

Celebrate people and nature

Biosphere nomination for the Sunshine Coast



Invitation for your school to participate: Proposed UNESCO Biosphere nomination

Sunshine Coast Council, on behalf of the community, is leading a proposal to nominate the whole of the Sunshine Coast local government area to be designated as a UNESCO Biosphere.

A UNESCO Biosphere is an area of natural beauty where people live and work. They are places, just like our region, where active conservation sits alongside responsible development and people living sustainably. A Biosphere is a place to celebrate people and nature.

A key aspect of community engagement about the proposed Sunshine Coast UNESCO Biosphere is to engage with young people.

As Sustainability is one of the cross-curriculum priorities in the Australian Curriculum, we invite you to link your school's programming on Sustainability with this opportunity to learn more about what it means for the Sunshine Coast to be recognised as a Biosphere.

The key features of becoming a recognised Biosphere align closely with the three core concepts of the Sustainability curriculum. There is a direct link to the curriculum with Organising Idea 1 for Sustainability: *O11. A biosphere is a dynamic system providing conditions that sustain life on Earth.*

I would like to invite your teachers and students to:

- i) Provide feedback to Council. Theme: What could it be like living in a biosphere?**
This could be in the form of a persuasive talk, a PowerPoint, photos or videos taken by students or notes on class discussions. Materials provided by the school can be individual or class work and would be part of the community feedback collated for the Biosphere nomination.
- ii) Invite a Council officer to visit your school** and present information on the Sunshine Coast Biosphere nomination to students and staff. This could be a whole of school presentation or a series of presentations to particular classes, such as Humanities and Social Sciences in primary school or Geography, Science or Economics at High School.
- iii) Encourage interest groups at your school to participate**, such as a P&C community garden, a school environment club or a group such as senior leadership students or the Student Council.

As young people are the future of our society, Council will particularly value the input and participation of school students on the Sunshine Coast about what living in a Biosphere means to them. For more information on opportunities for schools please email biosphere@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

For further information on the Biosphere, visit Council's website and share your thoughts individually or anonymously via our Community Engagement portal [HaveYourSay](#) by 28 June 2019.