

Life Ed Queensland

Annual Report 2022





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Our purpose



Every child deserves to thrive.

Mission

To empower children and young people to make safer and healthier choices through education

Generations of healthy young Queenslanders living to their full potential

Social impact pillars



Social wellbeing

Prevent bullying and violence through respectful relationships



Emotional wellbeing

Build resilience and mental wellbeing



Physical health

Prevent overweight & obesity; prevent harms of smoking and vaping



Personal safety

Prevent drug and alcohol-related harm. Prevent other harms (online and face to face) through protective behaviours

A healthier future for generations of children



Since 1987, Life Ed Queensland has been at the forefront of children's health and wellbeing education. Each year, we empower more than 200,000 children across the state with vital knowledge and strategies to help young people make safer and healthier choices for life.

The Life Ed program is aligned to the Australian curriculum, and we work in partnership with early learning centres, schools and teachers to support and reinforce the important health messages being taught at home and in the classroom.

Generations of children have loved learning about health and safety with our expert educators, and of course, Healthy Harold. Through our program, young people learn how to make good decisions, counter peer and social pressures, and gain an understanding of how values and attitudes can influence lifestyle choices and behaviour. These themes are supported by hands-on resources, animated videos and engaging activities that help embed key messages.

After 36 years working with children in Queensland schools, Life Ed has evolved into a contemporary, integrated and holistic program focused on children's physical, social and emotional health. Our program covers:



Nutrition and the importance of healthy eating, including our award-winning Healthy Eats program



Personal safety, consent and protective behaviours



Respectful relationships



Emotional wellbeing and resilience



Cybersafety and strategies to combat cyberbullying



Sexual health and puberty



Legal and illegal drugs including alcohol, tobacco and e-cigarettes



Parent education via the evidenced-based Triple P – Positive Parenting Program



Online resources for teachers and parents.

We are proud of our legacy as Queensland's largest non-government provider of health education to children, but there is always more work to be done to ensure Queensland children continue to thrive, now and in the future.



Chair's message



Peter Morgan

Chair, Life Ed Queensland

"Working alongside schools and parents in the education of children is a huge privilege, and something we take very seriously, and try to perform with great passion and commitment."

Life Ed Queensland has successfully navigated a turbulent period of uncertainty, both locally and globally over these past couple of years. In many ways the pandemic has increased the relevance of, and need for, the Life Ed program – more than ever. Despite disruption to our service delivery, I'm amazed that we were able to deliver vital health, safety and wellbeing education to almost 160,000 children and young people. That speaks volumes for the relevance of our program today, and to the emphasis that schools place on supporting the health and wellbeing of their students.

Working alongside schools and parents in the education of children is a huge privilege, and something we take very seriously, and try to perform with great passion and commitment. This is encapsulated in the energy of our educators who deliver such an engaging program to students in classrooms across the state. It's a role that takes great skill. This is supported by our Board, CEO, management team and staff in the Life Ed Queensland office who also work with great skill and commitment to help make it all happen.

Thank you also to our patrons, ambassadors and volunteers who play such an important role in advocating for Life Ed's work, and to the Queensland government, Communities for Children partners, and Primary Health Networks, who provide vital funding in so many communities. And most of all to our generous and committed donors, including the many thousands of Kids Protect Team supporters, thank you so much for the difference you're making for Queensland children.

CEO's message

Michael Fawsitt

Chief Executive Officer. Life Ed Queensland

"We have a goal to see all children thrive and achieve their full potential, so that in turn. families and communities can thrive too."



We are so privileged to be trusted by hundreds of schools, and more than 100,000 Queensland parents every year, to partner with them in educating children. What a big responsibility that is - for us all!

As our name suggests, Life Ed helps to provide education that can support children for life – a life filled with opportunity. We have a goal to see all children thrive and achieve their full potential, so that in turn, families and communities can thrive too.

Delivering education to children is vital of course, and so is supporting teachers with ongoing high quality and contemporary resources. This is the work that Life Ed is best known for, and I'm immensely proud of the work of our educators and the wider Life Ed team.

These days, I'm excited to say, we do even more than that. We're now a provider of parent education too, via the highly regarded Triple P – Positive Parenting Program, as well as through our rapidly growing suite of online parent support tools.

Schools have told us that this is a role they would like us to play, and I'm so pleased that we're now in a position to do that with programs that empower parents with strategies to support their child's resilience and mental wellbeing.

Thank you so much to the Life Ed team throughout Queensland and to those who support our work. Your commitment and talents are contributing to a healthier, safer future for children, for families and for communities.

Our patrons



The Hon. Robert Borbidge AO

The Honourable Robert Borbidge AO was the 35th premier of Queensland and served in the State Parliament as Member for Surfers Paradise for more than 20 years. During this time, he held several senior positions including senior ministries, deputy leader of the Opposition, leader of the Opposition and premier.

Since his resignation from parliament in 2001, he has held numerous board positions in both private and publicly listed companies.

In 2006, Mr Borbidge was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia and awarded an honorary doctorate from Griffith University.

He is currently chair of the Board of Advice for the Institute for Glycomics at Griffith University, a member of the Council of Griffith University, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of Griffith University (incorporated in the USA).

Mr Borbidge is chair of Life Flight Australia; chair of the Legacy Committee for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games; chair of Study Gold Coast, a collaborative venture between the region's major universities and education providers; and senior counsel for government advisory services group Govstrat.

Mr Borbidge also served on the Independent Distribution Committee for the public appeal for victims of the 2016 Dreamworld tragedy.







There is always more to do, more action to take, but he was proud to take a leading role.

The association with Life Ed Queensland has been long and productive, as Dr Lynham believes the education of our young in respecting yourself, and therefore respecting others, is the most effective measure we can

Associate Professor Lynham is now a clinical director of our nation's leading trauma Institute, the Jamieson Trauma Institute.





