

Identifying potential.
Nurturing growth.



*Helping your
child become
everything they
aspire to be...*



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INTRODUCTION

WELCOME TO CRESSY DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL

Cressy provides a comprehensive education to students from Kinder to Year 12, as well as our highly successful LiL (early years) program. This means that students can complete their education at one school, avoiding the stress of moving schools.

Major building developments in recent years mean that we now have top class facilities suited to learning in the 21st Century. These include upgraded classrooms and library, a quality multi-purpose hall, modern science spaces, a re-designed reception area, and contemporary playground equipment.

Now is an exciting time for Cressy with many initiatives designed to meet the current and future needs of students. Our main priorities are Curriculum (including assessment), Student Support (including behaviour management) and the development of a Community of Learners. We value good relationships, rigour in the curriculum and programs which are relevant to students.

Cressy is a medium sized rural school with small class sizes and high expectations. These factors, combined with a dedicated, caring staff enable us to provide personalised attention to students.

We provide the best possible education in a supportive and caring environment. We care about whether students are happy, whether they are getting on well with other students and staff and whether they are giving themselves every chance to do as well as they possibly can. Our school size enables us to provide increased opportunities to students in a range of areas.

At Cressy, our staff are highly trained and we offer a full range of courses in timetabled classes as well as extracurricular opportunities.

At Cressy we are actively involved in the local community and with other schools in our area. Our school farm for example, provides a facility allowing students to access education in the agricultural field and contribute to community events such as sheep handling at local shows.

The quality of this school can be seen by the number of ex-students who are currently leading highly successful careers.

We are proud of our school and are pleased to welcome you to Cressy District High School.



Three quotes below give an indication of the quality of our school.

STUDENT VOICE

Orion Addicoat
Year 9-10 Student Leader

“Cressy District High School is a great school simply because of the amount of familiarity that students are met with when on school grounds. The staff and students strive to make each other feel important and that they belong. That sense of belonging is what makes Cressy different to other schools, it’s not just a place that people come to learn, but a community that welcomes all, regardless of any shortcomings. There are no flashy complicated working routines, learning is made as simple and direct as possible. Students are provided with the tools essential for getting the most out of their learning and it is this ease of access to learning that makes going to Cressy stress-free.”

SCHOOL FEEDBACK

Lauretta Atley
School Association Chairperson

“Cressy District High School provides a solid foundation for Kinder to Year 12 students to interact in a safe and friendly learning environment. The School Association provides a supportive platform to assist our leadership group in providing the best possible outcomes. We are extremely privileged at Cressy to have such a caring and capable team, providing fantastic learning experiences for our children, from the classroom to our school farm and beyond the school gate.”

External Review 2021

The school was reviewed by an external panel in 2021 with an overwhelmingly positive report. Some quotes included:

“This school is going places.”

“You are going in the right direction, you know what you are doing, just keep going.”

“I would like to bring some other schools to see this.”

VISION STATEMENT

Our students will grow to become confident individuals, productive community members and responsible global citizens, able to make considered, positive decisions about their future lives.

*Cressy – an environment that enables individuals to become everything they **ASPIRE** to be.*



OUR STAFF

We have approximately 50 quality staff including Teachers, Teacher Assistants, a Farm Manager, Chaplain, Laboratory Technician, Library Technician, Kitchen Assistant, MDT Assistant, School Psychologist, Social Worker, Speech Pathologist, School Nurse, Information Technology Technicians, Administrative Officers and Facility Attendants.

Ongoing learning is a key to ensuring staff are always at the cutting edge of developments. Our Professional Learning program operates at whole school, team and individual levels. It is coordinated by our Assistant Principal.





OUR SCHOOL

School Improvement

While the school is high performing, we continually seek improvement to ensure our students receive an excellent education suited to changing times.

Reviews, including the use of data, occur regularly involving staff, students, parents, community members and the Department of Education.

Current priorities are Curriculum (including assessment), Student Support (including behaviour management) and Community of Learners. Within these broad areas current initiatives include:

- Updated literacy approaches with a focus on reading, writing and spelling.
- Curriculum implementation and consultation across all areas, as well as a focus on My Education (careers planning).
- An approach to reduce bullying based on research which is currently being implemented following input from student leaders.
- Staff learning at whole school, team and individual levels featuring feedback as a key element.
- Embedding connections and relationships across the school.
- Personalising learning to cater for individual needs through strategic approaches.



Literacy Development

National literacy testing over recent years, and internal school assessments, indicate that Cressy students are making positive improvements when compared to similar schools. This is particularly the case in spelling where the introduction of the Single Word Spelling Test has led to developments in this area with our students consistently improving by more than the expected rate, in some cases by a massive 2 years in 1 calendar year.

