



GHS PBL

SHARE AWARDS

Students recognised through assemblies and Year Meetings

We have reintroduced our SHARE awards again this year to recognise students supporting school values and expectations.

By the end of week 3, staff had entered 2222 positive entries about students who have been supporting school values. A random draw was done from these 2222 entries and three students from Years 7, 9 and 11 were drawn out, receiving awards on the assembly.

Again sincere thanks to our external sponsors who have provided vouchers as rewards for these students. The Saraton Theatre, Toast Espresso, M&J Logging and Heart & Soul Wholefood Cafe, have been extremely generous in their support. THANK YOU!!

Our Year Advisers have also been rewarding students in their year groups with Certificates. Students in each year group who are supporting school values and contributing to a positive school culture are in contention for being recognised fortnightly.



A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR PBL SPONSORS

including M&J LOGGING



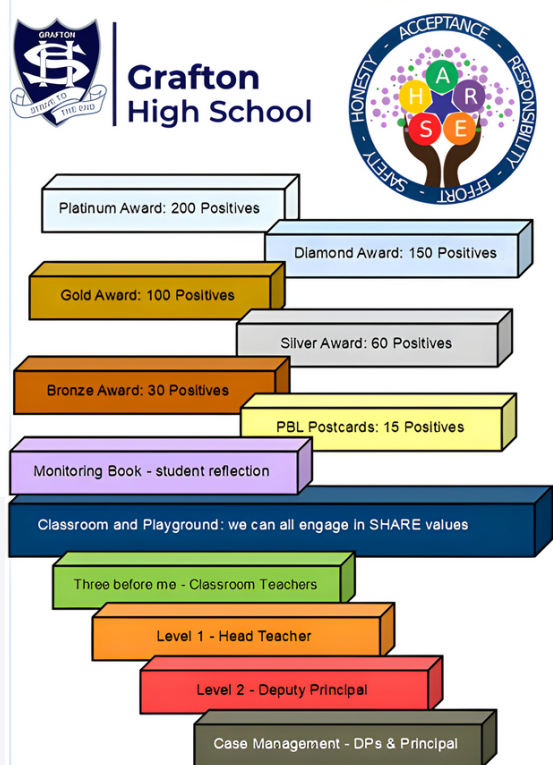
STUDENT MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2024

In tying together our systems and expected practices at GHS, our 2024 Student Management Framework is represented through the stages of intervention. This framework is designed to promote the expected student behaviours. The BLUE section conveys the school values of 'SHARE' which are what we support through the school community.

As students display these values they will be rewarded, being promoted positively through the coloured stages of the framework, acknowledged for their positive growth and development issued through special assemblies.

Our aim is to foster the development of positive behaviour whilst still acknowledging and working with those who are unable to comply with these basic expectations. Students who have difficulty in complying with school expectations will be guided through the green, orange, red and grey levels of intervention within the framework.

Stages of intervention through the GHS Student Management Framework



The SHARE Values at Grafton High School reflect the expected behaviours of all students as they engage each day in our school community:

SHARE @ GHS		
	All settings (all day)	Learning spaces (lesson time)
S AFETY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wear appropriate school uniform Practice good hygiene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your hands and feet to yourself Use equipment responsibly
H ONESTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Own your actions Report dangerous behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all work is your own Return borrowed equipment
A CCCEPTANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use appropriate language Accept others' differences and abilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be patient Be kind and encourage others
R ESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow instructions quickly Use break times properly and be ready to learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect the learning of others Ask for help and permission when needed Be on time to class
E FFORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set personal goals and do your best Leave your area clean and tidy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay on task Keep trying and take pride in your work

These values and expectations are also supported by the NSW DoE.

A new Behaviour CODE for Students has been released for 2024.

This outlines the full and thorough expectations of the department for students:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/translated-documents-/behaviour-code-for-students/english-student-behaviour-code.pdf>

Also to support staff in school to work with families and members of the community the NSW DoE has also published a 2024 School Community Charter:

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/media/documents/school-community-charter-poster.pdf>



AROUND THE SCHOOL

VALENTINE'S DAY FUNDRAISER

Year 12 were busy playing Cupid on Valentine's Day, spreading love and joy across the school. The students were amazing and really got into the spirit of the day. A massive thank you to all involved and all that supported the day. A special shout out to Flowers By Bonnie for their generous donation of the beautiful roses, the students and staff appreciate the support.