Our Queensland reach

7,940 teachers



9,711

donors



670

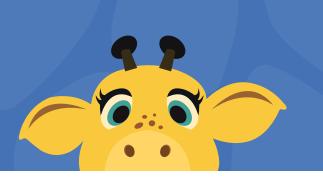
schools and preschools

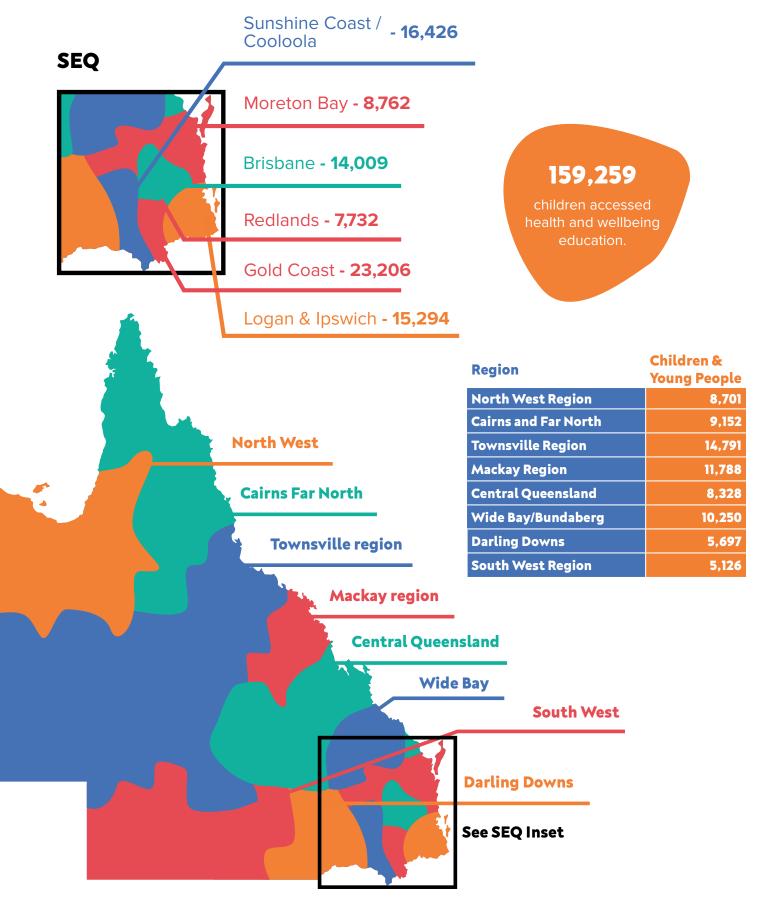


159,259

students







Healthy Harold program

Our Healthy Harold program returned to schools in 2022 with an increased focus on mental health, respectful relationships and consent.



We reviewed and improved two of our most popular programs, bCyberwise and Relate Respect Connect. The updated modules place more emphasis on the challenges young people face when connecting with people online, including the risks of coercive and predatory behaviour.

Utilising the 'Recognise, React, Report' model, bCyberwise empowers students to be alert to their own body cues that something is unsafe or "not right"; develop the skills needed to react (for example, stop, block, ignore); and report or seek help, in an ageappropriate way. The updated Relate, Respect, Connect module supports students to build positive, safe and respectful relationships face to face and online.

We also revamped our Early Years Learning Program which has Healthy Harold as the focal point, as he navigates relevant issues preschoolers often encounter. We delivered 48 sessions of Big Feelings, 66 of Healthy Day and two of Super Safe Harold. The innovative sessions are anchored around big feelings, safety and overall health. Preschoolers and educators love the new Big Books, the videos and the songs. The program includes learning environment suggestions and observation tool PDFs for early learning centre educators which can be utilised before and after our visits.



Virtual delivery

We notched up our first virtual delivery, which was a resounding success. Educators zoomed into Theodore and Emerald North State Schools in Central Queensland and Lakeland State School in Far North Queensland.

The children loved the educational activities, games, songs, videos, fun and learning.

Life Ed Queensland CEO Michael Fawsitt says the virtual classes are an exciting step forward in our flexible offering to remote schools.

"The tyranny of distance in Queensland makes it a challenge to get to schools in outback and regional locations. The capacity to deliver our in-demand Life Ed sessions virtually, means we can reach young people in areas where our health messages are often needed most."

Since the pandemic, we have also evolved into other new modes of program delivery which include presenting our 12 primary health modules in a classroom setting. This extra space allows for engaging group activities, interaction and movement, but what hasn't changed is the unique Life Ed learning experience which empowers children with health knowledge, strategies and resilience for the future. Healthy Harold adds a fun dimension to the learning and the sessions are supported by a diverse range of online resources for teachers, parents and students via the Life Ed Learning Hub.



New team members

We welcomed a number of talented and experienced new educators. Rachel, Bonnie and Sarah joined our sexual health and relationships program Talk About It, while Rebecca, Mia and Fabrianne joined the Healthy Harold program team.

In schools across Queensland, our educators are renowned for their energy, passion, knowledge and commitment to quality.

"The amazing feedback from teachers, students and communities is very humbling," says Program Delivery Manager Sue Osmond.

"Our team is already motivated and inspired to work with young people, but when you hear parents retell what their children have learned and their commitment to making better health choices after our sessions, that is so rewarding.

"When a parent says thank you for opening more conversation lines between themselves and their children, or a teacher says they have learned so much from you, those moments are priceless."



Doomadgee visit

It was a warm community welcome when Life Ed Queensland returned to the Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire this year.

Program Delivery Manager Sue Osmond and educator Natalie taught sessions to students from Pre-Prep to Year 6 at Doomadgee State School, and were inspired by how much children recalled from previous visits.

"Every time we visit this community, we are seeing firsthand how empowering young people with education and knowledge is positively impacting on their physical health and wellbeing." Ms Osmond said.

"The students remembered the importance of healthy eating and how the body works. They were also keen to engage with TAM-e (3D augmented reality technology) to understand the body's organs and how different substances affect various functions."

"Hearing the older students' dreams for the future: wanting to play football, be a soldier, work at the shop or become a marine biologist, was just so beautiful, and knowing that we are playing a part in them realising those goals is very rewarding."

Powerful messages

Reducing chronic preventable disease starts with educating children to make safe and healthy choices, which is why it's so important that we continue to have the resources to reach children in regional, remote and low socio-economic areas.

Culturally appropriate content and hands-on learning helped
Doomadgee students recall lessons and share messages with their
families.

"I really liked the iPad and looking into my body. It was very neat."

"I really liked the video that showed the body parts moving and how they slow down."

"I really liked how I learned to keep my body healthy."

"I really liked giving Harold a big hug and pat."

"Taking the program to Indigenous school communities is a highlight in our school calendar," says Life Ed Queensland CEO Michael Fawsitt. "Our educators continue to deepen the relationship with the Doomadgee community and work towards achieving positive health outcomes for the region's young people."

Talk About It program

Puberty is a normal part of growing up, but it can be a challenging time for many young people. For parents and teachers, initiating puberty conversations and finding the right answers to tricky questions can also be awkward.