Writing and reading are showing similar trends following staff learning and the implementation of contemporary approaches.



Teaching & Learning Model

Our work over a number of years has led to an innovative teaching and learning model focussed on improving student outcomes. Some features are listed below.

- Three (3) block school day.
- Students spending the majority of learning time in one room. They 'own' this room and the use of it by others is minimal.
- Each student has a Core Teacher who teaches them for the majority for their time. This teacher will develop contact with home.
- Computers in students' classrooms.
- Students keep books and bags in their Core teaching rooms.
- The curriculum is divided into three sections:
 1. Core including English-literacy, Maths-numeracy, Science, History/Geography/Social Science /Humanities, Pastoral issues and Careers planning.
 2. Health and Physical Education.
 3. Personal Learning options.

Thinking and the use of digital technologies are integrated into all areas.

- Teachers working in teams to plan programs for students.
- Class groups which are mixed ability.
- A leadership structure where staff have roles to support student learning.
- Professional learning for staff including working with other successful schools.
- Student expectations based on the 3 B's, Be Safe, Be Friendly and Be Motivated.
- Student involvement in decision making, including elected leadership groups in Years 3-6, 7-8 and 9-10.



CURRICULUM

The Early Years Learning Framework (Kinder), Australian Curriculum (Prep - Year 10) and TASC Courses (Year 11-12) guide teaching and learning at Cressy District High School. Staff work together to develop whole school approaches.

All areas of the curriculum are valued and important. Students from Prep to Year 10 are involved in teaching, learning and assessment of the following areas:

- English, Mathematics, Health and Physical Education, Science, Humanities/Social Science and My Education (career planning).
- ICT: Students learn how to appropriately access and use information communication technologies, ICT is taught across all areas of the curriculum.

In Year 7-10, students can select from a range of Option Subjects to best suit their interests and future pathway. Among the range to choose from are: Robotics, Digital Photography, Music, Drama, Dance, Agricultural Studies (at our School Farm), Foods, Applied Technology, Leadership, Child Studies, Media Studies, Applied Science, Extended Maths and Sport Science. The subjects on offer vary from year to year based on student interest.

Prep- Year 6 students will participate in Mini Modules including:

- Art, Performing Arts, MDT, Foods, Agricultural Studies and Language.

Kindergarten students have the majority of their learning with the Core Teacher and also have a specialised Music program.

Other optional involvements include:

- Australian Maths, English, Science and History competitions.
- The Science and Engineering Challenge.







PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Reporting

Parents are involved in students' progress in a number of ways:

- Personal contact from Core teachers early in the year.
- Ongoing involvement with Core teachers as required.
- Progress report in Term 1.
- Mid-year report and three way conversations at the end of Term 2.
- Summary report at the end of the year.

Homework

Students progress can be enhanced through purposeful study at home.

In Kinder - Year 4 the home reading program is used. Levelled reading books are issued according to the student's assessed level and ability. Families are encouraged to read with their child.

In Year 5 - 10 homework will mainly consist of:

- Continuation of class work, assignments or research.
- Unfinished class activities.
- Individualised contracts negotiated between teachers, parents and students.

Communication

The school endeavours to create open lines of communication in many ways including:

- Contact from Core teachers.
- Fortnightly newsletter / interim news.
- School App and facebook.
- Welcoming and supportive office staff.
- Parent information sessions.



STUDENT SUPPORT

A major priority for Cressy is Student Support. This encompasses many things including learning support, assistance with developmental issues and behaviour management.

Our behaviour management processes at school are based on the principles of Positive Behaviour Support.

Input from parents, students and staff was used to develop a set of expectations that form the basis for working with students. These expectations are simple and easy to understand.

- Be Safe
- Be Friendly
- Be Motivated

The 3Bs have a positive focus and they form the basis of expectations across the school. For example, the Be Safe expectation will mean different things in the Drama room than it will in the Foods room. Starting early in the year, all classes work with their teachers to develop their own classroom expectations based on the 3Bs.

We want students to be engaged, challenged and happy at school. The focus is on encouraging students and rewarding them when they meet these expectations.

Restorative Practice principles are used to resolve issues if they occur.



Bullying

We say “NO” to bullying at Cressy. We have an anti-bullying strategy at our school to support students and staff have been trained in its application.

This was developed using surveys into bullying designed and carried out by the Year 9-10 Leaders Group. It is based on research.

Recognition

A credit system is used to reward students for their achievements with Bronze, Silver and Gold levels available in younger years. 3B awards are presented to students in all years who exceed our expectations in relation to our 3Bs. Aussie of the Month and Principal’s awards are allocated to high achieving students throughout the year.

Presentations are made at Sector or Whole School assemblies.

