



Ironsides State School P&C Association

2 Hawken Drive
St. Lucia Qld 4067
pandc@ironsidess.eq.edu.au

Ironsides P&C
2 Hawken Drive,
St Lucia. 4067
29th August 2018

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Re: ICASAG changes

Ironsides Community After School Activities Group Incorporated (ICASAG) was founded in 1989 to provide quality care for children and has a management committee run by volunteer parents. In recent years, the committee has been finding it increasingly difficult to find volunteers to serve on the management committee, especially given the nature of the service being primarily for busy working families.

Ironsides SS P&C (the P&C) were initially approached in 2017 to consider taking on the administration of the existing outside school hours care (OSHC) service known as ICASAG. The service is legally due for review every five years and is legislated via the National Quality Framework (NQF). In the event that an existing service provider no longer desires to administer the service the QLD government mandates that the P&C must be offered the opportunity in the first instance. If the P&C were to decline the offer to administer the service it would go for commercial tender and potentially be run by a "for profit" business.

The key stakeholders being ICASAG, the P&C, and Ironsides State School are in agreement, that it is in everyone's best interest to keep the OSHC 'in house' and that the P&C is that solution moving forward. It's a valued service to the Ironsides community and we're all working to embed it and sustain it that way.

The P&C Executive spent most of the first term 2018 researching both the process of transferring the service and requirements to administer the service. The P&C decided that keeping the OSHC service within our school community and not-for-profit was in the best interest of Ironsides SS rather than it being run by a commercial entity. ICASAG held an Extraordinary General Meeting in April where members unanimously voted in favour of transferring the service. This concept was presented to the May P&C general members and voted on.

From the term one planning and preparation phase, the P&C has been working through the process to be granted Provider Approval for OSHC services. This approval has been received. The P&C is now in the process of working towards the ability to administer the Child Care Subsidy.

The timeline proposed is for "ICASAG" to cease trading at COB 6pm on Friday 14th December 2018, and Ironsides SS P&C Association OSHC to commence trade at 7am on Monday 17th December as the vacation care service.



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The staff, structure and fees for users will predominantly remain the same. The enrolment process and waitlist policy have changed to address government priority of access recommendations. We encourage you to familiarise yourself with the attached waitlist policy and proposed enrolment process.

The P&C are bound by exactly the same legislation pertaining to space requirements. We'd like to draw your attention to our 2019 service approval numbers:

- 55 Before School Care places,
- 195 After School Care places,
- 195 Vacation Care places

The current ICASAG committee will spend approximately 3-6 months in 2019 winding up the incorporated entity. The P&C will form a liaison group at the February 2019 AGM called "Ironsides OSHC Parent Advisory Group (PAG)" which will be made up of users of the Ironsides OSHC service who will meet monthly and report to P&C. Terms of Reference for this group currently being developed.

As you can all appreciate, this is a mammoth undertaking for another group of volunteer parents. Our goal is to ensure the Ironsides OSHC service continues to be high quality and serve the Ironsides Community.

We have attached the relevant new policies (waiting list and enrolment process) for your information and they're also available in the ISS website under the Our community / P&C tab.

If you have any questions, please email pandcironside@gmail.com

We are also holding a Q&A session on Tuesday 18th September 6:15pm in the school hall.

Yours Sincerely (on behalf of P&C),

Karen Wallace
President Ironsides SS P&C Assn.