



AGRICULTURE STUDIES



Planning for the future through sustainable farming practices and integration of technology.

Within the 20 hectares of the College lies a fully functioning agricultural farm, complete with cattle, chickens and sheep.

An updated vineyard, cattle yards with cell grazing and shearing shed complement the livestock enterprises.

Incorporating oenology and sustainable agricultural components as well as a fully working farm, students learn in a real-life environment.

A taste of Agricultural Science begins at Year 7 as part of the Cows Create Careers a focus on dairy calves.

In Year 8 it is compulsory for all students, after which Agricultural Science is an elective subject throughout the Middle and Senior School years.

The Agricultural Science curriculum is specifically geared to educate students in a manner that gives them experience in many areas of enterprise production.

Studies begin with the Cows Create Careers program in Year 7 Science, a Dairy Australia program designed to promote dairy industry careers and industry education to students by introducing students to the educational opportunities for both vocational and university pathways.

In Years 8 – 10, Agriculture study is extended through specific Agricultural Science subjects including sheep and beef production, fencing, viticulture, horticulture and data crop production, wool production, grain marketing and soils .

Stage 1 and 2 themes include oenology, plant and animal production and management animal, plant and resource production, agribusiness and marketing, biosecurity and chemicals.

An Agricultural student leaving Scotch will have a 'innovative-thinking' approach to production and land management, be entrepreneurial, be familiar with the leading industry technology, champion sustainability, and have a working knowledge of current industry standards.

THE FARM

The farm was established on the Torrens Park campus in 1923 in recognition of the needs of the boarders, who were from the country and needed skills in addition to academics with which to return home. It was the first agricultural school in South Australia, and has since maintained its position as an integral part of educating Scotch students.

INDUSTRY EXPERTISE

Agriculture students are exposed to industry practises and the practical applications of their studies through a number of strategic partnerships and off-site excursions.

These partnerships are specifically chosen to ensure students are exposed to industry leading practises and technology throughout their studies.

Partnerships include Australian Grain Technologies (Australia's largest plant breeding company), Michell Wool (wool processing and exporting), Rural Directions (agribusiness consulting and grain marketing) and Waite Research Institute (wine making).



FARM SKILLS CENTRE

The Farm Skills Centre has two learning environments - the outdoor (farm and surrounds) and the indoor (new building).

These areas are connected with an integration of farm practices using technologies.

- » Researching innovative solutions for farm management
- » Technology solutions for commercial production
- » Agronomic recommendations using soil moisture probes for broadacre farming
- » Exploration of drone technology
- » Collect data to inform yield production for viticulture
- » Monitoring livestock health with smart collars
- » Food and wine production replicating industry standards in oenology
- » Innovation and market trends
- » Enterprise management and agribusiness
- » Sustainable solutions for agtech and foodtech at all stages of the supply chain.

This is an exciting time for our students as they use problem-based learning to support real time solutions developing their research and entrepreneurial skills, understand the potential of digital technologies as the next key advancement in productivity and form partnerships by collaborating with local farming communities, governments, universities and industry experts.



LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY

Australia is the 12th largest exporter of agricultural products in the world and is emerging as the hub for Agriculture 4.0; the next generation of technologies to revolutionise the agriculture and food sector.

Improved agricultural productivity is vital to help meet the global challenge of feeding the world's increasing population.

Farmers need the knowledge and skills to manage agricultural production, businesses, and marketing at the local level, while scientists seek to develop new strategies and technologies to help farmers manage our resources for sustainable food and fibre production.

As a College we recognise that we can play our part in this.



The Agriculture program at Scotch College has been a vital part of my time at the college. Through the program's large number of opportunities, my skills and knowledge within the field have continuously developed.

I have had the honour to represent the program and the College outside of school through the Adelaide Show Team.

Being part of this team has assisted me in developing my leadership skills. Students that are a part of the program learn about varying fields within the Agricultural Industry including:

- » Cattle; beef and dairy
- » Wethers both meat and wool
- » Horticulture
- » Viticulture
- » Agribusiness
- » Precision Agriculture focussing on innovation and technology.
- » Problem solving within the industry.

Through taking part in the program, I believe that I will have received one of the best educations about the agricultural field. This program has and will set me up for success outside of the College.

Archie Burraston