Help For Students

The first contact for students experiencing a challenge is their Core teacher. The issue may be able to be resolved at a class level. If not, the school has other supports including the Sector Leader, Assistant Principal, Principal, Social Worker, Psychologist, Nurse, Chaplain and Speech Pathologist. Depending on the need, there are other contacts available outside the school.

Learning Support

The school supports students generally through personalised and flexible learning programs to suit their needs. Other specialised supports include:

- Specialist literacy learning for students in Prep to Year 2.
- Speech Intervention - mainly in the early years of schooling.
- Literacy Coach who works with staff and students to increase the personalisation of programs.

3 Way Partnership

The core teacher is a key person at Cressy who is responsible for facilitating a 3 way partnership between the school, student and parent/carer. This link aims to provide support to students and their learning.



Student Leadership and Voice

Many opportunities are available for students to show leadership and have input into decision making. Ongoing examples include:

- Student choice and input as part of their class programs.
- Formal leadership groups in Years 3-6, 7-8 and 9-10.
- School Association and Committee representation.
- Participation in the school's newly established Marketing Group.
- Sporting involvement.

Recent whole school initiatives such as:

- Development of the school's 3Bs expectations led by Year 9-10 Leaders and involving input from all students.
- Development, implementation and review of the school's bullying survey led by students.







UNIFORM

We believe that there are many advantages to wearing school uniform and therefore expect students to wear it everyday. Most importantly is our belief that wearing school uniform encourages a sense of pride in the school and a sense of belonging. A copy of the uniform policy is available from the School App or by contacting the school office. Uniform is available for purchase from the school uniform shop.

TRANSPORT

The bus network drops students off at school promptly before the start of classes and transports them to home areas immediately after school - no waiting !



A WELL-EQUIPPED SCHOOL

Cressy District High School offers students and their families wonderful facilities and resources for learning. This has occurred as a result of the hard working team led by our Business Manager.

These include:

- Refurbished Year 5-6 and 7-8 Core classrooms.
- A self contained Kindergarten.
- Fully equipped educational kitchen.
- A contemporary Science Centre.
- Well equipped MDT and Art areas.
- Local area network providing intranet and internet access to classrooms.
- Excellent computing resources and information technology infrastructure.
- A Music and Drama Suite.
- A modern Library facility.
- A 4.38 hectare school farm with hot house, sheep handling facilities, poultry, orchard, herb and vegetable garden and all weather pavilion facility.
- A state of the art Multi-Purpose Hall including Fitness Room and equipment, stage and associated theatre equipment, gymnasium and meeting room.
- A football oval, netball, basketball and tennis courts.
- Media and technology resources, including digital cameras, video recording cameras, computer editing equipment, portable public address systems and smartboards.
- Well stocked uniform shop.
- Newly installed playground equipment.
- Outstanding gardens.

CANTEEN - “SNACK SHACK”

Following feedback from students the Snack Shack Canteen offers a popular range of options at recess and lunch each day.



SPORT

Students have many sporting opportunities through the Health and Wellbeing program, school events, inter-school sport and after school sport.

Opportunities include:

- School house carnivals and inter-school competitions in swimming, cross country and athletics.
- Winter sport held during school time for Years 5-6 and 7-10 including soccer, hockey, netball and football.
- Other out of hours sport, depending on interest, such as touch football, cricket and basketball.
- Swimming and Water Safety Program at the Cressy Pool for Kinder-Year 10 students.
- Annual Cressy Trout Fishing Competition.





BIRTH - 4 YEARS

Tiny Toddlers is a program for parents with children aged birth – 4 years. The program aims to provide opportunities for children to develop early literacy skills and improve school readiness. It is also a wonderful opportunity for parents to interact and develop a positive relationship between home and school.

Early Birds is a one and a half hour weekly session for children who are attending Kindergarten the following year.

Early Birds learn our basic kindergarten routines in a warm and friendly environment. Children attending Early Birds make wonderful friendships before school has even begun.



KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten at Cressy District High School provides children three full days of education in a supportive, modern and fully resourced room.

The aims for the Kindergarten year are to nurture each child, value them as individuals and provide them with ample opportunity to develop high level social skills that prepare them for their future schooling. By providing a balanced curriculum which incorporates the Early Years Framework of Belonging, Being and Becoming, children and their families become fully engaged in the exciting world of Kindergarten.



INSPIRING FUTURES

Inspiring Futures assists students to determine their pathway beyond Year 10. Through various activities, classwork and involvement of parents/carers we aim to make sure that each student has a clear plan to engage in employment or further education when they leave Year 10, whether it is in Cressy or elsewhere.