Adding more complexity, consent education will be mandatory in all Australian schools from 2023. It means schools will be required to teach age-appropriate consent education — including topics such as coercion, gendered stereotypes and power imbalances — from Prep to Year 10.

Life Ed Queensland is already a leader in this space. In 2014, with the support of Queensland Health, we developed the groundbreaking personal development program Talk About It to help children navigate puberty, sexual health, consent and respectful relationships.

Contemporary and engaging

Talk About It is now the largest sexual health and relationships education program delivered in Queensland primary schools, reaching 33,085 students across the state in 2022.

The program has been a game changer for Queensland schools.

Regular classroom teachers sit in on sessions presented by our expert Talk About It educators, who cover information in a way that is encouraging, ageappropriate, fun and welcoming.

Sessions encompass social, emotional and physical health, covering issues like friendships, self-esteem, body image, stereotypes, peer pressures, identity, diversity and inclusivity.

Students also learn the facts about puberty changes, reproduction, protective behaviours and hygiene. They also discover what consent means and how to build healthy relationships, learning to understand the difference between passive, aggressive and assertive communication among other things.

Last year, Life Ed Queensland's team of seven puberty and relationships educators presented an incredible 1,546 Talk About It sessions - enriching children's learning with modules including: Welcome to Puberty,



Surviving Puberty, Evolving Friendships and Navigating Relationships.

Normalising puberty

Gold Coast student Elias is one of the thousands of students who have benefited from Talk About It sessions in Years 5 and 6.

"I have learned that puberty is something that no one can escape, and that males' bodies change a lot differently to females' bodies, but there are a lot of things that are similar to both genders," Elias said.

"Also, it is important that you respect everyone for who they are, not what they look like because some people will be nervous, and some will get lots of pimples and others will gain hairs in uncomfy places."

Elias's mother Sarah believes Talk About It helped her son gain confidence, appreciate diversity and grasp the typical changes experienced at puberty.

"So many aspects of the program caught his attention and imagination. We have an 'open-door' and 'open-ear' policy about discussing puberty, but I think for some kids there's an embarrassment factor when talking to their parents about some of the stuff they're going through," Sarah said.

"Having a qualified neutral third party who can share this information, who you can ask questions of, is really helpful. Some kids may not have access to up-todate information, or their background doesn't support discussions like that, so I think it's fantastic and incredibly valuable to have an organisation like Life Ed coming to the school."







Teacher feedback

Queensland teachers also love Talk About It, saying experienced sexual health educators are essential wher it comes to delivering puberty education.

"It is informative and a safe place to talk about changes, with someone who is an expert at answering the more difficult questions."

"It is an important topic and relevant to the students. It introduced sensitive and somewhat embarrassing information in an informal but professional way."

"The program was delivered in a way that the students felt comfortable and was pitched at the appropriate developmental stage. They really connected with all the topics and felt safe enough to ask and answer questions. Feedback from parents was extremely positive and the students went home and had conversations."

We surveyed more than 250 Queensland teachers for our 2021 Teacher Feedback: Talk About It Program survey. Here is what they had to say:



100% recommend their school re-book the Talk About It program



97.02% said there was very significant or significant need for the Talk About It program at their school



99.64% said the content of the program was relevant or highly relevant

As demand for Talk About It continues to grow, there are plans to reach more regional children with the TAI program and to make more content available on the Hub to support our school communities in remote regions.

Professional development

After two years of COVID disruptions, we were finally able to unite for our face-to-face annual conference in June, an opportunity for educators from around Queensland to join head office staff and the leadership team for several days of professional development, fun and inspiration. Educator Michele was acknowledged for her 10-year milestone as a program educator, while support staff and educators engaged with vibrant professional development including:

- sessions to consider our pedagogy and best practice
- an inclusivity and diversity workshop around visible trans allyship, with Minus 18, a charity improving the lives of LGBTQIA and youth
- a fun and interactive puppetry session with Larrikin Puppets, who have received advanced training in the USA from puppeteers who worked on The Muppets and Sesame Street
- a session on adolescent health and reproduction by Iris Education's Dr Kay Strom, a former medical education coordinator for Family Planning
- an update on youth drug trends in Queensland, and recommendations on how to engage with young people, presented by alcohol and druguse support service Dovetail
- and internal presentations by our various teams to share our work and reinforce the connectedness of the departments.





Parenting is mostly rewarding but it does come with some challenges. Wouldn't it be great to have a personal toolkit to manage the ups and downs? Thankfully, there is a toolkit and it's called the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program.

The award-winning Triple P program has been part of Life Ed Queensland's suite of offerings for the past two years.

Developed by Professor Matt Sanders at the University of Queensland, the program has helped more than four million children worldwide. The United Nations ranks it the number one parenting system in the world, due to its large body of evidence.

Several Life Ed Queensland educators are trained to deliver Triple P at Queensland schools, with the program supporting families by enabling parents and carers to raise healthier, more resilient kids.

Fear-Less Program

This year, we added Triple P's innovative Fear-Less program, which gives parents practical ways to help their child or teenager deal with anxiety and feel calmer and more capable. When parents know how, they can teach children to be more emotionally resilient, learn new skills and gain confidence as they learn to tackle fears and situations they've been avoiding.

Essentially, Fear-Less is a toolkit of coping skills, which helps children deal with problems in healthy ways, now and in the future.

The free two-hour Fear-Less seminar empowers parents to:



understand more about anxiety and how to reduce it



know how to respond to a child when they're anxious



help children develop skills to cope with challenging situations and solve problems



and teach children a range of strategies based on proven principles.

Raising Resilient Children

Fear-Less complements Triple P's Raising Resilient Children seminar, which is also facilitated by our educators, and was well received by parent communities in Far North Queensland, Mackay and South East Queensland throughout the year.

The Raising Resilient Children seminar addresses key building blocks for creating a resilient child including building a positive outlook, dealing with stressful life events, dealing with negative feelings and developing coping skills.



In 2022, we delivered a total of 31 Triple P seminars to 153 parents. Here's what some of the parents had to say after participating in seminars with our educators:

"It's a wonderful session for kids' education and ourselves as well. I learned a lot. Thank you very much!"

"Thank you for providing an insightful seminar for us!"

"Great session - the examples really help to illustrate how to apply the skills."

"Good summary. Clear language, good pacing and the educator kept it entertaining and light-hearted."

Schools are also grateful for the positive impact Triple P-trained Life Ed educators are having on their school communities.

