The 1881 Endowment

The Rockhampton Grammar School
Established 1881
"A school without an endowment is like a ship too lightly ballasted.... The advantage of an income [for students] from a permanent source... is obvious."

Henry Arthur Kellow, Headmaster 1912-1935

The Rockhampton Grammar School is an accessible and affordable Independent School

The 1881 Endowment

Since 1881 The Rockhampton Grammar School has been considered a centre of excellence in education, not only in Central Queensland but throughout the state and Australia. Among the best Country Schools in Australia today, and one of the top Schools in Queensland, the School has expanded on its tradition of developing young men and women of Character and Scholarship by opening its doors more widely to the community and accepting enrolment of children who otherwise would not attend the School due to financial reasons.

One of the hallmarks of RGS, Queensland’s largest co-educational boarding school, is its accessibility to families from all over Central Queensland as well as Rockhampton and the nearby Coast. Still, the cost of an independent school education is an obstacle to many families who want to benefit from the programmes and opportunities available to all Rockhampton Grammar School children.

The Board of the Trustees, believing in the educational advantages available to young people at The Rockhampton Grammar School, has established The 1881 Endowment, a school scholarship fund that enables means-tested students from all backgrounds to study here annually at reduced rates or at no cost.
The 2025 Campaign Goal

Our goal from now through to 2025 is to grow an endowment which will eventually fully fund 18 students and partially fund an additional 81 students (approximately) annually. These children are not the only ones who will benefit from the fund. The Rockhampton Grammar School, for generations, will be enriched and strengthened by their contributions.

Two beneficiaries of The 1881 Endowment started at the School in 2015, a significant period of change at RGS as we expanded to accommodate a larger Year 7 and its move to Secondary School. In 2016, another student was awarded a bursary through the programme, thanks to the generosity of our donors. Our hope is that over the next 10 years beneficiaries of the Endowment will grow to approximately 99 students annually.

Our financial goal by 2025 is to have established a $20 million fund, on which to build, to contribute to the annual schooling costs of 99 students.

Value of the Endowment Fund compared to the number of beneficiaries

- $1M in 2015
- $3M in 2017
- $6M in 2019
- $12M in 2021
- $16M in 2023
- $20M in 2025

An RGS Student’s story

A beneficiary of a private RGS bursary, funded by Rockhampton’s Dr Mark Lupton, says she “always had wanted to attend Rockhampton Grammar” but for financial reasons it was not possible.

Motivated by the drive she saw in other RGS students, this Secondary School graduate represented in state and national finals in Arts and Sport and achieved excellent academic results at RGS – all of which were unimaginable to her years ago.

“I was overwhelmed when the offer to study at RGS came through.... Honestly I couldn’t wait to start.”

A recipient of four Academic Application Awards, her work habits have been described by teachers as “exemplary.”

“This bursary really changed my life. It opened my eyes up to bigger and better things in defining who I am.”

And it’s not just the student who changed. Her mother says her family now has a young adult who always strives to achieve the very best she can.

“Being in such a positive, supportive learning environment has changed the way she thinks and looks towards her future. The Dr Mark Lupton Bursary has given our daughter an amazing opportunity to fulfil her dreams and empowered her to be the person she wants to be.”

The School strives to be affordable and accessible whilst providing the best in terms of resources, teachers and facilities. Unlike any other school in Australia, RGS delivers a professional development programme in which teachers are enrolled in Masters level courses (through Griffith University).
My Invitation to You

Opportunity presented through a Rockhampton Grammar School education is the key to changing the lives of Central Queenslanders. The 1881 Endowment is one of the most effective ways you can ensure that more young men and women can access the same learning opportunities and benefits enjoyed by generations of RGS students. At the heart of The Rockhampton Grammar School is a belief in the power and possibilities of opportunity, presented to every student, every day. This is your opportunity to connect to, support, and extend the reach of the RGS family. I invite you to join me in providing life changing opportunities for young Central Queensland men and women.

Levels of Giving

- 1881 Heritage: $1,000,000+
- Gold Shield: $500,000 – $999,999
- Red Shield: $250,000 – $499,999
- Black Shield: $100,000 – $249,999
- Capricorn: $10,000 – $99,999
- Southern Cross: $5,000 – $9,999
- Grammarian Steward: $1,000 – $4,999
- Grammarian Benefactor: $100 – $999

Please pledge your support

Name _____________________________

Email _____________________________

Mobile _____________________________

Phone _____________________________

Address _____________________________

Please tell us why you are pledging your support of The Rockhampton Grammar School:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

You can email us this information at 1881@rgs.qld.edu.au or write to us at 1881 Endowment, The Rockhampton Grammar School, Archer Street, Rockhampton QLD 4700, (07) 4936 0776

“I want to give people the opportunity I had to excel academically.”

“Nothing, of course, comes without substantial hard work, motivation and the right attitude. At RGS you are encouraged, nurtured and have access to resources and opportunities to better yourself and that is something I value,” said the father of RGS students, Jeremy and Callum.

Dr Lupton believes the long-term impact of his contributions will benefit the individual recipient and the community.

“It would give me extreme satisfaction if students came back to me in their mid-20s on a solid career path that maybe they would not have ventured down had it not been for the opportunities presented to them at RGS in their last years of secondary education,” he said.