Mr Townley & Miss Singh - Year 12 Year Advisers



GHS FUN FRIDAY

TUNES FOR YOUR FRIDAY HAPPINESS



Every Friday morning at GHS our music teacher, Mr Townley has organised each faculty within our School to select a playlist of appropriate songs that are played on our sound system.

This is a great start to the student's day, and it brings a positive vibe to the school for the last day of the week!

"Music is the strongest form of magic." – Marilyn Manson!

MEET EMMA

STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER (SSO)

Hi all students, families and school staff.
My name is Emma and I'm your Student Support Officer (SSO) here at Grafton High School. I'm looking forward to meeting and working with you in the coming year and welcoming the new Year 7'ers!

My role involves working with the school community, including students, families and school staff as well as community organisations and the broader community to support student well-being. As an SSO, my goal is to work alongside students to promote healthy and safe behaviours as well as being the person to call when students need advice, guidance and support. It involves working with students individually and in small groups.



Students can self-refer by placing a note in the purple message box located at the attendance desk at the front office. Students may also be referred by the Learning Support Team/Wellbeing team, Year Advisers, Head Teachers, Deputy Principal and Principal. A student may be referred to me for support in areas such as resilience, coping skills, developing self-esteem, exam stress or to be connected to local external youth and support services.

Referral to the Head Teacher Wellbeing, Principal or School Counsellor for more complex issues is the most appropriate course of action. I do not provide students with psychological, behavioural or emotional assessments. However, I am part of a team at Grafton High School who can help provide the most appropriate support for these students.

Wishing everyone a wonderful & courageous start to 2024! 😊



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*Calling All Parents/Carers
We Need Your Help*

At GHS we are so grateful for the lovely ladies who work in our school canteen, every day they are serving our students and staff delicious healthy food.

The canteen also sell stationary items and can help you with school uniform purchases.

We would certainly appreciate any new additional volunteers to help prepare food for a few hours, once or twice a month.



Find out what really goes on in the school!



REMINDERS

Uniforms & Attendance

Uniform must be worn every day at Grafton High School. If unable to wear uniform, students are expected to bring a dated note from home explaining the reason for each day out of uniform. Parents/carers may purchase new or second-hand uniforms from the Uniform Store at the Grafton High School Canteen, available during school hours and during the summer school holidays at advertised times.

If students are having difficulty obtaining a uniform, they should speak to their Year Adviser.

Please note that the senior boys uniform is grey shorts and that tights of any colour are not school uniform.

Attendance matters means explaining all absences

If your child is:

- Sick
- Has a medical appointment
- Has to travel for family business
- Involved in Sorry Business



Let us know

So we can plan continued support for your child's learning and wellbeing

Every Day Matters





ALUMNI - NEWS

EX-STUDENT

THE JOURNAL OF SCIENCE EXTENSION RESEARCH

Congratulations to our former Student Liam Mitchell who graduated from Grafton High School in 2023!



Liam's work in Extension Science was recognised by being published in the Science Extension Scientific Journal. His paper, titled "The effect the addition of 3-qubit bit flip error correcting code has on the fidelity of a quantum computation" inspired his further study on Quantum Engineering at UNSW.