"Riverside Christian College had the pleasure of inviting families and community members to the College to engage with the Raising Resilient Children parenting seminar. It was a resounding success and a great opportunity to engage our families in the partnership of raising young people. Our presenter, Sue, was knowledgeable and informative, and the pace of the seminar made for easy listening. We would relish the opportunity to engage in more seminars of these types and thank Life Ed Queensland for the opportunity." – Michelle Gouge, Principal, Riverside Christian College





After last year's successful pilot at Varsity College primary campus, our anti-bullying and resilience program Harold's Kind Classrooms was trialled at two new schools this year - Leichhardt State School in Ipswich and Serviceton South State School at Inala.

Harold's Kind Classrooms works with schools to empower children with the social and emotional skills to address bullying, using positive reinforcement to promote kindness, empathy, compassion and student leadership.

In 2022, five Year 4 classrooms adopted the program, which was delivered by the classroom teachers in line with their own wellbeing timetabled lessons. The HKC teacher manual outlines daily routines, lesson plans and activities, allowing teachers to prepare and equip their classrooms with kindness resources and simple guidelines to implement a work schedule for students.

Both schools found the program adaptable and the lessons flexible to facilitate their school's delivery methods and typical calendar interruptions such as swimming carnivals or NAPLAN testing.

At Serviceton South State School, they shared HKC with all Year 4 teaching staff. The classroom teacher facilitated the daily journal affirmations, goals and reflections with students, and the specialist health teacher led the five kindness lesson plans.

Changes in student responses before and after the program revealed children were demonstrating kindness to themselves or others more often and had a deeper understanding of how actions and words impact upon others.

Melanie McQueen, the specialist health teacher at Serviceton South State School, says Harold's Kind Classrooms produced positive change in student interactions and behaviours. "Students really engaged with the kindness journals and enjoyed wearing the badges." She says she will continue to implement components of HKC in the classroom, including "discussion about being kind, and how to do this, and stronger focus on kindness to self."

A thriving year for our **Healthy Eats** program

Life Ed Queensland's award-winning Healthy Eats program is continuing to achieve amazing outcomes as it expands across North and South East Queensland.

Since the 2019 launch of the innovative primary school nutrition program, 46 schools in Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, and targeted regions of South East Queensland have participated.

From abundant vegetable and fruit gardens and healthy brain breaks, to recipe competitions, tuckshop menu reviews and practical nutrition education in the classroom, Healthy Eats is dramatically boosting the amount of fresh fruit and vegetables in young diets.

In 2022, Healthy Eats reached 1,162 Queensland school children through the Healthy Eats classroom nutrition module and more than 8,000 students through whole-school initiatives.

Seven North Queensland schools achieved full Healthy Eats accreditation after reaching 10 key program benchmarks that promote a healthy school food environment. Bucasia State School, Mossman State School, Julatten State School, Jubilee Christian College, Hampden State School, Wulguru State School and Biboohra State School, all achieved Healthy Eats accreditation.

Teacher and parent engagement

Nutritionist and Community Development Officer Jaclyn and CDO Kristina delivered Healthy Eats professional development to more than 170 teachers, outlining the program's purpose and evidencebased nutrition guidelines and giving teachers tips on how to support healthy eating in the classroom.

Parent engagement is also pivotal to the success of Healthy Eats, helping to reinforce good nutrition habits at home. Through the Lunchbox Lifesavers Competition, families were encouraged to share their best healthy lunchbox hint or recipe to win a prize.

Jaclyn also presented the first parent workshop - 'Preparing for Prep: How to pack a healthy lunchbox' at Riverview State School.



Program impact

An external evaluation by Social Marketing @ Griffith found that Healthy Eats:

Increased by 40%

the number of schools with an active healthy food and drink policy

Increased by 31%

the number of schools with a functioning fruit and vegetable garden

Increased by 42%

the number of schools conducting an in-class fruit and vegetable break

Increased by 21%

the number of Smart Choices compliant tuckshops

And increased by 63%

the number of schools with a student leadership team that promoted healthy food choices among their peers

Overall, the evaluation found that after the Healthy Eats program came to their school, students had a greater opportunity to eat healthy food than previously. But Griffith went a step further, with a social impact value estimation that offers tangible evidence of the program's wider public health impact.

Focusing on two schools and 1,195 Year 5 students who participated in the program's fruit and vegetable passport competition, Griffith calculated the dollar impact on obesity prevention. They estimated more than \$200,000 in health, social and economic costs would be saved per year, just for those 1,195 students.

That's real impact!



Gulf Kids Week

In March, Healthy Eats Nutritionist and Community Savannah NRM for Gulf Kids Week – an event run for schools in the remote North Queensland Gulf and Savannah of activities including a Healthy Eats lunchbox activity and fruit and vegetable guessing game. The event was a great way to reach children in remote areas, who wouldn't usually be able to access the Healthy Eats program.

Case Study



Wellbeing focus fuels Wulguru's **Healthy Eats milestone**

Student wellbeing is a priority at Townsville's Wulguru State School, so when teachers noticed that many students were having trouble bringing healthy lunches to school, they looked for a way to help.

Wulguru Healthy Eats coordinator Toni Wilson was part of the team seeking a solution and championed the implementation of the Healthy Eats program at the school.

"Our school values good nutrition and the benefits it brings to children and their learning, so selecting the Healthy Eats program was an easy choice. It met our goals for students, but also the community, and it was delivered by Life Ed Queensland, so we knew the program would be high quality," Toni said.

After adopting the program, the school decided to go a step further and become Healthy Eats accredited. Accredited schools work towards 10 key program benchmarks which include tuckshop menu reviews, nutritious brain breaks and thriving vegetable gardens.

"Accreditation was a natural step for us," Toni explains. "While the process was thorough, we didn't find it difficult as we were already introducing several facets of the program. We also found the financial and partnership incentives beneficial to achieving our goals."

Connecting schools with community partners is a key element of Healthy Eats, and Wulguru State school was keen to utilise the partnership with Bunnings to grow their school

"Students were excited about getting into the garden and re-establishing it. That was probably their favourite part," Toni said.

"They also really enjoyed the hands-on aspects of Healthy Eats and all the program activities such as competing in the passport competition and making healthy snacks during the classroom module."

The impact of Healthy Eats went beyond the classroom and the schoolyard. The program led to positive changes including regular newsletter tips for families, access to teacher resources and greater support for the tuckshop through the Queensland Association of School Tuckshops (QAST).

