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## **TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META HISTORY**

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Torres Strait Kaziw Meta College on Thursday Island (Tamwoy Town) is a non-for-profit organization, specifically designed for Indigenous Youth from the Outer Islands.

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta began in 1978 and was known as the “Cathedral College”. It started out as a facility for a few boys back. Communication with the outer islands was minimal, the girls turned up as well. In 1980 Torres Strait Kaziw Meta was incorporated separately from the Anglican Church, and in 1987 became incorporated as “Torres Strait Cathedral College” and later on changed to “Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Inc.” as it is known today. In 1990, funding from the Federal Government was available to purchase the See Kee property in Nazeer Street at Tamwoy Town, and here, our first house, “Urabalag” was built.

In the following years, funding was given to build 4 more houses to make a total of 5 houses, as well as Staff accommodation and Offices. The Queensland Government kindly gave funding to renovate the original See Kee family home, and today it is the Recreation Hall for our boarders. The See Kee family have also been most generous in donating to this project in honor of their ancestors.

In 2018 Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has been operating for 40 years. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta started in a house in the suburb of Quarantine on Thursday Island then moved to the front of the Island. In 1978 Torres Strait Kaziw Meta was established on its present site, starting off with one building and over time adding buildings to a total of 5 boarding houses, recreation hall, an office and Senior Staff accommodation.

Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Incorporation is a home away from home for the Outer Islands boarders to attend secondary school. This fine facility was established in 1978, by a dedicated group of people who saw the need to provide quality co-educational accommodation for the outer island boarders to attend high school on Thursday Island, as there is no High School on outer island. This alleviated the pressure on local families who had to care for extended families in overcrowded and hardship conditions.

Today, families choose to send their children to board at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta College where they attend Waibene Koey Ngurapy Mudh (Tagai State Campus) to complete their year 7 through to year 12 of their education. The school is only five minutes’ walk away from Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Campus.

## Prospectus Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Expectations

### *Boarder and Family Information*

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta boasts quality safe and secure accommodation. There are five family group houses set amongst lush gardens. Specific age groups and year levels are housed together.

Professional staff provide 24/7 nurturing care. All boarding Staff and Management live on site. Of course, being situated on Thursday Island is much closer to our boarders “Island Homes” which keeps homesickness to a minimum.



When you enrol your boarder at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta, there are many things to consider. A major part of boarding is that it costs money to run such a facility in this part of remote Australia, Goods and services cost are inflated and we ensure that everything of quality is provided. Staff are continually professionally skilled, so that the best quality of care is given to your child.

When your boarder has been approved to travel to Thursday Island to board at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta, ABSTUDY only pays a certain LIMIT of funding to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta. Your wages are income tested/assessed by ABSTUDY and your earnings are taken into account when they pay the boarding fees to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta.

If one or both parents are employed, then the amount that ABSTUDY pays to Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta is reduced.

A **GAP FEE** results when there is a shortfall paid by ABSTUDY to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta.

This means that this is the difference between what the set Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta FEES are, and the amount paid by ABSTUDY to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta.

# BOARDING at Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta INC

- Torres Strait Kaziw Meta is an on country boarding home for boarders from Years 7 to 12 who attend Tagai Secondary Campus.
- Torres Strait Kaziw Meta welcomes all Secondary School Boarders from all races, backgrounds and religion. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta is not aligned with any one religious group or Church. Parents are asked to provide their own preference of faith/church for their child/ren and they will attend their respective churches every Sunday morning. All Boarders are invited to attend non-denominational Fellowship gathering on Sunday evenings at Kaziw Meta, in See Kee House.
- Home Study is important in the Secondary School years. Boarders are expected to participate in Home Studies for at least 4 days per week for approx. 1.5 hrs. each session. Experienced tutors come to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta to tutor on these days. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has formed a good relationship with Tagai Secondary Campus and is always kept well informed of Boarders' progress and discipline. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta continues to support the school in every way. Boarders are encouraged to participate in school and extra-curricular activities.
- Some 138 hours are spent in the Boarding environment, compared to 30 hours at school. It is clear to see that your children in **boarding must maintain a positive attitude whilst in boarding** to successfully complete their education.
- All parents expect that when their child/ren lives away from home, they will be cared for in a nurturing, safe, secure and disciplined environment. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has a zero tolerance to bullying, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs policy. Consequences apply to those who *choose* not to abide by the Rules & Expectations of Kaziw Meta, with serious cases resulting in suspension and/or cancellation of their Enrolment.
- With some disciplinary matters or problems, we will seek support from the Parents & families of our boarders.
- There are Professional Services available for those boarders who may experience personal/school issues. Issues which may affect their well-being.

