

Community support for education stepped up a notch with the launch of a new School Savvy Hub

Thursday 20 November 2025. Centacare FNQ is taking its commitment to education and family wellbeing a step further, expanding its much-loved School Savvy FNQ initiative into a year-round community support service with the launch of a new School Savvy Hub in Cairns next week.

Located at **66 Pease Street, Manoora**, the School Savvy Hub, set to **officially open on Tuesday 25 November**, will help local children and families stay connected to learning through ongoing support, workshops, and wellbeing programs that encourage positive engagement and strengthen family involvement in education.

Centacare FNQ Executive Director Anita Veivers said the opening of a family support Hub marks a natural evolution of the organisation's decade-long School Savvy initiative, celebrated last month with the announcement of its 2026 campaign theme, "Our Village, Their Future".

School Savvy started 10 years ago to ensure every child could begin the school year on equal footing. Now, with the Hub, we're connecting and utilising our community partnerships to provide that same care and connection throughout the year," Ms Veivers said.

The School Savvy Hub will provide:

- Workshops and information sessions for parents and students
- Referrals and case management
- Guidance on navigating local services and supports
- Programs to promote school attendance, learning and family wellbeing

Working in partnership with schools, community organisations and service providers, the Hub will deliver coordinated, locally relevant support tailored to family needs.

"The School Savvy Hub is more than back-to-school — it's about ensuring every child feels supported to learn and thrive, every day of the year," Ms Veivers said.

Media and community members are invited to attend the official launch at the new School Savvy Hub, located at **66 Pease Street, Manoora**, on **Tuesday, 25 November**.

The morning celebration will include a community breakfast from **7:30 am**, formal proceedings from **8:00–9:00 am**, and school and community visits until **10:30 am**.

In the lead-up to the 2026 back-to-school campaign, the community is encouraged to donate new or pre-loved uniforms, shoes, backpacks and school supplies at the new Hub or at any St Vincent de Paul outlet across the region.

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About School Savvy FNQ

Established by Centacare FNQ in 2016 during Anti-Poverty Week, School Savvy has become a cornerstone community initiative, offering affordable school uniforms and supplies to families through regional pop-up shops. Since its launch, the program has supported more than 14,000 students and 6,700 families across Far North Queensland, demonstrating the power of a community that believes every child deserves a fair start to their education.