

# Heatley State School

## *Custodian of the Rainforest*

The Rainforest is the most diverse land-based ecosystem on Earth. The Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' connection to Country means ongoing responsibility for caring for Country, the sharing of stories, the use of language, and the performance of songs and dances. The responsibility for, and involvement in, the maintenance of its cultural significance, sacred sites, and cultural heritage for all future generations of Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples.

The Custodian walks the rainforest, camouflaged like the forest floor. They protect the rainforest eco system, watching over all that live there, wearing the rainbow serpent to guide them in their mission to maintain and care for the rainforest. By wearing representations of the flora and fauna they protect and raise awareness of the diverse and beautiful rainforest.

The suit is covered in handmade leaves and insects, the torso features dense overlapping vines made from crochet. A waterfall made from fine netting, tie-dyed fabric and beads adorns the garments shoulder, from the left arm a vine covered in mushrooms links the garment to the staff. The staff features handmade mushrooms and vines.

The Custodian wears a cloak designed to represent the rainforest canopy and featuring a tie-dyed and hand illustrated carpet python to represent the rainbow serpent. The hood of the cloak is densely covered in vines made from crochet wool and completes the Custodian's camouflage.

***Custodian of the Rainforest*** 2025

Adrian BAKONYI, Rochelle BENN-YASSERIE, Alaysia BOURNE, Aylena CLOSE,  
Cooper DESTAGE, Jayden FAVREAU-LEE, Hasina HERO, Xavier HERO, Apati HORNER, Jaely KEPA,  
Nilara-Lee LIND, Myah MASSO, Isabell STEMM, Charae STRETTON, Demro TAPIM (Model).  
Calico, wool, wire, beads, pvc pipe.





