

AGTECH Connections

The newsletter of the Australian Technology
& Agricultural College

'Connecting the College with the Community'

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Independent Senior Secondary College for Years 10 to 12

4808 Mt Lindesay Highway, North Maclean Q 4280.

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College Founder/CEO

Dr Narendra Nand



Principal's Message

A very successful Awards evening was conducted on 22 November 2023 at the ATAC multipurpose facility. Students in year 11 received Semester II reports, subject awards, and Cert. II in FSK. Year 10s received their semester II reports and year 10 completion certificates. Layne received best student of the year and Davlin (Ellie) received her progress award. All students in year 12 next year will attend TAFE and do Cert. II in Workplace Skills and their QCAA subjects and sign up for apprenticeship opportunities. Two year 11 students have enrolled in Certificate I construction for 2024 and one will do Certificate III in Engineering at TAFE. Every student completes a Certificate II or III in a trade from TAFE or another RTO, Certificate II in Work for Skills & Vocational Pathways (FSK20119), Certificate II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120) and their QCAA approved QCE or year 12 completion certificate at the end of senior schooling. What a great achievement for those enjoying a more informal educational experience at ATAC.

ATAC students begin their careers by mid-year 11 or early year 12, earlier than most people of their age. They also sign up for apprenticeships by mid-year 11 or early year 12. Students are prepared to meet their Job-ready skills assessment and then recommended by staff to employers with the support of parents and/or guardians.

What a pleasant feeling for the parents and students with an early engagement into their career pathway. Companies are fully supported with all the paperwork to meet legal obligations of all parties.

Infrastructure Development

Our multi-purpose shed is a landmark facility, and provides opportunities for seminars, workshops, conferences, and events. The amenities and the kitchen are almost ready and will be available for use by students and the public. After completion of major works of our multipurpose shed, we are in the process of purchasing equipment and resources from grants for indoor sports and physical fitness to be used for use by students, staff, and community members. Thanks to RSL Greenbank for the grant. The shed has open learning spaces, and this allows us to enroll more students and provide hospitality training and beekeeping opportunities.

Bee All Natural has engaged with ATAC to provide opportunities to locals and young people in the beekeeping industry. The last three Logan City Council's KRANK School holiday Beekeeping programs have been held at ATAC and Natasha and Jason are working closely with us to start ongoing Beekeeping programs at ATAC. A major grant from the Logan City Council has assisted us in generating interest in young people and work towards formal training programs. Bees play a major role in fruit crops and honey production and the biodiversity of our flora and fauna species. ATAC is ready to provide the facilities for the education and training to beekeeping enthusiasts.

Community Engagement

The North Maclean Community Garden members are continuing to plant some vegetables of interest for a supplementary income. ATAC provides free tank water supply via an irrigation system to water the vegetable gardens. "Grow Your Own Vegetables" (GYOV) is now a theme we are working on with the members of the North Maclean Community Garden (NMCG). Members have started their planting and there is a good start with heavy rains. After LCC approval, our infrastructure will support a tunnel greenhouse in the training of vegetable growers in various horticultural activities and for native plant production.

Our "TRIPOD" model provides an opportunity for close partnerships between parents/ guardians, students, and the staff. Understanding, tolerance, resilience, and goodwill between parents/ guardians and ATAC is the key to progress and success of our students and the college. With a lot of personal attention to their progress, and support to career pathways, our model is the key to re-engagement and career pathways at an earlier age. Honesty, hard work, responsibility, resilience, and respect are a priority and students engage to build self-confidence and self-esteem as they learn how to become keen learners.

New volunteer members are always welcome to join the group or the ATAC committee. Our progress and achievements are published in our monthly newsletter and is made available to all parents/ guardians and our supporters via emails or on our website.