## **BOARDING SUMMARY**

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Welcome to Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta INC, where boarders have made their home while attending Tagai State College.

The boarding house fosters a friendly, homely atmosphere with the values of respect, excellence, inclusion and justice. Because caring for you is a partnership between parents and the Boarding House staff, open communication is encouraged.

A strong sense of family and mutual support is cultivated in all aspects of boarding house life as we strive to provide a vibrant place to be for all boarders that educates and inspires children for life. Boarders and their parents are always welcome to visit the office to discuss any concerns they may have or just to pop in for a friendly chat. Our vision is to maintain a family-oriented environment managed by skilled and professional boarding house staff, who reflect the values and ethos of Torres Strait Kaziw Meta and the community. Most of the house parent staff live onsite in accommodation attached to the boarder's area. The Torres Strait Kaziw Meta house parents, who will care for you have a variety of employment, educational and cultural backgrounds and come from the Outer Island communities, Thursday Island and Queensland country areas. Each supervisor has a unique set of skills, which they bring to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta and a wealth of experience in dealing with the care and upbringing of teenagers. They work towards developing the children with tenacity, confidence and compassion. Pastoral care is a high priority at Kaziw Meta. This is reflected in quality relationships amongst the children's parents, boarding staff and teachers of Tagai State College. Supervisors are carefully chosen for their rapport with young people and their capacity of reinforce appropriate values and behavior. Supervisors are always available to provide a sympathetic ear, and to assist with homework. They are friendly, caring and keen to help you thrive and flourish to make the most of your school life.

## Prospectus Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Expectations

*Boarder and Family Information*

*“Our Torres Strait Kaziw Meta staff members aim to create a friendly, family oriented and supportive atmosphere in which the boarders can live happily and develop the necessary social and community skills to be a successful member of society”*



# 1. TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

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## Mission statement

To provide a safe, secure and learning environment for young people with opportunities for success in every aspect of their lives.

## Vision Statement

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta enables children from the outer Islands of the Torres Strait to be educated in their community at Waibene Koey Nurapay Mudh (Tagai Secondary Campus), by providing safe, family focused and culturally supported residential accommodation from years 7 to 12

## Objectives

From the Rules of the Association - The objects for which the Association is established are:

1. To provide a residential institution for boarders at attend places of Higher Education. Eg Thursday Island State High School
2. To assist in the physical, mental social and spiritual well-being of all persons and boarders entrusted to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta .
3. As an educational institution to assist in the promotion of sound learning and the formation of character based on Christian precepts and experience.
4. To uphold Christian life and teaching in the services provided by Torres Strait Kaziw Meta and to encourage residents in the Christian life.

The objectives for future growth of the Association were developed at the Strategic Planning Workshops held in December

- To expand Torres Strait Kaziw Meta boarding capacity
- To have successful outcome for boarders while attending high school
- To keep the Torres Strait Culture alive through teaching song and dance
- Our Partners Torres Strait Kaziw Meta delivers its work with the support of a range of stakeholders providing funding or support.

