

Corinda State High School

THE RISING PHOENIX

Exceed Your Expectations



Winter 2026 Fanfare // P&C Trivia Night // VR Teacher Training // Alumni // Traineeships // Open Day



Five Certificate III in Business students secured paid workforce learning at THE LION Richlands where they will develop practical skills and industry knowledge alongside their school studies.

Students earn coveted school-based traineeships

Five Corinda State High School students have successfully secured school-based traineeships with The Lion Richlands, following a highly competitive recruitment process.

With 50 students from across the region applying for just ten positions, Corinda students claimed half of the opportunities available.

Congratulations to Madison P, Jesse N, Summeria V, Truc V and Xavier B (pictured with the venue's Training and Compliance Coordinator, Aletia Ramscar) on this outstanding achievement.

The traineeships provide students with the opportunity to gain valuable industry experience while completing a Certificate III in Business. Over the course of the program, students will undertake 750 hours of paid workplace learning across a range of departments at the venue, developing practical skills and industry knowledge alongside their school studies.

A unique feature of the program is the pathway it creates beyond Graduation. Upon successful completion of the traineeship, students will be offered a permanent place on The Lion staff list, providing a strong foundation for future employment and career development.

This achievement highlights the strength of Corinda SHS's partnerships with industry and the ongoing commitment of the school's Vocational Education team to creating meaningful pathways from school to employment.

Corinda State High School leading the way in VR teacher training

Corinda State High School is redefining teacher professional learning through a world-first Virtual Reality (VR) Behaviour Management Training Program, recently showcased to Queensland Department of Education Deputy Director-General, State Schools Strategy, Stacie Hansel.

During her visit to the school, Ms Hansel experienced the immersive simulations firsthand, gaining insight into how the innovative program is helping pre-service and early career teachers build confidence and capability before stepping into challenging classroom situations.

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L-R: Deputy Director-General Stacie Hansel, Program Lead Laura Rienks, Science teacher and Program participant Lucy Eldredge, Deputy Principal Rebecca Gilroy, Director of Media Production Patrick Duggan and Executive Principal Ross Bailey.

From the Executive Principal



At Corinda, we strive to foster a strong sense of community and a willingness to give back through our **Active Volunteering**

program. I am incredibly proud of our student volunteers and the positive impact they have made across the Corinda community during the first half of 2026. From local school fetes, the Sherwood Community Festival and Oxley Community Festival to community organisations, school events and sporting clubs, our students have generously contributed their time and energy in service of others. I thank our community partners for working alongside us to inspire and develop the next generation of community leaders.

Once again, we were humbled by the overwhelming support for our annual **Open Day**. Open Day is much more than a school showcase. It is a celebration of community, featuring primary school music collaborations, local organisations, alumni gatherings, celebrity chef demonstrations and the ever-popular baby animals from our Smart Farm. Whether you are part of the Corinda family or simply joined us for a great day out, thank you for helping us celebrate all that makes Corinda special.

Our vision is to provide **facilities** that reflect the high-quality learning taking place in our classrooms. Visitors to Open Day would have noticed the significant improvements underway across campus. In 2026, we resumed on-campus food services, transforming our tuckshop into **The Nest**, the new hub of food service at Corinda. We have also renovated our café and sports courts, enhancing opportunities for students to connect, learn and stay active. Our campus now boasts **11 outdoor courts**, including four tennis courts, six multipurpose netball and basketball courts and three volleyball courts in addition to the indoor Sports Centre. It is also pleasing to see our refurbished lower courts being utilised by Brisbane Pickleball for the benefit of the wider community.

Several major projects are planned over the next 12 months. These include improvements to the G Block entrance, courtyard, ramp and lift, followed by classroom renovations in G and F Blocks during the Christmas break. Looking ahead, work will commence on our replacement **science facility** in 2027.

As a futures-focused school, we are committed to enhancing the opportunities and outcomes of every student. I'm pleased to report that the **2026 Seniors** are on track to perform exceptionally well, tracking higher than last year's cohort – a cohort that had ten students with ATARs above 99. I commend our Seniors for their maturity, dedication and determination, and I know our community will continue to support them as they approach their final milestones this year.

Ross Bailey
Executive Principal



Corinda's world-first Virtual Reality Behaviour Management Training Program was awarded a 5-Star Innovative School award from The Educator in 2025.

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Corinda SHS leading the way in VR teacher training

Developed in-house and filmed with Corinda's own students and staff, the immersive simulations place teachers inside authentic classroom scenarios where they can practise responses, explore different strategies and reflect on the outcomes in a safe, supportive environment.

The program was created to address one of the most significant challenges facing new teachers: behaviour management. While traditional teacher education programs provide valuable classroom placements, Corinda's VR approach allows participants to rehearse responses to common classroom situations without the pressure or risk of working with real students.

Through 360-degree simulations (pictured above), teachers experience scenarios ranging from classroom entry routines and collaborative learning challenges to more complex behavioural incidents. Participants can choose from multiple response pathways and see firsthand how different strategies influence classroom outcomes.

What began as an innovative solution to bridge the gap between theory and practice has evolved into a powerful professional learning tool. Across participating cohorts, the program has demonstrated growth in teachers' awareness of behaviour management strategies, increased confidence in responding to classroom challenges and a stronger focus on proactive classroom practice.

The initiative forms part of Corinda's broader commitment to mentoring and developing future educators. Alongside the VR program, the school has established a structured mentoring framework that supports both pre-service and early career teachers through evidence-based practice, reflection and

professional coaching.

In 2024 alone, Corinda supported 20 early career teachers and 45 pre-service teachers through its professional learning and mentoring programs. The addition of immersive VR training has further strengthened this support, providing a repeatable, reflective learning experience that allows teachers to build capability before entering real-world situations. While behaviour management remains the program's primary focus, Corinda is also exploring how immersive simulation technology can be applied to other areas of teaching and learning, including parent engagement, cross-cultural communication and inclusive education practices.

