

Kowanyama State School

Remote Early Learning & Family Care

Client	Queensland Department of Education
Location	Kowanyama, Cape York, Far North Queensland
Services	Full Turnkey
Value	\$10M +

OVERVIEW

Fleetwood partnered with the Queensland Department of Education to deliver vital early years infrastructure at Kowanyama State School, an Indigenous community school in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Under the 'Great Schools, Great Future' initiative, the project provided 18 modular buildings for a new

Kindergarten, Long Day Care, and Parental Care centre. It also included upgraded fencing, three customised outdoor play areas, a new sealed car park, and the demolition of outdated facilities.

Featuring vibrant murals and local landscaping, the buildings reflect the spirit animals of four local tribes, bringing cultural identity with early learning in a meaningful, community-led build.

SOLUTION

Fleetwood managed every stage of delivery, including design, off-site construction, transportation, site work, and installation, all adapted to the region's distinct environmental and cultural context. Given the town's isolation during the wet season, the build required meticulous logistical planning to navigate the annual wet season road closure.

Worker accommodation was arranged through a land lease with the Abm Elgoring Ambung Aboriginal Corporation, while community engagement was supported by Tania Major Consulting to ensure cultural protocols were followed and respected throughout the build.

Purpose Built for Community Impact

Essential early learning and care facilities tailored for Kowanyama families.

- 18 modular buildings including Kindergarten, Parental Care, and Long Day Care
- 3 outdoor play areas for safe, inclusive learning
- Indigenous Kokobera artwork integrated throughout

BENEFITS

Site-Specific and Marterial

Design and installation was tailored to withstand the remote climate and local conditions, ensuring long-term durability and performance.

- Cyclone-rated structure with corrosion-resistant finishes
- Energy-efficient insulation for thermal comfort
- Delivery timed around 5-6 month wet season closure

Smart Modular Delivery

Factory-built modules enabled safe, fast and high-quality delivery to one of Queensland's most isolated communities.

- Factory-built and installed in just five months
- New sealed carpark, upgraded fencing, and safe play zones
- Contractor camp established via land lease with the Abm Elgoring Ambung Aboriginal Corporation