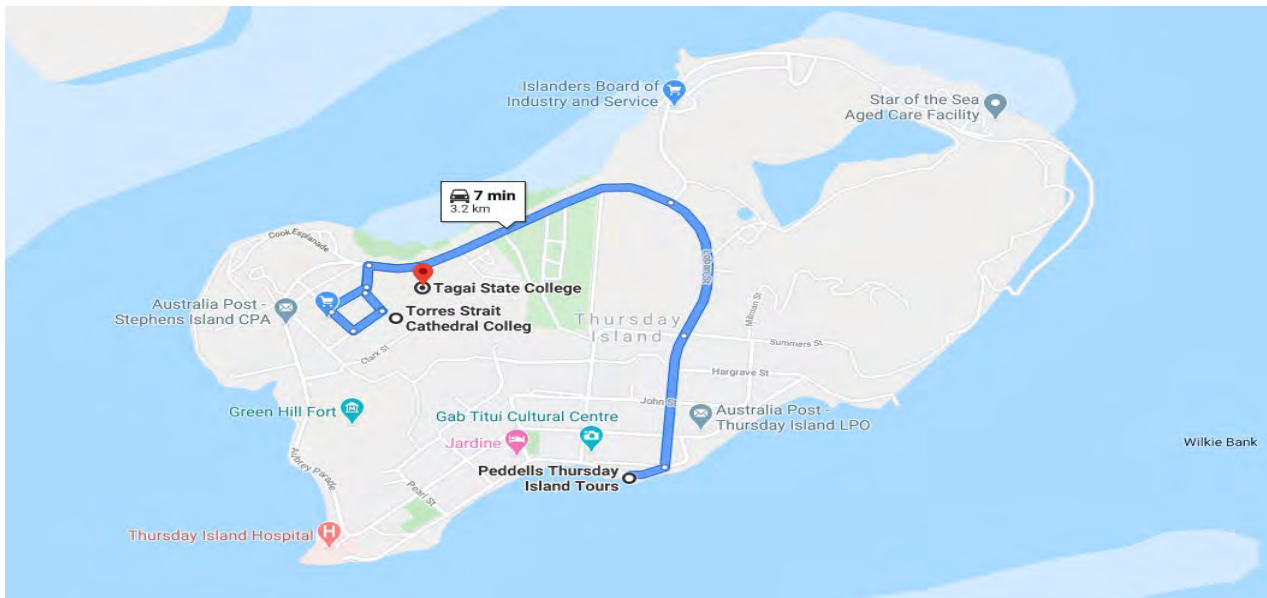
## What Impact We Create

The care and environment provided by Torres Strait Kaziw Meta results in:

- Increased likelihood of children staying at school.
- Better academic achievement
- Easier parental access to children
- Easier access to homes for cultural obligations
- Better engagement with culture and special activities.

## DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS

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## Location

Families choose to send their children to board at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta where they attend Waibene Koey Ngurapy Mudh (Tagai State Campus) to complete their year 7 through to year 12 of their education. The school is only five minutes' walk away from Torres Strait Kaziw Meta



front gate. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has an agreement with Tagai for the use of the school oval, each afternoon and on weekends to run some of the Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Activities.



## Interior

There are five family group houses set amongst lush gardens. Specific age groups and year levels are housed together. 3 houses sleep 12 boarders, one house sleeps 15 and one other house sleeps 16.

Family atmosphere is developed by houseparent's assisting boarders to develop skills in independent living such as cooking, cleaning, etc. THIS MAY CHANGER DEPENDING ON NUMBERS

House name	Number of boarders
Mekay Mudh	Sleeps 12
Urabalag	Sleeps 12
Kukuwam Meta	Sleeps 12
Waiwi Meta	Sleeps 15
Puwa Moto	Sleeps 16
<b>Total number of beds</b>	<b>67</b>

The House Parents accommodation is attached to the living area of the boarder accommodation.

In each of the houses the living area consists of:

- Bedroom which sleeps two boarders per room plus wardrobe.
- 2-bathroom area with showers, toilets and washbasins
- Communal lounge and dining area
- Own kitchen and laundry
- Own outside sitting area

## Hours of Operation

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta provides Full Care 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, during the Queensland school terms. Approximately 40 week per year.

## Service

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta boasts quality, safe and secure Boarder Accommodation. Professional staff provide 24/7 nurturing care which includes providing the following:

- School Uniform and start of year Book Pack.
- All meals and snacks
- All Bed Linen
- Utilities
- Computers and internet connection
- All Furniture, Entertainment Unit for each house
- Recreation equipment, Musical Instruments,
- Excursions: Day Trip to other Islands (POW) and Annual Rewards Camp (Bamfield)
- Cultural, sporting and spiritual activities on daily, weekly or special basis.
- CCTV throughout the facility for security and safety.
- Extra paid positions at Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta are Tutors for home study

## Management

The Organizational Structure of Torres Strait Kaziw Meta is attached.

- Members of the Association
- Board of Management who meet monthly.
- Boarding Manager
- Team Leader
- House Parents
- Tutors
- Business Operations Team
- Maintenance and Grounds Team

## Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Dance Team

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has formed a dance team, this dance team have a standard criterion that all boarders must meet if chosen to be a part (parent/guardian consent) which includes:

- Attend all classes at Waibene Koey Ngarupay Mudth (Tagai Secondary Campus)
- Abide Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Rules and Expectations
- Academic Level as average
- Display positive attributes on and off site (in public)

Boarders to come together and share their culture and tradition through singing and dancing. Singing and dancing keeping boarders connect back to their Island Home. Teaching boarders their culture is their identity.

**“Without your identity, then who are you?”**



## Weekend Leave or Other

Parents must email Torres Strait Kaziw Meta by **5pm Wednesday** to arrange weekend leave. [office@kaziwmeta.org.au](mailto:office@kaziwmeta.org.au)

Parents must advise the office of the Host Family name address and phone contacts.

