

Western Cape College Profile

Physical Location

The Western Cape refers to the area of Cape York, Queensland extending from New Mapoon south to the Kendall River (Pompuraaw). This is primarily a coastal strip with the coastline formed by the Gulf of Carpentaria. The Western Cape College communities and population are Old Mapoon 200, Weipa 2000, Napranum 1100, and Aurukun 860. All communities except for the town of Weipa are Aboriginal Communities with traditional ownership acknowledged.

Communities

Mapoon

Formerly a Presbyterian mission established in 1891. By 1907, under the Reformatories Act, it was operating as an industrial school with dormitories filled with children from all over the Cape. In the 1950's the discovery of bauxite saw mining leases taken up by Comalco and Alcan. In 1963 the Department of Native Affairs deployed people to New Mapoon. By 1973 people were returning to the site.

Napranum

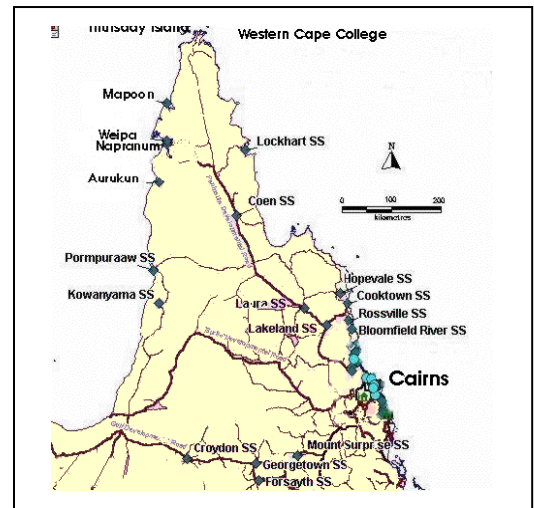
Formerly known as Weipa, Napranum was established in 1898 by the Moravian missionaries on behalf of the Presbyterian Church. Originally at York Downs's station, it moved to Jessica Point, the present site in 1932, because of malaria. At this time most of the people were Awngthim but soon people were brought from Old Mapoon (when it closed) and other communities. Bauxite was found on the reserve in the 1950's allowing mining to commence in 1960. The mission became a government settlement in 1966.

Aurukun

Aurukun was established as a Presbyterian mission in 1904. The Archer Bay site had many casual visitors mostly of the Wik people. Much earlier the coastal people played a role in preventing the Dutch explorers of the seventeenth century from landing at Cape Keerweer. Many people remained outside the mission up until the 1950's ensuring the culture remained strong. Aurukun is also located on bauxite rich land. In 1975 the community was placed under direct state government control. Following the Wik case the land has been reverted to Native Title held by the Wik people. The focal area of the Wik lies between the Archer and Edward Rivers of Western Cape York Peninsula and inland to Coen.

Weipa

This modern mining town is the world's richest bauxite deposit and has become a company town for several hundred miners and their families. The township of Weipa was originally developed by Comalco for its mining personnel. Reserves are estimated at 2500 million tonnes, enough for 250 years at the present rate of production. More than half the ore is sent to Gladstone for processing into alumina.



Opening

Western Cape College was created on January 1 2002 and officially opened on July 16 2002 and is a new Education Queensland School that has been created through a re-alignment of Aurukun, Napranum (Jessica Point), Mapoon and Weipa North.

Western Cape College is designed to:

- ◇ Focus on excellence – in educational delivery;
– in achieving educational outcomes;
- ◇ Increase attendance of students at the four campuses that are forming the Western Cape College;
- ◇ Provide appropriate educational pathways;

Western Cape College

The College Director manages the strategic issues for the whole College (P-12) and works with a range of community organisations and Education Queensland services to improve pathways, provide facilities, support and options for our young people.

An Executive Team consisting of College Director, Head of Business and Finance, Head of Student Support, Deputy College Director (Head of Weipa Campus), Head of Middle School and Head of Aurukun Campus oversee the operation of the college. Each Campus has its own Head of School that are accountable for the day to day running.

Campuses

Aurukun Campus provides a Pre to year 10 program for students.

Napranum Campus provides a year 1 to 6 program for students.

Mapoon Campus provides a year 1 to 6 program for students.

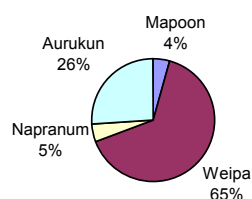
Weipa Campus provides a Pre to year 12 program for students

Students at each campus

Campus Student Enrolment

Mapoon	56
Weipa	825
Napranum	59
Aurukun	332
Total	1272

% Of Student Enrolment in each Campus



% Of Indigenous Students

Mapoon Campus	96%
Weipa Campus	50%
Napranum Campus	100%
Aurukun Campus	100%

Teaching Staff

Allocation

Aurukun Campus	20
Napranum Campus	5.5
Mapoon Campus	3
Weipa Campus	66
College	3
Total	97.5

Staff are chosen to work at the Western Cape College through a selection process.

Curriculum Programs

The Western Cape College is organised into three 'Staged Schools'. The Junior School (P-3) focuses on literacy and numeracy development, while Middle School addresses issue of disengagement, cognitive and social development. The Senior School prepares students for a variety of pathways, with academic and vocational programs running in years 10 –12 and beyond.

Pre-school operates at two Western Cape College campuses, Aurukun and Weipa. Programs are based on Pre-school curriculum guidelines. Plans are in place to extend pre-school delivery to Mapoon.

Junior and Middle Schools:

All four campuses of the Western Cape College (Middle and Junior Schools) are engaged in the New Basics curriculum trial. Each campus has developed a three year curriculum plan, through which 'targeted repertoires of practice' (cognitive, social, linguistic and cultural skills) are developed enabling students to complete a suite of rich tasks. Rich tasks are demonstrable outcomes. These tasks are performed/produced during each triad – years 1-3, 4-6 and 7-9. Technology is a major component of this curriculum, which enables students to explore there local, national and global environments. LOTE (Japanese) commences in year 6 and continues through as a compulsory subject to year 9. Students in years 7 – participate in other specialist courses as well including Manual Arts, Graphics, Home Economics, the Arts and Technology.

Senior School:

Students in years 10 are offered programs based on KLA Outcomes syllabus documents. This leads into a range of QBSSSS subjects, Board Registered subjects and Subject Area Specification courses, which are offered in years 11 & 12. Vocational subjects are offered through the curriculum, with Certificate level 1 & 2 courses offered in a range of areas including hospitality, engineering, the Arts and technology. Students can choose combination of any subjects. A Structured Workplace Learning program enables students to complete

certificated courses as well as on the job training. Our subject offerings are supplemented by courses through Virtual School and School of Distance Ed (Cyber School.)

Curriculum programs at the Western Cape College are underpinned by the dimensions of Productive Pedagogies. Initially this began as part of the New Basics trial, but has extended into the Senior School. Intellectual Quality, Supportive Classroom Environment, Recognition of Difference and Connectedness are continually reflected upon and enhanced through a program of teacher in-service, mentoring and sharing.

Resources

The college has an Annual Operating Budget of over 3 million dollars, with substantial P&C, ASSPA and PCAP funding additional to this. The college also benefits from funding, from such sources as DET, IETA and AACS. Aurukun Campus has had a million-dollar facility built to cater for a childcare centre and preschool in partnership with the Department of Families. Weipa Campus currently has a 3 million dollar master plan, to replace and upgrade facilities. Stage 1 is expected to commence in Semester 2 2005.

Governance

- The Western Cape College has a Board of Management.
- The college has individual P & C' s for each campus.