

Queensland's one-of-a-kind school opens its doors to the local community

Queensland's first Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) school of excellence, Baringa State Primary School, opened its doors last Wednesday for the local community to view what has until now been behind closed construction gates.

Stage One of the new school houses 22 classrooms from Prep to Year Six. A further 12 rooms will be built in Stage Two. The school also boasts a purpose built robotics engineering laboratory, green screen room, a music centre and a resource information centre.

The STEM curriculum is a futuristic approach to learning with students from Prep through to Year Six engaging in robotics, coding and even drone piloting and filming.

"While our school will have state of the art STEM facilities, we will also provide opportunities and nurture children in their other interests as well," Baringa State Primary School deputy principal Amos Cowling said.



"Whether that be in the visual arts, music, drama, sports, academic pursuits or technology, we are about the whole child and providing them with an outstanding education."

Principal Mr Noel Baggs said the new future literacy of 'coding' will be common place for all students but of equal importance is building a resilient, problem solving, inquiry based approach to learning.

"Building students capacity to work with complex and unfamiliar problems and tasks is another element that teachers here will offer as common place," he said.

The Caloundra community has shown incredible interest in and support for the new school with the Open Day being a huge success despite the bad weather.

Children queued for face painting and magnificent balloon creations while parents lined up to tour the new facilities. Then the Lions Club of Caloundra West put on a delicious sausage sizzle with all proceeds going towards the school's P&C.

"Opening a new school campus is certainly an exciting time for the entire community. It's a privilege to be involved in this new way of delivering State School education on the Sunshine Coast."

For further information and enrolment forms please visit:

<https://baringass.eq.edu.au>