"Throughout the Healthy Eats program, we noticed an improvement across the school in the foods students were bringing for lunch," Toni reflects. "Some found making a change easier than others, but overall, being involved in Healthy Eats has been valuable for students and the whole school community.

"I would certainly recommend other schools take up the opportunity to be part of Healthy Eats and would definitely encourage other schools to work towards accreditation."



Life **Education** Hub

School life is busy and so are teachers. That's why we've made it easier for teachers to help their students get the most out of a Life Ed visit to their school.

The Life Ed Hub is a complimentary online collection of learning resources to support schools, teachers, parents and students. When teachers register on the Hub, they can access Life Ed lessons and resources both before and after the Life Ed visit, covering modules from early learning to Year 6.

The Hub also houses parent resources including fact sheets and podcasts with leading experts. Resources are designed to provide information on issues such as cybersafety, friendships, mental health, social environments, puberty and healthy eating, and encourage positive family conversations between parents and their children.

More than 630 teachers accessed the Hub, and we added an additional 39 new courses which help teachers extend on the learning from our program.

Our national office, Life Ed Australia, created 35 new resources which were uploaded to the Hub site. These fun and bright courses, featuring animated Healthy Harold, extend on the current primary modules. There are also activities based on the think-pair-share collaborative learning strategy, click-and-reveal activities and take-home style tasks for students to enable them to continue conversations with parents and carers.

This year, parents were keen to engage with the Hub on topics related to children's health, hygiene and safety; building positive and respectful relationships; and safe online behaviours. Teachers also gravitated towards these courses, as shown by the lessons and activities that were downloaded or accessed over the year.

"Life Education is a valuable part of our curriculum because we integrate it into our Health units of work. Students are taught to develop resilience by learning about being tolerant of others, talking about how they feel, asserting themselves and We teach resilience on a day-to-day basis by developing an environment where all students feel safe and supported, celebrating student progress - not just success - and providing students opportunities for goal setting and

"The accessibility of the Life Ed Hub makes life easy resources at our disposal. The ease of the Hub greatly complements the face-to-face teaching and allows

Jacob Morgan





Bringing home, the message

The Life Ed program has an amazing impact on young people, and we love hearing feedback from parents and children. Here's what some parents and kids had to say about their unique Life Ed experience.



"Ariadni started talking about 'sometimes' food and 'always' food and she explained to us about the importance of having more vegetables and fruits. We were very happy because she's quite a picky eater and we discussed how having vegetables and fruits doesn't need to be boring."

- Francisca, parent



"My child learned about being caring and empathetic towards others and their feelings, and that bullying is never acceptable."

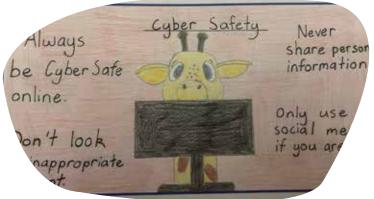
- Skye, parent

"My daughter took in a lot of information on the My Body Matters lesson. She is more aware of what the healthier foods are, even when we are shopping in the supermarket. She knows

- Sonia, parent

"He knows why he should not drink coffee, how apple is digested and how to deal with a bully." – Xin, parent

"When George came home from his Life Ed session, he said some great things about keeping his microphone off when online, not sharing passwords, and he explained that if a random person that you don't know jumps on while you are playing a game, you shut them down or turn the screen off." - Anna, parent



"He learned about cyberbullying, the websites to go to and where to find games are safe."

- Steven, parent

"She came and told me not to smoke ever again. Thankfully, I don't anymore!" – Penny, parent

"He learned that everybody is changing in their own way. He learned that his sister is emotional because her brain is changing, and one side of the brain develops faster. He's been more respectful towards her, and they are more understanding of one another." - Melinda, parent

"Sienna is using her decision her Life Education Decisions booklet." – Angela, parent

Life Ed helps hone smart decisions

Read what two Queensland families had to say about their children's memorable Life Ed experience.



Sofia's story

At the age of 10, Ipswich youngster Sofia already knows that smart life decisions will have a big impact on her future health, wellbeing, safety and happiness.

Sofia wants to be a paediatric nurse when she grows up, so she was inspired when Life Ed educator Sara visited her school to present the Decisions module to her Year 5 class.

The session explores the difference between legal and illegal drugs and looks at how family, peers, media, culture, financial and legal factors influence decision making.

Sofia's mum Alex said the Life Ed session initiated important conversations about choices, consequences, responsibility, facts, and influences.

"Sofia told me that she learned that not all drugs are bad - if you have a headache, you can take paracetamol - and that gave us a good opportunity to talk about how some drugs are medication," Alex said.

Responsible choices

Sofia has also applied her Life Education session to help manage friendship issues at school.

"At the end of the term, she had a falling out with one of her friends," Alex said. "One of her friends was being a bit mean and saying nasty things, but rather than retaliate, Sofia took a mature approach and chose to stay calm. She asked her friend to stop, and then just ignored the behaviour and continued with her other friendships."

Alex believes the Life Education program is a vital part of the primary school experience – one that embeds preventative health messages but also empowers children to make positive choices for life.

"You have parents at home who advise children what to do; teachers at school are teaching them the curriculum; so, it's nice to have someone outside of those two relationships, visiting the school. Life Ed makes it interesting and fun to learn about everyday life things, and it's not someone that they see or hear from every day."



"She also talked about what types of drugs are bad and what effect they have on you, and why it's not a good idea to take drugs or give in to peer pressure."



Benjamin's story

When Benjamin took part in the popular Life Ed session On The Case at his Gold Coast school, he was shocked and amazed to learn about the profound and dangerous impacts of smoking and vaping.

"What I took away from the Life Ed session was that there are 7000 chemicals produced when a cigarette is smoked," the Year 5 student says.

"I also learned about the history of cigarettes. The last thing I took away from the session was to never start smoking or vaping."

Education is key

With research showing vaping is becoming more prevalent in schools, even in primary schools, experts are concerned about the health risks which include taking up cigarette smoking, addiction, poisoning, seizures, trauma and burns, and lung injury.

Education is the key to prevention, with thousands of children like Benjamin learning from Life Ed about the many aspects of smoking, including the history and laws around tobacco, and how cigarettes and nicotine can affect the whole body.

"I would say before you get so addicted that you can't stop, just stop! Smoking is super bad for your health so just quit!" Benjamin said.