NSW Department of Education



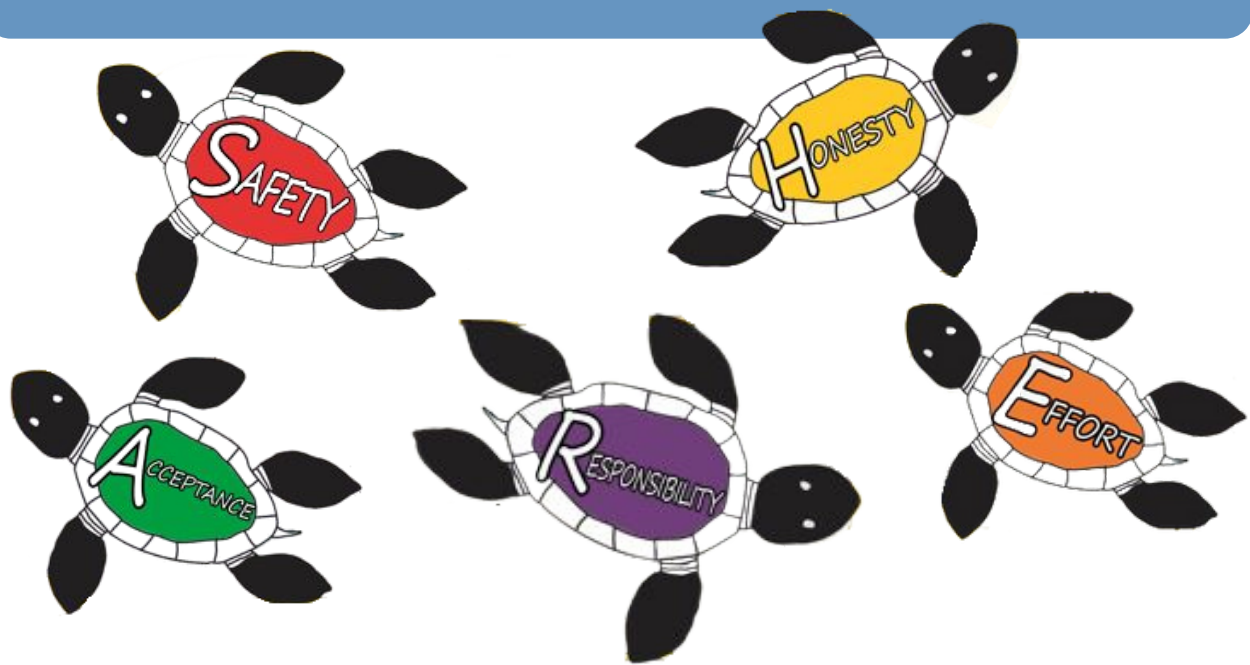
The effect the addition of a 3-qubit bit flip error correction code has on the fidelity of a quantum computation

Liam Mitchell

Grafton High School

Quantum error correction provides an opportunity to algorithmically suppress errors prevalent within quantum computations. IBM-Q experience was utilised to construct an algorithm to test the extent to which the addition of an error correcting algorithm would affect the fidelity of a quantum computation overtime. The null hypothesis stated that the addition of the error correction code would have no effect on the fidelity of the overall quantum computation; however, the results illustrated that the addition of the error-correction code significantly decreased the fidelity of the computation directly refuting the null hypothesis. The purpose of quantum error correction codes is to achieve a state where the error rate of the quantum system is consistently lower than the error rate of the underlying hardware which is commonly referred to as operating "below threshold." Thus, scientists will have endless possibilities when it comes to research resulting in the rapid development of modern technologies and advancement in drug research.

To view Liam's work in the Science Extension Scientific Journal please visit:
<https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/science/planning-programming-and-assessing-science-11-12/science-extension#Journal>



P & C MEETINGS

SAVE THESE DATES

Term 1

Week 8: Wednesday March 20, 2024 - AGM & General Meeting

Term 2

Week 3: Wednesday May 15 2024 - General Meeting

Week 8: Wednesday June 19 2024 - General Meeting

Term 3

Week 3: Wednesday August 7 2024 - General Meeting

Week 8: Wednesday September 11 2024 - General Meeting

Term 4

Week 3: Wednesday October 30 2024 - General Meeting

Week 8: Wednesday December 4 2024 - General Meeting

All meetings start at 6pm held at in the Common Room at Grafton High School.

Meeting dates can also be viewed on our Facebook page events.

Don't hesitate to contact us



grafton-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



02 6642 3355

You can find important updates and further information on our website, parent portal app and social media channels



www.grafton-h.schools.nsw.gov.au



facebook.com/GraftonHighSchool



Parent portal - grafton-h.sentral.com.au/portal/login



Free workshop

2 Day Autism Workshop for Parents and Carers

Grafton, NSW



This workshop is for parents, full time carers and grandparents.



Tuesday & Wednesday
5 & 6 March, 2024
9:30am - 2:30pm



Grafton District Services Club Ltd
105-107 Mary Street
Grafton NSW 2460

Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided



Interpreters available upon request

During the workshop you will learn about:

- The diversity of autism
- Sensory processing
- Working together with your child's school.

Learn more about autism and ways to strengthen the partnership between home and school.

For more information or to register visit:
<https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/PC>
tnicolli@positivepartnerships.com.au



For help, call:
1300 881 971

This initiative is funded by the Australian Government Department of Education through the Helping Children with Autism package. The views expressed within this program do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the Australian Government Department of Education.

The Athlete's Foot

in partnership with
Grafton High School



MULTIPLE
WIDTHS

A range of shoes are available in different widths to suit narrow and broad feet.

