Ritamada
A Place to Shine, a Time to Grow

Every opportunity. Every student. Every day.
Ritamada, The Rockhampton Grammar School beach-front education facility, takes students away from the routine of the classroom and extends the curriculum into nature and the great outdoors where they learn valuable life skills and grow in confidence in a safe and stimulating environment. Located along the beautiful Capricorn Coast just outside Emu Park, the campus was bequeathed to the School by Robert Mackay Brown in 1971.

Activities ranging from challenge ropes to sea kayaking and adventure caving are conducted within a “challenge by choice” philosophy and an atmosphere of encouragement, support and fun.

All students spend time at Ritamada during the school year as part of our pastoral care program which enables the development of positive relationships among students and provides opportunities for self-growth and discovery.

As the students progress in age, so too do the challenges and activities, allowing students to stretch their boundaries – gaining confidence, independence and maturity.

Students return from their Ritamada experiences with memories to last a lifetime, yet they bring back far more – improved communication, teamwork and leadership skills, along with strengthened relationships, resilience and self-confidence – all geared to preparing them for the next phase in their lives.

« ... students ... stretch their boundaries gaining confidence and maturity... »
Four kilometres north of Emu Park on the Central Queensland coast is the 82 hectare beach property, Ritamada, bequeathed to The Rockhampton Grammar School by Mr Robert Mackay Brown in 1971.

After Mr Brown – whose father was one of the School’s original students in 1881 – passed away nineteen years later, his ashes were ceremoniously scattered over the property as a testament to his vision of Ritamada as a retreat for students for generations to come.

The property boasts classrooms, a large amenities block, boatshed, high ropes course, a multi-purpose hall, a self-contained cabin and permanent tents for overnight student excursions.

These developments were in part funded by the Red & Black Association. The cabin, a gift from the RGS Past Students’ Association, offers retreat-style accommodation for RGS families and Past Students at a reasonable tariff.

Many of the School’s departments make use of Ritamada’s diverse facilities, in particular Biology and Marine Studies. On-site resources supports specialist activities such as power boating, sailing, canoeing and sea kayaking. Students’ training culminates in sail treks to the Keppel Group of islands across the bay, a thrilling highlight of their Marine Studies.

Ritamada is also a haven for biological studies with most of it in pristine condition and the rest undergoing native revegetation. From its seaside rock pools through the dunes to the heathland on the property’s upper slopes, Ritamada proves an exquisite outdoor laboratory for Science students while other departments benefit from its restful facilities during diverse activities which range from sand sculpture to leadership camps.

Across the curriculum, RGS students enjoy numerous camping and day trips each of which brings new experiences and challenges. Primary School students enjoy a year level camp as well as various excursions. The Middle School form class programme also incorporates an annual camp at which high and low ropes courses, adventure games, pioneering, surfing and surf lifesaving, bush cooking and camping prove memorable activities. Additionally, Senior School students prepare for their year of responsibility by attending team-building and leadership forums.
Grow in Character and Scholarship