By addressing one of the leading causes of early career teacher stress and attrition, the program is also contributing to workforce sustainability.

Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many describing the experience as transformative and highlighting increased preparedness, reduced anxiety and greater confidence in managing classroom situations. By addressing one of the leading causes of early career teacher stress and attrition, the program is also contributing to workforce sustainability.

As schools continue to explore innovative approaches to teacher development, Corinda's pioneering work demonstrates how emerging technologies can transform professional learning and better prepare educators for the realities of the classroom.

The award-winning program stands as a powerful example of educational innovation in action, positioning Corinda at the forefront of reimagining teacher development for the future.

Principal's vision driving campus transformation at Corinda SHS



Pictured below: Corinda's mascot, Smoulder, joined staff and students to celebrate the reopening of The Nest in Term 2.

Since arriving at Corinda, Executive Principal Ross Bailey has overseen a significant transformation of the campus, delivering a series of upgrades that are already enhancing student life.

Key facilities refurbished under Mr Bailey's leadership include the school tuckshop, affectionately renamed The Nest following a student vote, the Assembly Hall, and the Upper and Lower Courts. The revitalised outdoor spaces have expanded opportunities for students to connect, participate and stay active beyond the classroom. The upgraded courts have supported the launch of a new afterschool Pickleball Club and strengthened facilities for Corinda's rapidly growing Basketball Program, which recently secured a third consecutive year of sponsorship from Motorama Ford. Mr Bailey said the improvements reflected a commitment to creating a campus environment that students were proud to be part of.



Class of 2022 alumnus launches career in Air Force communications

For Air Force network technician Cameron Zahn, a career decision made in Year 12 has already taken him around the world.

A Class of 2022 graduate, Leading Aircraftman Zahn originally considered a trade before discovering the network technician pathway at a Defence information session. He joined the Air Force straight out of school in 2023.

Since then, he has gained technical qualifications, leadership skills and valuable operational experience. His role involves maintaining

communication systems, supporting deployed operations, troubleshooting equipment and ensuring personnel stay connected.

"From radios to servers, there's always something different going on and a new challenge to understand," he said.

One of the highlights of his career to date was supporting 35 Squadron during Operation Wantaim in Papua New Guinea, where he helped deliver communications support during the nation's 50th Independence celebrations.

"Getting to see a completely different culture like that was such a cool opportunity," he said.

For Cameron the combination of travel, teamwork and meaningful work has made his first three years in the Air Force one word: *"unreal."*

This article was originally published in defence.gov.au. Photos courtesy of Sergeant Samuel Miller.



Chappy Jeff reconnects with Class of 2019 graduate Ismail Mohammed at Open Day during the Alumni panel.

Open Day 2026

Our Open Day held in mid-May is one of those special occasions when the entire Corinda community comes together to showcase the opportunities, experiences and connections that make our school unique.

Visitors experienced everything from the vibrant dragon dance in Languages and hands-on faculty activities to meeting representatives from the *Top Blokes Foundation* in Student Services. Our inaugural alumni-led panel offered valuable insights from past students, while the Oxley Road Music Festival celebrated the strong partnerships we share with our local primary schools.

Thank you to our student volunteers, staff, alumni, parents and community partners who helped bring the day to life.

Upcoming Dates

13 JUL - First day of Term 3

- 13 JUL - Year 9 Camp
- 15 JUL - Programs of Excellence Information Evening (Year 7 2028 entry)
- 28 JUL - Senior Winter Gala Day and Parent Teacher Interviews
- 4 AUG - School Tour
- 11 AUG - EKKA Camp and Golden Opportunity (GO) Day - Dance
- 12 AUG - Ekka Public Holiday
- 14 AUG - Academic entrance exam
- 18 AUG - GO Day - Football Boys and Girls
- 19 AUG - GO Day - Tennis
- 25 AUG - GO Day - Basketball
- 28 AUG - GO Day - Netball
- 3 SEP - Father's Day event
- 9 SEP - GO Day Culinary
- 11 SEP - School Tour
- 10 SEP - Multifest
- 18 SEP - Last day of Term 3



Pictured top: Team "Nerds Rule, OK!" won the Studio Pilates Oxley Round. Pictured above: When the staff understood the dress code a little too well.

Community comes together for Back-to-School Trivia Night

Are you smarter than a Year 10 student? That was the question at the Corinda SHS P&C Back-to-School Trivia Night. Teams from across the Corinda community put their knowledge to the test across a fun night of trivia, prizes, raffles and dress-ups.

Science teacher and Master of Ceremonies Cara Brooking generated plenty of laughs throughout the evening, along with some very sharp costumes including a school uniform-clad Executive Leadership Team who got into the back-to-school spirit.

A huge thank you to the Corinda SHS P&C for organising the event and to everyone who came along, joined a table and helped make the night such a success.



Awards galore! Corinda SHS students celebrate their awards including a Gold Award in Division 1, the premier category for our Symphonic Band led by Music teacher Nathan Schilling.

Gold for Corinda at Fanfare 2026

Corinda State High School's music students have delivered another outstanding performance at the Metro South Region Fanfare 2026, earning six Gold Awards and one Silver Award across seven ensembles.

Gold Awards went to the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band (Division 1), Junior Percussion Ensemble, Concordia Strings, Aurora Strings and Senior Percussion Ensemble, while the Big Band received a Silver Award.

Hosted at Corinda SHS, the event showcased student musicians from across the region and highlighted the strength of Corinda's music program. Congratulations to all performers on these exceptional results

your LOCAL AGENT

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Agent of the year
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WINNER 2025
Agent of the year
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