'Your Host Family' must also be aware of your intention to spend time at their home (parents & boarders to contact them) before arranging leave with Kaziw Meta.

**Parents can sign their child/ren out of Torres Strait Kaziw Meta anytime.**

NOTE: whilst you are on leave from Kaziw Meta, you are expected to be on your **best Behavior**. It is expected that your 'host Family takes full responsibility for your **care and safety** during this time.

- **NOTE:** level 4 or Level 5 boarders will not be entitled to any type of leave, (unless parents are in town and come to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta in person, to see the Head of Barding to request leave.) Sometimes at the descre of Head of Boarding.
- **Remember** Thursday Island is a small community. Any inappropriate behavior by Torres Strait Kaziw Meta boarders is usually observed by the community and is usually reported.



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ALL BOARDERS

All boarders are expected to abide by Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Rules & Expectations. These rules and guidelines are in place so that boarders from diverse backgrounds, and Islands across the Torres Strait (East to West) can enjoy themselves and live together in a safe, secure and harmonious way of life whilst boarding at Kaziw Meta.

**TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META HAS A “MOBILE PHONE POLICY”**

**Endorsed by the Torres Strait Kaziw Meta management committee. This Policy states: Mobile Phones may be used at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta within the guidelines of the Policy.**

ALL BOARDERS are allowed mobile phones at the Kaziw Meta.

Your advice to your child/ren and your cooperation will be greatly appreciate

# Cell Phone Policy



## Rules & Expectations

IF you bring a MOBILE PHONE to the Torres Strait Kaziw Meta and choose to abuse the privilege, the phone will be confiscated according to the Mobile Phone Policy. Parents will be notified of the misuse and the mobile phone will be posted home.

**AEROSOL DEODORANT SPRAY CANS ARE BANNED AT TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META** — ROLL-ON DEODERANT is acceptable.

All Boarders come to board at Kaziw Meta, to *LEARN*.

Boarders are *always expected to arrive at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta with their manners intact and to show respect* to the Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Staff, School Staff and to their colleagues

All boarders are *expected* to attend school every day (unless Drs. Orders say otherwise);

All boarders must be on time for school and classes every day;

All boarders must attend all classes throughout the day and not truant (wag);

All boarders are expected to observe the Tagai Secondary College UNIFORM POLICY, and wear the correct uniform to school every day, complete with shoes & socks;

***NO Face, lip, eyebrow or tongue piercings*** are allowed.

Boarders are expected to attend and work conscientiously during Home Study sessions at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta. Every boarder is expected to:

### **RESPECT THE LEARNING NEEDS OF OTHERS**

Boarders are expected to participate in rostered duties in their respective Houses at Kaziw Meta

Boarder rooms/personal areas must always be kept clean and tidy (beds made, floors swept & mopped, bins emptied, personal washing attended to).

Boarders will **NOT** bring to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta or have on their person: dangerous items including: aerosol spray cans, knives, tools, chains, laser pointers, cigarettes, alcohol or illicit drugs.

Matches, cigarette lighters, candles, incense sticks/cones or anything that poses a threat of *fire* is banned. If such items are found, they will be confiscated and destroyed.

Torres Strait Kaziw Meta reserves the right to conduct searches of boarder property if under suspicion. Every effort will be made to have the authorities and the boarder present.

Damage to College Property - deliberate or by negligence will incur full costs to be paid by the boarder/s or family/ies.

*Relationships* between boys & girls are *not allowed*. Friendships must be platonic (not physical), open & transparent. Boarders may not leave Torres Strait Kaziw Meta grounds

without permission from their Houseparent's.

**TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META HAS "ZERO  
TOLERANCE" TO ANY BULLYING and HARRASSMENT**

***Consequences will apply to those boarders who choose to disobey***

***Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Rules & Expectations.***

***The authorities will be notified to act in severe cases.***

***Your enrolment will be at risk and may be  
cancelled.***

**"GAIN RESPECT BY GIVING RESPECT"**

**"DO UNTO OTHERS AS YOU WOULD HAVE THEM DO UNTO YOU"**





# Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Inc

## Enrolment Policy

### **Policy Statement**

We will foster the formation of a Boarding community while at the same time respecting the diversity of family situations.

We will assist with the physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being of all boarders entrusted to board at Kaziw Meta.

We welcome and respect the wide range of Cultural and Spiritual traditions from which the boarders come.