Student Engagement

ATAC is working with some businesses and self-employed trade companies to provide hands-on experiences and training. We maintain close relationships with businesses, training organizations and parents/ guardians, to assist and empower our students with job-ready skills and knowledge. We focus on project-based learning so that young people become responsible

for their own learning and success. Despite a lot of social media challenges, our students become engaged as they realize the need to be focused and self-directed in attaining personal skills for their success. Personal skills such as a positive attitude, tolerance, and perseverance and understanding enable young people to become responsible for their future goals. ATAC facilitates hands-on experiences, work experience, obtaining their White Cards, joining TAFE for their trade careers and to find jobs while still at school.

Acknowledgement

Congratulations and thanks to all students and parents who have in some form assisted us in achieving the success stories of our students. Parents and guardians have always played a significant role in their success. We sincerely acknowledge their contribution. ATAC board members have contributed so much of their time to support our mission and vision. Special thanks to all volunteer support. We greatly appreciate the grants from the RSL Greenbank, Logan City Council and the government to support our local community. Thanks to all businesses and parents who have assisted in providing any opportunity to our students towards completion of QCE and early entry into the workforce.

English, Humanities, Science and Agricultural Science Teacher

Gary Suthers

Thank you for the opportunity to teach your child at ATAC.

Semester two, Term four has finished and all our students have completed the year.

Working with all the students over this last year has been very rewarding, seeing them all grow in confidence, in skills and knowledge has been my privilege. As the year 10 students worked on their various subject workbooks, websites and assignments throughout the year their commitment to learning has been rewarded as

they now move on to TAFE learning and on to the more in-depth subjects in year eleven.

With the emphasis on more individual learning and self-discipline in year twelve, the senior students will need to stoke up their determination and recheck their learning goal compass as they continue their journey to the end of their school life!

At our recent awards night, we celebrated our learning journey together, enjoyed our achievements and shared our successes. Every award given, was well deserved and all student recognized as having success in their learning here at the college.

As a teacher I've learnt lots of new things over the last year from these inspiring young people, like how to rebuild a 250-dirt bike engine, how to get a good weld on an angle piece, electric scooters can be bogged and that sparring until you run out of breath and have bruises hurts, but is still fun! I am looking forward to what I will learn next year!

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and please stay safe over the holidays and I will see you all in the new year.



Mr. Bhagwanji Bhindi
Retired Linguistics Lecturer Fiji

DISCIPLINE-A CULTURE

Discipline is an intricate human behavior. It is a subject that needs to be handled with a perceptive mind. To say that discipline is obeying rules or code of behavior is too simplistic and naive.

The essence of discipline begins at home where parents/guardians play a critical and crucial role in instilling and nurturing discipline from childhood. Parents/guardians need to set rules and standards for themselves to be able to govern and direct the behavior of their children.

Discipline recognizes the consequences of action and inaction. From the consequences one can perceive the nature of discipline. In fact, every action or inaction results in some form of discipline.

It is true that discipline helps us to learn and grow as human beings. It is a building block of our personality. Tragedy challenges discipline. Our unswerving determination and steadfastness teach us to cope with adversities, thereby shaping and molding our thoughts and emotions so that we maintain our equilibrium.

Genuine and charismatic leaders inspire others to become naturally disciplined. They act as role models and their actions and performance are

indeed, infectious. For they lure them to emulate and absorb their discipline in their lives.

It is interesting and intriguing to recognize that lack of discipline can possibly have adverse impacts on the nation. This may result in social disharmony, intolerance, corruption, lack of ethics, reliance on alcohol and drugs which is likely to lead to deterioration of human behavior.

Moreover, discipline implies respect for everyone. It instills quality in a person to show respect and treat people with dignity and humility.

Peer pressure leads one towards indiscipline. It is evident in every society people; vulnerable minds get easily swayed by their peers. Even a disciplined person could slip into this quagmire.

There is a mistaken belief that physical punishment would correct inappropriate or disobedient behavior. Physical punishment is a weird concept which is frequently misconstrued in terms of discipline.

- Can we exact discipline?
- Can we appeal for discipline?
- Can we demand discipline?
- Can we instill discipline through love?
- Can we instill discipline through fear?
- Would love alone nurture discipline?
- Would multi-pronged approach help foster discipline?

