Southern Cross Primary School – a de Bono Institute Partner School.

During the year 2010 Southern Cross Primary School was selected to be one of ten schools across Australia to work in partnership with the de Bono Institute on a research project known as ‘ThinkPlus.’

The aim of this project is to teach children to think. They are constantly bombarded with a continuous flow of pure information available to them from an ever expanding electronic, technological and digital world. We need to teach them to be discerning, analyse and form an understanding of what they see. They need to learn how to use all of this information to help them to solve complex problems and issues and make meaningful decisions to help them formulate new knowledge and become happy, successful members of society who can deal with the world in which they live.
It is important that we teach children to be creative thinkers and we need our teachers to be able to teach creativity, teamwork and thinking skills. At Southern Cross we have a passionate staff who all believe strongly in providing our students with a learning environment and teaching approach that provides just that.

Our curriculum is enriched by the teaching approach we use and our results reflect the power of quality teaching and the success of students who are fully engaged in learning.

As stated by the de Bono Institute; ‘We are all born with what is called neural intelligence, or IQ. This is our raw ability to compute or how big our engine capacity is. We also gain other intelligences such as *experiential intelligence* through specific activities like playing the piano and *reflective intelligence* by being aware of our thinking patterns and changing them if we wish to. The ThinkPlus Project is all about *learnable intelligence* and is a deliberate, structured combination of experiential and reflective intelligence’.

Developing a carefully planned and thoughtful metacurriculum that allows these skills and abilities to develop is what ThinkPlus will provide. Learnable intelligence doesn’t just happen by accident; we need to teach our students how to access it.’ We look forward to the opportunities this experience will provide for our students and our school.