SUPPORTING LOCAL SPORT
FOR OVER 40 YEARS

The School Rewards Program is a great fundraising opportunity, with \$5 from every pair of shoes purchased being donated back to your school.

This applies to the whole family across our fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes.

Ask one of our friendly staff in store for more details!

*Visit www.theathletesfoot.com.au/school-rewards for more details



School Rewards

NOW THAT'S **FIT**

Grafton

02 6642 8812



NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC.

PARENT SEMINAR

5TH
MARCH
2024
5:00PM-
7:30PM

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
RSVP
TO RECEPTION
66403800

WITH MICHAEL HAWTON

ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S BEST EXPERTS IN
MANAGING DIFFICULT BEHAVIOURS IN CHILDREN,
ADOLESCENTS, AND ADULTS AND MANAGING CHILD
AND TEEN ANXIETY

Talk Less
Listen More
for Parents is
a self-paced
online course
for behaviour
management



Anxiety Coach
online for
parents is a
self-paced
online course
for parents to
build resilience
in children aged
4-12



FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIP SERVICES TERM 1, 2024 EVENTS

FREE
EVENTS &
CHILDCARE

LIVABLE - 11 KEMP STREET GRAFTON

MINDFUL PARENTING

6 FEBRUARY | 10 AM - 12 PM

Create a calmer home through reflective parenting.

TODDLER TIME

7 FEBRUARY | 10 AM - 12:30 PM

Gain useful strategies to remain calm in tough times.

I NEED YOU: A-Z FOR BABIES

8 FEBRUARY | 10 AM - 12 PM

From a baby's point of view, understand how babies and infants communicate their needs.

1-2-3 MAGIC

3 CONSECUTIVE WEDNESDAYS

14, 21, 28 FEBRUARY | 10 AM - 12 PM

Manage difficult child behaviours by focusing on strategies that promote and encourage change.

PARENTING AFTER FAMILY VIOLENCE

7 CONSECUTIVE THURSDAYS

15 FEB - 21 MAR | 10 AM - 12 PM

A nurturing, empowering and kind program for parents and carers who have experienced family violence.

ANXIETY COACH

20, 27 FEB & 5 MAR | 10 AM - 12 PM

Learn simple strategies to identify, manage and reduce anxiety in children.

WHO'S THE BOSS

3 CONSECUTIVE TUESDAYS

12, 19 & 26 MARCH | 10 AM - 12 PM

Learn how to manage emotions, set boundaries and focus on qualities you want in your child.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKIN' AT?

3 CONSECUTIVE WEDNESDAYS

20, 27 MARCH & 3 APRIL | 10 AM - 12:30 PM

Learn easy ways to manage anger in yourself and your child to create a calmer home.

BUILDING RESILIENCE

21 MARCH | 12:30 - 2:30 PM

Tune into your child's emotions and support them to develop resilience.

TRAUMA INFORMED PARENTING

2 CONSECUTIVE WEDNESDAYS

6 & 13 MARCH | 10 AM - 12:30 PM

Understand how to parent and support children who have experienced trauma.

HOW TO TALK SO KIDS LISTEN

4 APRIL | 10 AM - 12:30 PM

Through problem-solving, learn five key strategies to communicate with your child.

LOWER CLARENCE

SCHOOL DROP OFF

19 FEBRUARY | 10 AM - 12 PM

Discover important strategies to support your child make the best start to their day at school.

BUILDING RESILIENCE

19 FEBRUARY | 12:30 - 2 PM

Tune into your child's emotions and support them to develop resilience.

MINDFUL PARENTING

4 MARCH | 10 AM - 12 PM

Create a calmer home through reflective parenting.

CREATIVE COMMUNICATION

4 MARCH | 12:30 - 2 PM

Discover creative and enjoyable communication strategies that can strengthen your relationship with your 4 to 15 year old child.

HOW TO TALK SO KIDS LISTEN

18 MARCH | 10 AM - 12 PM

Through problem-solving, learn five key strategies to communicate with your child.

GOOD ENOUGH PARENTING

18 MARCH | 12:30 - 2:30 PM

A reminder that good enough parenting can raise considerate, well-adjusted and kind children.

I NEED YOU: A-Z FOR BABIES

2 APRIL | 10 AM - 12 PM

From a baby's point of view, understand how babies and infants communicate their needs.

Livable Family and Relationship Services is funded by the Dept. of Social Services.

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL 1800 289 927 LIVABLE.ORG.AU/EVENTS