We need to reflect on these soul-searching questions to find a positive pathway to attaining discipline. There is a perceptible difference between punishment and discipline. Punishment focuses on making a child suffer for breaking rules while discipline focuses on teaching a child to make a better choice next time.

Self-discipline is a concept that focuses on the ability and capacity to manage one’s thoughts, emotions, or behavior in the face of temptation to achieve a specific goal. In short, this term is often

referred to as self-control, willpower, restraint, persistence and determination. In the context of school, examples of self-discipline include punctuality to class, focusing attention in class, prioritizing to do assignment and in being respectful to teachers, fellow mates and treating people with whom you interact with dignity and humility. Let’s spread discipline as a shared culture which defines a disciplined human being.

Dalai Lama XIV in *The Art of Happiness* captures the concept of discipline so effectively. **“A disciplined mind leads to happiness, and an undisciplined mind leads to suffering.”**

2024 Education Queensland Term Dates

Term	Start Date	End date	Length
Term 1	Monday 22 January	Thursday 28 March	10 weeks
Term 2	Monday 15 April	Friday 21 June	10 weeks
Term 3	Monday 8 July	Friday 13 September	10 weeks
Term 4	Monday 30 September	Friday 13 December	11 weeks

ENROL NOW FOR 2024

Unique adjustable & supported programs.
Build Skills for Jobs and/or Apprenticeships.

Complete your:
QCE (Yr. 12),
Cert. II in Skills for Work & Vocational
Pathways (FSK20119)
Cert. II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120)
[ATAC RTO #45556](#)

Cert. II in a Trade of your choice
(TAFE and other RTOs)

BSB40520 Cert IV in Leadership and Management
BSB50420 Diploma in Leadership and
Management
BSB50120 Diploma in Business
[ATAC RTO #45556](#)

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ATAC Award Night on 22.11.2023



The Deputy Mayor of Logan City Council, Cr. Jon Raven (middle), with ATAC chair Ms. Mary Irene Bayldon (L) and the CEO/Principal Dr. Narendra Nand received his gift for doing the presentation on the Awards Night. Thank you for accepting our invitation, Jon. It was a great pleasure to welcome you at ATAC for the first time. ATAC students, parents, guardians, staff and the board members whole heartedly support your efforts and the interest in assisting our local communities. You are very approachable and committed to serving Logan Communities.



Pundit Suresh Chandra receives his present and certificate for his ardent support to ATAC since its inception in 2017. Your work at the college is greatly appreciated by the staff, board and the community. Thank you very much.



Cr. Ron Raven presented certificate and present to Jason Roebig of Bee All Natural for his continued association and support to ATAC since 2018. Jason with his wife Natasha have been very actively involved in Beekeeping education and training and have won major awards for their work with our communities.



Cr Raven speaking at the Awards night with Mary Bayldon on left and Jason Roebig on his right.



Mr Gary Suthers reading his fun and challenging experiences with the students in a composite classroom.



Mr Warren Black (Left) with his certificate of appreciation receiving his present. Your voluntary support to ATAC for initiatives and grants application since 2020 is very much appreciated. Your thoughts for the vulnerable inspires you and you are a great inspiration and support to ATAC.



Damian Donohue (year 11) receives his Certificate II in FSK, and his mum Cheryl feels proud of Damian's achievement. Congratulations Damian.



Zeke McGuirk (year 11) receives his Certificate II in FSK



Davlin Gilvray received her year 10 Award and the Encouragement Award. Congratulations Davlin.



Tyler Barrett-Collins receives his Certificate II in FSK and is completing his Certificate III in Engineering at TAFE.



Heath McCarthy completes his year 10 and loves a lot of physical activity. He is planning to move to Bundaberg next year. Congratulations and best wishes to you Heath.

**Well-Wishers supporting ATAC and our students.
They can be contacted via their websites.**



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