Family conversations

Benjamin's father believes the whole family benefited from what Benjamin learned with the Life Ed program that day. The session, led by educator Elise, had such a significant impact, it prompted thought-provoking conversations with Benjamin's brothers, Caleb and Gabriel, and parents, Hollie and Nick.

"Benjamin came home from school and told us he also learned that vaping is just as harmful as smoking," Nick said.

"He also told me that he learned that in the olden days, smoking was advertised as a healthy lifestyle option and recommended by some health professionals."

Nick, who quit smoking several years ago, says he's tried to educate his three sons about the harms of nicotine, but having the messages reinforced by Life Ed's specialist drug and health educator in a peer-group setting has really helped the message sink in.

"When I was smoking, I used to say them, 'Look this is the stupidest thing you could ever do, and here I am doing it.' And I say to them all the time, 'If I could go back to when I started at 15, I would kick myself,'" Nick said.

"Having somebody else who doesn't have that conflicting story of smoking or drinking, drive home the message, helps immensely."





Queensland greats tackle **Healthy Harold Hundred**

Olympian Brooke Hanson, CEOs, young ambassadors, students and parents joined our 2022 Healthy Harold Hundred fundraising challenge to help Life Ed Queensland address school yard bullying and violence.

A total of 651 people stepped up to join the MOVEment to walk, run or ride 100ks in June. Collectively, our community of fundraisers covered an incredible 23,490 kilometres, and raised \$83,641 to help Life Ed Queensland fund much-needed respectful relationships programs in schools.

From teams of eager students to dedicated mums and dads, each fundraiser made a difference. We also thank our ambassadors, Gold Coast 92.5 Triple M Breakfast hosts Peter 'Spida' Everitt and Ali Plath for their generous promotion and fundraising, fitness influencer Bec Hardgrave, and Tristan Oort, Skye Taylor and Khara Johnson-Smith.

A huge thank you to the top fundraiser in this year's event, Edge Early Learning CEO Annie Bryce, who raised an amazing \$11,626. Thanks also to our Big Outdoor media partner who generously gave us \$6.2 million worth of free billboard advertising.

Not only did the event raise vital funds, but it also helped shine the media spotlight on a big community issue, with school bullying skyrocketing since the pandemic.

Bullying affects one in four school children between Years 4 and 9, and one in five children is cyberbullied. Sadly, victims of bullying, violence and abuse are impacted physically, socially and emotionally. It can destroy a young person's confidence and self-esteem and their desire to learn and go to school.

"Children who are bullied are three times more likely to experience depression and there's link between bullying others at school and aggressive behaviour as adults," says Life Ed Queensland CEO Michael Fawsitt.

"Respectful relationships education also plays a vital role" in addressing future domestic and family violence."



Fundraising

This year, Life Ed Queensland's incredibly generous supporters contributed \$2,833,324 to support our work with children. Through our Kids Protect Team, thousands of supporters from all walks of life make a regular donation to our program. Their support is vital. It allows us to continue to develop and innovate with our program content, as well as reach remote parts of Queensland where many children often lack access to health and safety education.

92,148

regular giving donations were received during the financial year in Queensland

9,711

Queensland donors supported us during 2022





Jason's story

Brisbane father of two, Jason, has been a proud supporter of Life Ed Queensland since 2018, when he signed on as a regular donor with the Kids Protect Team.

"I became a regular giver because one of the things the Life Ed program does very well is teach children about respectful relationships. I wanted the anti-bullying message to be spread far and wide in schools," he said.

Jason feels strongly about educating children to make good choices, due to a family tragedy many years ago. His beloved older brother died at the age of 13 after a school yard incident which resulted in the teenager sustaining a head injury.

"We did not know that my brother had an aneurysm on his brain and that it had burst. Three days after he went to hospital, the doctors pronounced his death. The hospital sought my parents' consent for organ donation, which they agreed to. My brother went on to save six lives, so somewhere, his heart is still beating."

The tragedy profoundly changed Jason's view of life and reinforced how one simple choice can have devastating consequences.

He believes respectful relationships education should underpin the curriculum at all schools.

"There should be zero tolerance to bullying, but unfortunately, it is still going on today," Jason says. "I want my daughters to have a happy learning experience at school and positive friendships with their peers."

"It's especially important to teach children about social behaviour. The teachers have enough on their plate, but this is where Life Ed Queensland comes in. The way the program helps children understand those social issues and helps children to grow and develop healthy minds is vital."





Life Ed Queensland in the news

It's always exciting to see our work with children, parents and school communities being shared with a wider audience. Our CEO Michael Fawsitt, ambassadors and educators featured in state-wide, metro and regional TV, radio, print and online publications, including 7 News, 9 News, WIN News, ABC Radio, The Courier Mail and Australian Community Newspapers to name a few. We are also growing our audiences via our website and social media channels including Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn and through our Pulse newsletter and email campaigns.









Dr to leave



RL pathway hub

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CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

Walk with Harold to tackle bullying



Jason Miller, Skye Taylor and Tristan Oost warm up for Life Ed Queensland's Healthy Harold Hundred to tackle bullying and violence.





Life Ed Queensland welcomes mandatory consent education: Letters



BUNDABERG CENTRAL

Life Education Program welcomes mandatory consent education in schools



Burnett Heads State School Year 6's Keian and Steven with Life Ed QLD's Natalie Hopsick, Picture: AARON GOODWIN



Our ambassadors

Our wonderful patrons and ambassadors help bring Life Ed Queensland's work with children to the forefront of people's minds. Our ambassadors help with publicity and podcasts and get behind campaigns that support our work with children. We are proud of our patrons and ambassadors and are very grateful for the support they provide to our program.



Eva Milic Nine News Gold Coast presenter & journalist

Eva Milic is the popular presenter of Nine's Gold Coast News. She joined Nine News in 2004 while completing her journalism studies. A busy mother of two young girls and a sought-after MC, Eva is passionate about being an ambassador for Life Ed Qld and has fronted videos for our Healthy Harold Hundred campaign.



Dr Judith Locke Clinical psychologist, author and media commentator

Dr Judith Locke is a registered clinical psychologist and former teacher. She speaks to parents and teachers nationally and internationally, about encouraging long-term wellbeing in children. She also provides clinical assistance for families in her private practice. Judith's psychological commentary and advice features regularly in the media, and she is the author of parenting books, including The Bonsai Child. She's a member of The Australian Psychological Society, and its Clinical Psychology College.



