

## Queensland Primary and Secondary Schools

Supplementary Funding Pathway

### Powerlink Community Grants

**Grant Information:** <https://www.powerlink.com.au/community/community-grants>

The **Powerlink Community Grant** is a **Regional Supplementary** pathway. This recurring program provides grants of up to **\$5,000** for projects that support the wellbeing and resilience of communities that "host" Powerlink's infrastructure. Because it is geographically restricted to specific regional corridors, it is a high-probability "quick-win" for regional P&Cs. This pathway is ideal for funding a single **Explorer** instrument through a targeted application focused on community cohesion and social-emotional regulation.

### Project Positioning

For this regional pathway, position the project as an **"Inclusive Wellbeing Anchor."** Frame the instrument as a tool for emotional regulation and social resilience within the school's outdoor environment. Powerlink values projects that "uplift" the community, so emphasize how the instrument provides a safe, sensory-friendly space for all children—including those with sensory processing challenges—to connect and recharge.

### Avoid positioning the project as:

A curriculum requirement or general classroom resource. Powerlink looks for projects that provide a broad community benefit and promote "social cohesion." Avoid focusing on academic music grades; instead, focus on **mental health, community belonging, and inclusive play.**

## Project Title

[Insert School Name] The Resilience Zone: An Inclusive Sensory Wellbeing Initiative

## Service Overview

[Insert School Name] is a central pillar of the [Insert Region] community. We are dedicated to fostering a safe, inclusive, and resilient environment where every student feels a sense of belonging. Our school recognizes that social and emotional wellbeing are the foundations of successful learning, and we are committed to providing innovative resources that support the diverse sensory needs of our student population.

## Project Description

This project involves the installation of a professional-grade, precision-tuned acoustic instrument (the Explorer model) within a strategically selected outdoor "Wellbeing Zone." This permanent, weather-proof asset is designed to provide a low-decibel, high-tactile experience that facilitates **"Active Resets"** for students during break times. Crafted from sustainable 316L stainless steel, the instrument serves as a durable, non-verbal outlet for creative expression and emotional regulation.

## Community Need

Our school has identified a growing need for "low-arousal" outdoor spaces that support students experiencing sensory fatigue or social anxiety. Traditional playground environments can often be overwhelming, leading to disengagement or distress. This project addresses the need for an inclusive "anchor" in our yard—a predictable, calming resource that allows children to self-regulate and return to the classroom in a "ready-to-learn" state.

## Community Benefit

By installing a high-quality sensory asset, we are enhancing the resilience of our school community. This instrument is a permanent infrastructure piece that will benefit local families during community events and weekend use of our grounds for years to come. Because it requires **no specialized surfacing**, it represents a highly efficient use of community funding, ensuring the maximum possible investment is directed into the inclusive tool itself.

## Outcomes

The project aims to achieve a measurable improvement in student wellbeing and a reduction in sensory-based playground incidents. We expect to see children utilizing the instrument for self-directed regulation, leading to improved focus and social harmony. This initiative will also strengthen our school's alignment with the **Queensland Wellbeing Framework** by providing a tangible resource for inclusive education.

## Project Delivery

The project will be delivered by the School Leadership Team and the [P&C/Management Committee]. We will procure the Explorer instrument and arrange for its permanent installation via in-ground post mounting. The "Zero-Maintenance" nature of the equipment ensures it remains a functional asset for the community without placing any future financial or maintenance burden on the school.

## Budget

| Item  | Quantity | Total (Ex. GST) |
|---|----------|-----------------|
| Explorer Sensory Instrument                           | 1        | \$4,500         |
| Freight and Logistics (indicative to QLD)             | 1        | \$450           |
| <b>Site Works Provision (Indicative Installation)</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>\$1,000</b>  |
| <b>Total Project Cost</b>                             |          | <b>\$5,950</b>  |
| <b>Funding Requested (Powerlink)</b>                  |          | <b>\$5,000</b>  |
| <b>School/P&amp;C Contribution</b>                    |          | <b>\$950</b>    |

## Pricing Note

*Costs provided are indicative to support funding applications. Final pricing, including freight and installation, may vary depending on location and site requirements. Schools are encouraged to obtain a formal quote to confirm project costs.*

## Budget Justification

This budget represents a high-impact, low-cost infrastructure investment. We have included a **provisional sum for indicative installation** to ensure the instrument is professionally completed and "shovel-ready." The \$5,000 requested from Powerlink covers the vast majority of the equipment cost, while the school/P&C contribution ensures the logistics and installation requirements are fully met. This one-off investment provides a 25-year structural warranty, offering exceptional long-term value for money.

## Sustainability

The instrument is crafted from **316L marine-grade stainless steel**, making it immune to the Queensland climate and requiring zero ongoing maintenance. It does not require the recurring costs of rubber soft-fall or timber treatments. This "once-only" capital spend ensures the Resilience Zone remains a permanent, sustainable asset for the community for decades.

## Evaluation

Success will be evaluated through student wellbeing surveys and staff feedback on playground regulation levels. We will monitor how the instrument is utilized by students with additional needs and document the impact of "Active Resets" on classroom engagement.

## Application Considerations

Powerlink grants are geographically targeted to specific regions including Toowoomba, Gladstone, Townsville, and the Western Downs.

- **Location Check:** Confirm the school is located in an eligible LGA (Local Government Area) listed on the Powerlink website.
- **P&C Pathway:** State schools should apply through their **P&C Association** to meet non-profit eligibility requirements.
- **Evidence:** Including a quote and a letter of support from school leadership will strengthen the application's "readiness" score.