

## How it all BEGAN:





In the mid 1990's, the profile of surfing was changing and the benefits of what surfing had to offer from an educational perspective were beginning to come evident. At Currimundi State School, surfing was being offered as a recreational sport. The school needed double groups to cater for this interest. By the 90's, interested students were meeting for a regular Friday morning coaching sessions. All coaching was done before school with a strong parent drive for a school based program to promote the sport. In 2000, Currimundi was the lead school in a local surfing series which still exists today - the 'Coastal District Surfing Series'.

## Surfing Excellence Program



Joel Parkinson in action...

With the introduction of the school vision statement 'Riding the Waves to Success' came the inception of the school 'Surfing Excellence Program' and the flow on was a number of number of major school run event which included the Joel Parkinson Currra Grom Fest (2003 - now in two parts with Billabong running the Parko Grom Stomp and the school running the Curra Grom Fest). In 2005, the highly successful Beach Carnival had its beginnings of which surfing and bodyboarding are part. This has become an annual event.

Former Currimundi State School Student Joel Parkinson has put his name to the events and is also a strong supporter and patron of our Surfing Excellence Program. Physical Education teacher, Michael Chamberlain, has worked closely with Joel and North Caloundra Surf School coach Russell Hoffman (since its inception in 2003) to develop a surfing program that is inclusive with the school's curriculum and links with the Currimundi State School vision of 'Riding the Waves to Success".

Currimundi State School continues to be the lead school in all things surfing on the Sunshine Coast.