Brett Lee Cybersafety expert, educator and author

Brett Lee is one of Australia's leading experts in online safety. A former detective, Brett was a specialist in the field of internet child exploitation investigations. His mission is to educate children and their carers about the common dangers of the online world and their rights and responsibilities, as well as provide practical strategies to make the online experience as safe and rewarding as possible.



Kate Di Prima

Dietitian. author and media commentator

Kate Di Prima is a leading Australian dietitian and is passionate about the health of families and educating future generations. An expert in treating children who are fussy and picky eaters, she has authored and coauthored several cookbooks, including More Peas Please: Solutions for Feeding Fussy Eaters. Kate has been a spokesperson for Dietitians Australia for 20 years and is the Queensland representative to the National Board of Nutrition Australia.



Dr Justin Coulson

Parenting expert, author and media commentator

Dr Justin Coulson is one of Australia's most respected and popular parenting authors, speakers and media commentators. He is sought after for his expertise in family life, relationships, emotional wellbeing and resilience; and is the founder of happyfamilies.com. au which provides a suite of resources, webinars and support to families across Australia and the world. Recently, Justin was the co-host and parenting expert on Channel 9's hit show, Parental Guidance.



Jimmy Morrison

Mental health advocate

A veteran of the Australian Regular Army, Jimmy currently works with Open Arms, Veterans and Families Counselling service as a mental health peer worker. He draws on his lived experience navigating mental distress, trauma and addiction to support others moving toward recovery and healing. Jimmy is a passionate advocate for mental health system reform and deeply believes in the importance of connection to self, country and community in finding healing. His sharing includes the impact the Life Ed program had on him as a child.

Our amazing educators in action across Queensland

From Doomadgee and Cairns in the state's north, to Stanthorpe and Coolangatta in the southeast, our educators take the Life Ed program to all corners of the state and almost every region and city in between.

Throughout the year, our educators not only deliver an engaging program, but they also continuously collaborate, share ideas and look to grow their professional knowledge and skills. The passionate team participates in relevant professional development every single school holiday to ensure they are delivering content that resonates with young people and that our pedagogy is current and effective. They are lifelong learners aiming to make our sessions impactful and fun!

We also thank our incredible hard-working committees across Queensland – Townsville, Central Queensland, Cooloola-Noosa, Toowoomba, and the Moreton Bay sub-committee. Their dedication and commitment enable us to form invaluable community partnerships in each region and empower children in schools across Queensland.





Our political ambassadors

Life Ed Queensland is grateful for the support of government ministers and members of parliament from across the state, as well as councillors in various regions, community leaders and ambassadors. Their support helps drive our mission to help generations of Queensland children live a safer and healthier life.



Our ambassadors in parliament include:

Hon Mick de Brenni – Member for Springwood – Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement

Hon Shannon Fentiman – Member for Waterford – Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Hon Leeanne Enoch – Member for Algester – Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Arts

Hon Di Farmer – Member for Bulimba – Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development

Hon Meaghan Scanlon – Member for Gaven – Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

Hon Mark Bailey – Member for Miller – Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Hon Mark Furner – Member for Ferny Grove – Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

Mr David Crisafulli – Member for Broadwater – Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Tourism, Shadow Minister for Olympics and Paralympics

David Janetzki – Member for Toowoomba South – Shadow Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Investment and Trade

Mr Timothy Nicholls – Member for Clayfield – Shadow Attorney-General, Shadow Minister for Justice, Shadow Minister for CBD Activation

Dr Christian Rowan – Member for Moggill – Shadow Minister for Education and Shadow Minister for the Arts

Jarrod Bleijie – Member for Kawana – Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, Shadow Minister for Olympic and Paralympic Infrastructure and Jobs & Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations

Ms Ros Bates – Member for Mudgeeraba – Shadow Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Medical Research and Women

Mr Steve Minnikin – Member for Chatsworth – Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads, **Customer Service**

Mr John-Paul Langbroek – Member for Surfers Paradise - Shadow Minister for Seniors, Communities and Disability Services, Multiculturalism and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships





Mrs Julieanne Gilbert – Member for Mackay – Assistant Minister for Health and Regional Health Infrastructure

Mr Joseph Kelly – Member for Greenslopes – Deputy Speaker

Mr Don Brown – Member for Capalaba – Chief Government Whip

Ms Jessica Pugh – Member for Mount Ommaney – Deputy Government Whip

Ms Joan Pease – Member for Lytton – Senior Government Whip

Ms Nikki Boyd – Member for Pine Rivers – Assistant Minister for Local Government

Mrs Brittany Lauga – Member for Keppel – Assistant Minister for Education

Mr Stephen Bennett - Member for Burnett

Mr Trevor Watts – Member for Toowoomba North

Mr Linus Power – Member for Logan

Mr Andrew Powell – Member for Glass House

Ms Jennifer Howard – Member for Ipswich

Mr Michael Crandon – Member for Coomera

Mr Jon Krause – Member for Scenic Rim

Dr Mark Robinson – Member for Oodgeroo

Mr Shane King – Member for Kurwongbah

Mr Jim Madden - Member for Ipswich West

Our ambassadors in the Gold Coast City Council include:

Pauline Young – Division 12

Bob La Castra - Division 8

Glenn Tozer – Division 9



Our partners



Major partner





We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our major partners, Queensland Health & Health and Wellbeing Queensland. Their funding has been instrumental in assisting our growth and innovation, supporting our work to empower children across Queensland with vital health, safety and wellbeing education.

Partners





















Supporters















Our governance



Peter Morgan Chair

Peter was a founding member of Life Ed Queensland's Board and has served continuously ever since. He has worked as a solicitor since 1979 and has been a member of Rotary for more than 30 years. During this time, he was also a member of the finance board of one of the largest church congregations in Australia.



Jack Ray Vice Chair

Jack joined the board of Life Ed Queensland in 2010. He was born and raised on the Gold Coast where he attended Somerset College. In 2005, he graduated from Bond University with a Bachelor of Business Law degree. Following graduation from university, Jack worked as development manager for the listed Consolidated Properties Group and Trinity Funds Management Group in a role which included the construction management and leasing of several Coles and Woolworths anchored shopping centres. Before becoming executive director of Ray Group in 2009, Jack was Ray Group's director of sales based in both its Mount Hotham and Salt Village, Kingscliff project marketing offices. He holds a commercial helicopter pilot's licence and was the former managing director and chief pilot of Helicopter Services Queensland.



