



Coolum State High School

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The Queensland Department of Education trading as:
Education Queensland International (EQI) CRICOS Registration Number 00608A

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – International students

What time does school start and finish each day?

Start at 8.35am and finish at 2.45pm (Mon-Fri). There are 4 classes (70 minutes per class).

Do I have to wear a school uniform? Yes. The School Website and The International Student Handbook includes this information.

How do I travel to school?

By school bus (morning and afternoon), public bus, ride a bicycle or walk (depending on distance from the school). Bus fare usually less than \$3 per trip (cost varies according to distance from the school). The school bus drops off and picks up students at the front of the school.

What do I do if I miss the school bus?

You can catch a public bus and the cost is less than \$3 per trip. Public buses run every 30 minutes from public bus stops and you will have a 5 minute walk from the nearest public bus stop to the school.

Can I ride my skateboard or a bicycle to school?

Yes, bike paths are on the left hand side of the road. You must wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. The school has a designated storage area. Please note that items are left at the owner's risk.

If I go for a surf in the morning before school, can I bring my surfboard to school and leave it somewhere for the day? Yes, the school has a designated storage area and items are left at the owner's risk.

What sports can I do at school?

A variety of team sports and individual participation sports are available through Physical Education classes and also in competitions with other schools (often off campus). Sports are played during different seasons at school. Updated information is provided on the School Website – International Students Page.

Can I buy lunch at school? Yes, the school canteen is open before school, and in the 2 lunch breaks. Your homestay family will also provide you with school lunches.

When do I get the results for my subjects? At the end of each term or in the beginning of the next term, you will receive a School Report Card or Progress Card. If you have returned to your home country, this will be emailed and/or posted to you.

What if I am finding a subject or class too hard? Ask the teacher if they can help you. There are extra tutorials at school for you to attend (free of charge). You can also think about changing subjects. You can talk with the School Guidance Officers about changing subjects and they will assist you to make suitable changes and tell you which subjects are available to change into.

Should I buy my school resources in my own country?

You can bring basic stationery (pencils, rulers, rubber, pens, A4 and foolscap size notebooks) with you, or go to the local shops to buy them before school starts. If you have a scientific calculator, please bring it with you. A standard size backpack will be suitable for your school bag.

Can I learn to surf at school?

As a special offer, you will receive 3 FREE 'learn to surf' lessons in a group class with the other international students. The lessons are held on weekends, at Coolum Beach, with qualified surf instructors. You will be provided with a surfboard and wetsuit for the lesson. Surfing as a school subject is offered only to students who can surf at an elite level, and they will need to submit an application form in November each year (for the following year start). Additional costs and surfing try outs are applicable.

What other water sports can I do?

Swimming at the beach (between the lifeguard flags) and pools (with adult supervision) is permitted, if you have passed your water safety skills assessment during your school orientation. There are water activities that are classified as 'high risk' and usually not permitted (examples include water skiing, jet skiing, wakeboarding and other water activities that involve a boat).

What sports and other recreation activities can I do after school and on weekends?

There are a variety of sports and recreation in the Coolum Beach area. Sports are played during different seasons and there is a cost/fee. Your host parent/s and the School's Homestay Coordinator can assist in finding the information on the sports that you are interested in. Refer to the International Student page for more information.

What trips and excursions can I go on?

Please discuss travel plans with the Homestay Coordinator. EQI provide fully supervised holidays (1- 2 weeks in duration) in the school holidays. Additional Payment is required and application forms are available on the EQI website: <https://eqi.com.au/for-students/holiday-adventure-program>
A variety of school trips, camps and excursions are held throughout the year. The homestay Coordinator and school staff will provide parental permission forms and additional fees may apply.

Can I visit or stay with another international student or friend?

Talk with the Homestay Coordinator. A Travel Permission Form may need to be completed and time off school is not permitted. Each travel request is considered individually and safety is the highest priority. Refer to the EQI website for more information <https://eqi.com.au/for-students/policies-procedures/travel>

Can I take time off school to go on holidays or on a trip with my host family or my own family who are visiting from overseas?

No, you cannot. This is a condition of the EQI Study Abroad Program guidelines. A Travel Permission will need to be completed and submitted to the International Student Program Staff, for special consideration. Refer to the EQI website for more information <https://eqi.com.au/for-students/policies-procedures/travel>

Can I extend my stay in Australia?

Yes, applications can be made to extend study with EQI and a new visa application will need to be submitted. The Homestay Coordinator can provide you further information.

Can I work part-time when I am studying in Australia?

Yes, if you aged 15 years and over. Please review your student visa conditions for more details. Work can only be undertaken outside school hours and students are reminded that they are required to make their school study the priority.

Can I change to another host family, if I am not happy?

You can speak with the School's Homestay Coordinator and outline your reasons for a change. The school will consider this request and liaise with you. For more information, please refer to the Homestay Section in the School's International Student Handbook.

If I have more questions, what can I do?

The Homestay Coordinator, Ms Terri Shine can assist you. Email Terri- tshin0@eq.edu.au or telephone - +61 418 185 809