These activities include:

- Work experience / placement.
- Career and industry tours.
- College orientation.
- Charter signing.
- Work studies curriculum.
- Parent information sessions.
- Guest speaker program.
- Further education site visits.
- Try - A - Trade.
- Interview preparation.
- Road Safety Education.





SCHOOL FARM

The School Farm consists of 4.38 ha (10.8 acres) and is very easily accessed behind the school buildings. The main emphasis of the farm is sheep, cattle, poultry and horticultural activities. There are extensive buildings and facilities to support programs, a hot house, garden area, established orchard, stock handling facilities and an undercover work pavilion.

Agricultural Studies is an optional subject for Years 7 to 10. Students develop broad understandings of a range of agricultural practices through hands-on and theoretical experiences. Safety is a major consideration in all aspects of these programs.

Prep to Year 6 units have been developed to ensure a whole school curriculum focus on Agriculture and to ensure that farm resource usage is maximised. These students get hands on experience on the farm, on a rotational basis. Year 6 students also participate in the Cows Create Careers Program.

Sheep Handling skills are taught to interested students in Years 5-10. They compete against other schools and stud breeders during the agricultural show season. We are proud of our achievements and appreciative of the support from parents and the community in the these areas.

Farm Management

The Cressy District High School Farm Management Committee consists of members representing the school and larger community. It endeavours to:

- Provide a sustainable agricultural educational program.
- Provide a range of agricultural educational experiences.
- Maintain and develop the school farm environment.
- Encourage whole school involvement in farm activities.
- Foster community links within the Agricultural Studies programs.
- Provide some practical involvement on the school farm.



PERFORMING ARTS

All students have the opportunity to participate in this area through their regular curriculum. Extra opportunities are also provided including :

- Choir
- Assembly performances.
- Arts Night.
- Visiting performers.







CAMPS AND TRIPS

As an extension to curriculum work camps are held in Years 4-6 (every third year) and Year 7. Venues include Port Arthur, Maria Island, Triabunna and Camp Clayton.

Year 9-10 students have a Melbourne experience every two years.





COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Our involvements are many and varied.

Some examples are:

- Anzac Day Service.
- Mother's Day Breakfast.
- Father's Day Breakfast.
- Longford and Campbell Town Show support.

Interactions with associated primary schools including:

- Inter-school sport.
- Leadership activities.
- Farm experiences.
- Combined learning activities.



"This school is going places"

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EXTERNAL REVIEW 2021



SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The School Association has a number of functions including:

- Providing a means of communication between the School and community.
- Supporting the Principal and School.
- Developing policies required by the Department of Education.
- Providing recommendations to the Principal.

The Association has eleven members, consisting of the Principal, three staff members, five parents and two community representatives.

Sub-committees of the association include:

- Farm Committee.
- Chaplaincy Committee.



PRIDE AWARD

The School Association initiated a Pride Award in 2013, to commemorate our 150th year at Cressy District High School. This prestigious annual award recognises positive contributions made by former students who have achieved outstanding success in their chosen field of endeavour since leaving our school.

Each year the School Association will seek nominees through an application process which requests information about individuals.

To be eligible, nominees must have completed three or more years at Cressy District High School.

Award recipients to date are:

- 2013 Mr Dick Adams and Mr Gordon Bayles.
- 2014 Dr Corey Hogarth.
- 2015 Mrs Kathy Henry.
- 2016 Mr Andrew Exton.
- 2017 Mr Brian Oliver.
- 2018 Mr Mark Shelton.
- 2019 Mr Tony Preece.
- 2020 Mr Bruce Goss.



Mr Dick Adams



Mr Gordon Bayles



Dr Corey Hogarth



Mrs Kathy Henry



Mr Andrew Exton



Mr Brian Oliver



Mr Mark Shelton



Mr Tony Preece



Mr Bruce Goss



Helping your child become everything they aspire to be...

If you would like more information, please fill out and return the details below.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Student's name: _____

Has the student attended a Tasmanian Government school or college in the past?

Yes No

Parent/Carer's name: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

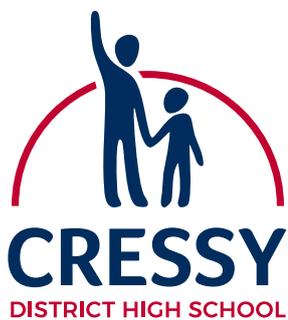
Additional comments (e.g. Year level, extra information you require, someone to phone you etc.):

Please return this form by email or mail to:

Email: cressy.district.high@education.tas.gov.au

Phone: 03 6397 6281

112-118 Main Street, Cressy TAS 7302



Reach upward

For information and enrolments please contact:

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Phone: 03 6397 6281 Fax: 03 6397 6525

Email: cressy.district.high@education.tas.gov.au

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Find us on 