### **Enrolment Procedure**

1. Parents/Carers complete an Application for Enrolment Form with the following:
  - Copy of a Birth Certificate or Passport.
  - Copy of the last school report.
  - Letter of Acceptance of Enrolment at Tagai State College Secondary Campus
2. The Head of Boarding will consider all applications and has the responsibility of the final decision making in the matter of enrolments, taking into consideration the vacancies in age and gender, based on the family house organization of Kaziw Meta.
3. The Enrolment Application may be emailed [office@kaziwmeta.org.au](mailto:office@kaziwmeta.org.au) or faxed on 07 4069 1938
4. Families will be notified in writing of the acceptance or rejection of the application.
5. If, at the time of the application being received, there are no vacancies suitable for the boarder's needs then the family will be advised the application has been placed on the waiting list. Families will be advised in writing or by phone call

### **The following will be considered in the acceptance of enrolment:**

1. The family/carers of the boarder are resident in a Torres Strait Islander community.
2. The boarder's family/caregivers accept, support and will abide by the Rules and Polices of Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Inc.
3. The boarder's family/caregivers will work cooperatively with the staff and management of Torres Strait Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Inc.
4. Torres Strait Kaziw Meta has the resources to support a safe environment for the boarder and all residents of the boarding college.

- Where the boarder has particular support needs the boarder's family/caregivers will work cooperatively with the staff of Torres Strait Kaziw Meta to develop and implement the relevant support if required.

**Cancellation of Enrolment:**

1. Zero Tolerance to the use of drugs and alcohol in Torres Strait Kaziw Meta grounds or out at college activities.  
Any Boarders Caught with any drugs and alcohol will have enrolment cancelled.
2. Boarders will not bring to Torres Strait Kaziw Meta or have on their person, dangerous items including aerosol spray cans, knives, tools, chains, laser pointers, and cigarette.  
  
-Disciplinary actions will apply and may lead to enrolment cancelled for consistence non-compliance.
3. Damage to College Property- deliberate or by negligence will -  
- Incur full costs to be paid by family.  
- Disciplinary action will apply and may lead to cancellation of enrolment for consistence non-compliance.

4. Ongoing non-compliance of Torres Strait Kaziw Meta Rules and Expectations Policy.  
  
-All support both within Torres Strait Kaziw Meta and external agencies are exhausted. Enrolment may be cancelled for consistence non-compliance.
5. Bullying and Harassment in any form is unacceptable behavior and will not be permitted or condoned.

\* Types of bullying and harassment: CYBER/SEXUAL/VERBAL/PHYSICAL/SPREADING OF

**RUMOURS**

-All support will be placed around both the child been bullied and the child committing the offence internally by staff and externally by outside agencies.

Continual bullying or harassment may Result in enrolment been cancel.

## **ABSTUDY PAYMENTS TO TORRES STRAIT KAZIW META COVER THE FOLLOWING:**

- Full care 24 hours a day, 7 days per week.
- Accommodation & Food for 40 weeks per year or whilst your child lives at Torres Strait Kaziw Meta College.
- All bed linen to include: Sheets, mattress protectors, pillow protectors, pillows, light blankets, bedspreads.
- Service laundering of all bed linen.
- Service laundering of personal clothes (juniors only).
- Washing & drying facilities.
- Utilities – Electricity & Water
- Furniture & soft furnishings
- Entertainment units for each house (modern flat screen TV's and Blu Ray DVD players);
- Recreation Centre equipment (pool table, air hockey, Xbox 360, ps4 console, games and monitors).
- Guitars (classical and electric)
- Keyboards
- Day or overnight camping trips – excursions to Friday Island, Goodes Island or POW (Bamfield Camp)
- Three College buses for transportation
- Sports & Recreation Officer
- Tutors for after school home study (4 afternoons per week)
- Staff wages
- Insurance
- Land rates

## **ABSTUDY PAYMENTS DO NOT PAY FOR THE FOLLOWING – THESE ARE PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- **GAP FEES** – the difference between what ABSTUDY pays Torres Strait Kaziw Meta after parental income assessments have been determined.
- Tagai Sports House Polo Shirts
- LAPTOP Fees
- Extra-curricular sports trips to Cairns, Brisbane, Toowoomba, Darwin, NPA, or any other southern city (e.g.: Peninsula Sport, AFL Cape York).
- Work experience trips to Cairns
- School Shoes/School bags
- Personal items such as clothes/toiletries/bath towel/pool towel
- Medication that is not on the PBS items schedule
- Personal medication/creams from the Pharmacy
- Pocket money