

Essential Member Benefits for Parent Bodies and Schools **OPERATING A TUCKSHOP**

Menu Health Check



Each year members receive a report on their current menu providing a summary of how well it performs against Smart Choices criteria and offers suggestions for improvements. This is an ideal tool to keep Committees, Principals and Convenors informed.

Food Safety Support and Training



Regardless of the size of your school or the number of days your tuckshop is open, operating a tuckshop comes with the responsibility to prepare and serve safe food. We keep you up to date on any changes in your obligations and applicable government regulations. QAST is also a Registered Training Organisation and offers a nationally accredited Food Safety Supervisor Course specifically for tuckshops with subsidised course fees for members.

Tuckshop Helpline 3324 1511



There is nothing better than simply picking up the phone when you have a question about running your tuckshop and being able to speak to someone that understands what you are talking about. Our staff can assist with queries on a range of topics including managing a food service outlet, nutrition, volunteers, food safety, menu design and more. QAST staff are also actively involved in school communities and have an understanding of the specific issues faced.

For information
about joining the
Association please call
us on 3324 1511 or visit
www.qast.org.au



Need a helping hand?



tuckshops

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www.qast.org.au

Qast
and Canteens
Queensland Association
of School Tuckshops Inc

tuckshops

Promoting and
Supporting
Queensland School
Food Services



The best source of information and services
for Queensland Tuckshops

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Who is QAST?



The Queensland Association of School Tuckshops is a not for profit organisation dedicated to the promotion and support of Queensland canteens in their endeavours to offer nutritious, hygienic and economically viable food services.

QAST is recognised as the lead support agency for canteens by managers and convenors across the state along with government departments, food industry and other support services working with canteens. Operating as an incorporated association since 1996, QAST members benefit from the wealth of experience of its management committee and quality services delivered by industry professionals.

Canteen Managers on the management committee provide invaluable first-hand insight into current issues, and assist in understanding and managing such issues. Staff who deliver services to our members have expertise in tuckshop management, food technology, nutrition and working with parent groups and other key stakeholders within communities.

→ Visit www.qast.org.au for more information on becoming a QAST Member.

Queensland Association of School Tuckshops

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→  Find us on www.facebook.com/tuckshops

Partners supporting Queensland's school canteens

We are here to help you...

Tuckshop Hotline 07 3324 1511

The Association is able to be contacted each working day with any query you may have relating to your canteen. QAST staff are skilled across a broad range of tuckshop operational issues, business and administration management, management of volunteers, marketing, food safety and nutrition. If for some reason we can't help you, we will make sure you are directed to those who can.

Training just for tuckshops

The Association became a Registered Training Organisation to ensure those who work in a school tuckshop have access to the best quality training with specific references to the issues faced in a school canteen. Nationally accredited courses that we offer provide qualifications that contribute to Certificates in Hospitality. QAST courses are currently delivered face to face by QAST trainers so you can ask questions on the spot and benefit from the experiences and networking with other tuckshop convenors. Members' course fees are also heavily subsidised.

Online at www.qast.org.au

Our website provides access to tuckshop specific resources on a range of topics. Find links to relevant government resources and policies that apply to canteens, QAST factsheets, a range of recipes developed by Queensland tuckshops, upcoming events and more.

The website is also home to the **eMenu Design** tool that allows members to develop their menu online using fresh graphic design templates, drop down lists of menu items rated by QAST and pricing calculators to help you set your selling price.

Talking Tuckshops & Recipes

We keep you up to date on all relevant issues impacting Queensland tuckshops including government food guidelines, food safety regulations, food industry news and more. Find articles on new featured products and services that might make your life a little easier, informative articles on operational issues, Q&A's from our tuckshop experts, a tuckshop term planner with school dates and contact details, and stories on innovative tuckshops with ideas to share. Each edition also comes with recipe ideas to add to your copy of *Over the Counter: A Collection of Recipes Ideal for Canteens*.

The annual Tuckshop of the Year Awards

All QAST members are eligible to enter the awards aimed at celebrating and acknowledging Queensland tuckshops and those who work in them that have demonstrated outstanding achievement and success throughout the year. Previous winners have enjoyed the recognition gained in their school community and beyond.

Tuckshop Convention & Expos

Developing the skills among your tuckshop team immediately benefits both your school's community and the team working behind the counter. The Convention is a great place to keep up to date with improved and more efficient methods, to get a fresh perspective on ways things can be done and to network with others who face the same challenges. The Tuckshop and Uniform Shop Trade Expo is also a must for those wanting to see the latest products and services available to school based businesses. Only food and drink products suitable for sale using Smart Choices criteria are exhibited so you can be rest assured you are making the right choices.

Representing Queensland Tuckshops

We listen to your concerns and the issues faced by our members. Based on this valuable feedback, the Association actively represents school tuckshops on working groups, at community and industry forums and at meetings with key stakeholders. Submissions are also made to government steering groups and public consultations on behalf of our members ensuring your voice is heard. QAST is also committed to advocating on behalf of convenors to display the positive, hard working and innovative manner in which they carry out their role and the importance of tuckshops in the school environment.

Networking & Support

No one is more expert at operating your tuckshop than you are, however much is to be gained by sharing "real life" experiences. The Association actively encourages and facilitates the development of local tuckshop networks across the state and provides support resources for these groups. If looking for more specific guidance, enrol in our **One on One Insights** program to get feedback based on the collective knowledge we've gained from our members.