

Cairns State High School Testimonial



About the School: Cairns State High School (SHS) is a large regional secondary school located in Far North Queensland. Current enrolments of approximately 1700 students. The school is located in the CBD of Cairns and provides education to students in the local catchment as well as students who enrol in a range of Centres of Excellence programs.

School Contact: Lyndell Sellars, Head of Learning Resources

Students: 1,646 students (7-12)

City/State: Cairns, Queensland

How did Cairns SHS handle content learning strategies before ReadCloud?

In 2015 Cairns State High School implemented a whole school BYOx program with the aim of purposeful integration of ICTs to support teaching and learning. Digital textbooks were considered as an option to print in 2016 so that students were not burdened with carrying textbooks and a laptop as well as providing another tool for embedding ICTs into the curriculum. Junior secondary Maths and Humanities pdf textbooks and online interactive textbooks were introduced in 2017 with extensive support and professional development provided by ReadCloud and Jacaranda.

Why did you decide to use ReadCloud?

Provision of digital textbooks from a range of publishers from one platform and the management of licencing was a key consideration in deciding to use ReadCloud for the provision of digital textbooks. Ensuring adherence to copyright regulations and publisher requirements

for digital textbook content became even more important with the introduction of the new Queensland Senior Curriculum and the extensive number of publishers providing content to support QCAA senior subjects in 2019.

What features does Cairns SHS like the most about the ReadCloud platform?

The ReadCloud app has continued to develop to meet the needs of teachers and students with improved editing tools, the ability to collaborate within class clouds, read aloud functionality to support students with developing literacy, OneNote integration and customisation of pdf content. Our school has been pleased to work with ReadCloud to ensure that the platform meets Education Queensland requirements. Suggestions for developments of the app have always been welcomed by the ReadCloud team and the technical and professional development support has been outstanding.

How has ReadCloud helped with the impact of COVID-19?

Remote learning earlier this year was made considerably easier for teachers and students who had been using ReadCloud to access their digital textbook content as textbooks were easily accessible and online revision with feedback could be supported.