Dr Caroline Salom Strategic Advisor - mental health & substance use

Caroline is a Principal Research Fellow/Associate Professor in Substance Use & Mental Health at the Institute for Social Science Research, University of Queensland and adjunct Senior Lecturer at the National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre at UNSW. She joined the LEQ Board in February 2016. She has worked in health and medical research for more than 30 years and specifically in the alcohol and drug field for 20 years. Caroline holds a PhD in substance use, mental health, service development and epidemiology, and brings extensive experience in community and school-based health education and prevention.





Brent Kinnane Treasurer

Brent joined the Life Ed Board in March 2021. He is currently the General Manager South West Region for TAFE Queensland and is responsible for the provision of TAFE Queensland services through the Ipswich, Darling Downs and South West regions. He also performs the role of the Executive Sponsor of TAFE Queensland's training delivery to all schools around the state. Brent has 20 years' experience in the Vocational Education and Training Sector and has held a previous role as CEO of Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges and Corporate Services Director at TAFE Queensland. Brent's community roles include board membership with the Brothers Leagues Club Ipswich and the Ipswich Region Chamber of Commerce. He is also the current chair of the Hockey Queensland Masters Committee.



Dr Martin Wullschleger

Martin is the Director of Trauma at Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital. Prior to that he was clinical director surgical, anaesthetics and procedural services at Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service. In addition to his clinical commitments. Martin is a passionate leader in surgical education and training and undertakes trauma research. Martin brings broad experience to the board including involvement prevention programs and professional committees.



Mark Lacy Secretary

Mark is the Managing Partner of Hickey Lawyers, one of the Gold Coast's largest commercial law firms. With over 30 years' post admission experience, Mark's expertise spans all aspects of the development process, including site acquisition, approvals, appeals, community title structuring, consultation with government, negotiating and drafting complex joint venture agreements, construction contracts and funding facilities. Mark is a life member of the Mermaid Beach Surf Club and has been past president of the Mermaid Beach Supporters Club, junior activities director and surf sports director. He has held nonexecutive director positions with two ASX listed public companies.



Michael Fawsitt Chief Executive Officer

The Life Ed Queensland team is led by chief executive officer, Michael Fawsitt, who has 30 years' experience working in nonprofit organisations. Michael was one of four finalists for the 2005 Queenslander of the Year Awards for his contribution to the alleviation of poverty through his work at World Vision Australia. He has been with Life Ed Queensland since 2006, during which time Life Ed's reach has doubled to more than 200,000 children and young people each vear.



Our team

Community Development Officers

Jaclyn Coffey Nutritionist and Community Development Officer

Health Educators

Brigette Cavanagh Moreton Bay Donna Walker Townsville Elise Woodrow Gold Coast 2 Elizabeth Hills Central Queensland Fabrianne Russell Southeast Gemma Ewin Far North Queensland Jane Jackson Toowoomba Jennifer Rousset Sunshine Coast Jordan Kite North West Lisa Barber Senior Educator Louise Shailer Mackay Mariana Roehe Conceicao Gold Coast 1 Mia Boyd Gladstone Michele Tabrett Brisbane Natalie Hopsick Redlands Niccola Harwood Ipswich Niki Andrinopoulos Cooloola Noosa Rebecca Jakins Bundaberg Sara Allen Ipswich / Logan Trinity Hoolihan Central Queensland

Puberty and Relationships Educators

Anne-Frances Watson Townsville
Bonnie Simpson Mackay
Brad Scarrabelotti Gold Coast
Heather Henderson Wide Bay
Lane Norman Senior Educator
Megan Stanton Cairns
Narelle Watkins Brisbane
Sarah Kell Brisbane
Rachel Stevens Brisbane

Support Office Team

Adam King Campaign Coordinator
Alana Lacey Social Marketing Coordinator
Andrew Cliff Finance and Office Admin Manager
Anikka Braida Executive Assistant
Deanne Lugton Human Resources and Operations
Manager
Gabi Stumbles Fundraising Officer
Hannah Smith Digital Marketer
Ione Eite Fundraising Officer
Jelo Ivan Mesina Graphic Designer

Ione Eite Fundraising Officer
Jelo Ivan Mesina Graphic Designer
Lisa Wallace Administration Assistant
Michael Fawsitt Chief Executive Officer
Michelle Pipino Partnerships Coordinator
Michelle Powell Business Development Manager
Polly Thornton Bookings Coordinator
Rebecca Batchelor Learning Coordinator
Sandy Newson Office Administrator
Sharon Lansley Reach and Social Impact Manager
Sue Osmond Program Delivery Manager
Tracey Challenor Media and Public Relations Manager
Zoe Shearer Marketing and Fundraising Manager

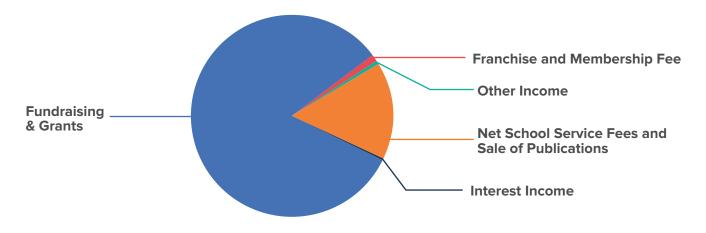
Our financials

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021
Revenue (Note 2)	6,443,200	7,009,351
Expenses		
Fundraising and Community Engagement Expenses	1,503,370	2,141,190
Health Promotion Expenses	3,565,392	3,344,728
General Administration Expenses	1,538,603	1,257,055
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	97,215	108,470
	6,704,580	6,851,443
Total comprehensive income for the year	-261,380	157,908
Note 2		
Net School Service Fees and Sale of Publications	1,019,914	1,123,075
Interest Income	480	833
Fundraising & Grants	5,329,834	5,497,148
Franchise and Membership Fee	57,256	12,481
Other Income	35,716	375,814
	6,443,200	7,009,351

Source of funds

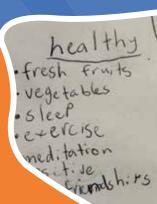


Total: \$6,443,200



Lucien - A Brighter
Beginning Ashmore
Early Learning Centre

Hunter -Taranganba State School





I think about 9000 things with harrings

Isla - Carbrook State School

support - here's our gift to you

provided their feedback through our survey to

Take a photo of the

Katherine -Cannon Hill State School



We need your support



Book our trusted programs for your school



Enter into a corporate partnership with our charity



Make a one-off donation



Leave a 1% gift in your Will



Join our monthly giving program



Life Ed Queensland

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www.lifeedqld.org.au

ABN: 17 760 280 660







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