We have a big stake in Agriculture Education.

An introduction to Agricultural Studies (Secondary) at The Rockhampton Grammar School.

The Rockhampton Grammar School, one of Australia’s Best Country Schools, is leading Agricultural Education in Central Queensland thanks to an alliance forged with AgForce Queensland, CQUniversity Australia and other education partners.

Delivering a programme designed with and for Central Queensland, we are addressing specific education and training requirements of our local farming families and the Australian beef industry.

RGS students graduate with practical skills, hands-on knowledge, industry experience, and respect and love for the land that provides them with strong foundations for lifelong learning, development and advancement in Agri-Business and Rural Industries.
Since our founding in 1881, Rockhampton Grammar School families have had strong and deep connections to the land.

Every opportunity. Every student. Every day.

Today,

Agriculture is imbedded across The Rockhampton Grammar School (RGS) curriculum from Primary and Middle School through to Senior School. It includes strong vocational elements and features an accelerated tertiary articulation programme.

We offer courses developed in consultation with RGS farming families that are based on industry best practice and the national curriculum, adaptive to emerging sustainability issues and responsive to changing Australian and global trends.

Students benefit from industry and strategic partnerships such as the Belmont Education Alliance, with AgForce Queensland and CQUniversity Australia. Acknowledged as one of the Top Country Schools in Australia and Queensland, the School is a proud member of the Gateway Schools to Agribusiness programme, a state initiative which aims to help young people make a successful transition from school into further education and/or employment.

We want RGS to be recognised as the best Agricultural education provider in Australia and are investing in resources and facilities designed to give RGS students every opportunity to succeed in the Agriculture sector in any pathway or profession they choose.

Hardy Manser
Head of Department, Agriculture

Our Facilities

We operate our Agriculture programmes across three RGS sites:

The RGS Campus hosts the Primary School Garden and the School Herb Garden, both of which are associated with the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden programme, where students develop products, solutions and an awareness of food and fibre production from the early years.

RGS Port Curtis Farm offers students the opportunity to access production agriculture and horticulture facilities which include: sheep; alpaca; poultry; intensive beef; registered stud and show cattle; oranges and other citrus; coffee; mangoes; vegetables; small cropping; aquaculture; aquaponics; hydroponics and horticultural facilities.

Belmont Station at Etna Creek, home to The Belmont Education Alliance of which we are part, gives RGS exclusive access to 3800 acres of extensive beef production, commercial production facilities and educational resources. Owned by AgForce Queensland, it is an excellent resource for students completing vocational or tertiary education options. All students are exposed to active university research projects underway at Belmont. Additionally RGS is developing its own commercial breeder herd which will compliment Belmont operations.
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**Programmes**

**Senior School Agriculture Science**

Students in this flagship academic programme study animal sciences, plant sciences and agri-business as well as sustainable resource management. Students undertake four units of study based upon production horticulture, egg and layer production, paddock to plate meat production, and technology in modern agriculture. Students not only develop a broad understanding of agriculture as an economic force, but also practice scientific research methodologies in an agricultural context. This programme of study also utilises the links RGS has with CQUniversity, Agforce and other industry stakeholders.

**Tertiary Courses:** Start Uni Now (CQUniversity)

To be introduced in 2016, the programme extends students who study Senior Agricultural Science, by developing additional skills in research and scientific writing which not only facilitates their direct transition into university but also gives them credit towards further study at CQUniversity.

**Vocational Course:** Certificate III in Agricultural Science

From 2016, this Certificate programme follows on from Certificate II Agriculture, where students develop additional skills and knowledge preparing them for employment in the industry. Unlike other Certificate programmes, students at RGS undertake the course by attending Belmont Station one day a week as a cohort, rather than as individuals in school-based traineeships. This allows students to concentrate on developing best practice skills in an industry environment rather than having to deal with variability of employer expectations. Delivery of Certificates is based upon holistic delivery principles and encourages practical application and complex problem solving in real world scenarios rather than completion of work in isolated competencies.

**Vocational Course:** Certificate II in Agricultural Science

This programme is offered to students in Year 10 and students have an opportunity to complete their qualification in 12 months. They attend Belmont Station one day a week and are currently enrolling as students at Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges (Emerald Ag College). Students also attend block training at different points in the course.

**Certificate III in Agricultural Science**

- AHCOHS301A Contribute to OHS processes
- AHICWRK313A Environmentally sustainable work practices
- AHCAGB301A Keep records for a primary production business
- AHCCHN303A Prepare and apply chemicals
- AHCCHN304A Transport, handle and store chemicals
- AHCPMG301A Control weeds
- AHCINF303A Plan and construct conventional fencing
- AHCLSK308A Identity and draft livestock
- AHCLSK309A Implement animal health control programmes
- AHCLSK3011A Implement feeding plans for livestock
- AHCLSK315A Prepare for and implement natural mating of livestock
- AHCLSK331A Comply with industry animal welfare requirements
- PUAFIR204B Respond to wildfire
- AHCMOM304A Operate machinery and equipment
- AHCMOM207A Conduct front-end loader operations
- AHCARB205A Operate and maintain chainsaws

**Certificate II in Agricultural Science**

- AHCOHS201A Participate in OHS processes
- AHICWRK209A Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices
- AHCINF202A Install, maintain and repair fencing
- AHCLSK202A Care for health and welfare of livestock
- AHCLSK205A Handle livestock using basic techniques
- AHCLSK206A Identify and mark livestock
- AHCLSK209A Monitor water supplies
- AHCLSK210A Muster and move livestock
- AHCLSK211A Provide feed for livestock
- AHCMOM201A Operate two wheel motorbikes
- AHCMOM202A Operate tractors
- AHCMOM203A Operate basic machinery and equipment
- AHCMOM212A Operate quad bikes
- AHCLSK316A Prepare livestock for competition
- AHCLSK317A Plan to exhibit livestock
- AHICWRK204A Fabricate and repair metal or plastic structures
- MEM18002B Use power tools/hand held operations

continued
Programmes continued

Middle School Agriculture Science
Students are exposed to courses designed around the Technology and Science syllabus of the national curriculum. Literacy and numeracy are key focuses of the programme, using practical learning as a model to understand food and fibre production from an agri-business standpoint. Students are given the opportunity to come up with designed solutions to agricultural problems by generating products, environments or services. Our learning framework is based upon students answering topical questions relevant to industry and curriculum intent through an inquiry model. Students have the opportunity to select Agriculture in both Year 8 and Year 9 as year-long electives.

Year 8 studies include a look at the scientific production of food and fibre, farm safety, managed environments, alternative agricultural industries, aquaculture, sustainability, and the structure and function of plants and animals.

Year 9 courses features plant production; animal welfare, ethics and production; supply chain systems and marketing; value adding; animal husbandry, low stress handling and animal behaviours.

The Agricultural Show Team (Co-curricular)
With our own herd of commercial led steers Show Team members proudly attend Central Queensland shows as well as the Ekka and Beef Australia’s triennial expo in Rockhampton. Opportunities also exist for students to represent the School in Equestrian.

We want RGS to be recognised as the best Agricultural education provider in Australia.

www.rgs.qld.edu.au/agriculture