



World Teachers' Day QLD

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Teachers make a **difference**

Making a difference through agriculture education

Caitlin Crowe was drawn to the teaching profession after her own experiences in school and seeing the impact a good teacher can have. She began her career in a Permission to Teach role at St George State High School in 2019, as she enjoyed multiple rural placements in the community. Since then, Caitlin has become Head of Department (HOD) for Agriculture, Technologies and Arts at the school.

"I am extremely passionate about providing quality education opportunities for rural and remote students," she said.

"In my role as HOD, I feel I am able to work towards this in a teaching and leadership capacity across the school and community."

While teaching is Caitlin's first career, she loves being able to see the progression and development of her students as individual people and members of the community.

"I love collaborating with community and industry to bring relevant and up to date information into my lessons," she said.

"Our Agriculture programs at St George State High School have become a talking point in the area and that would not be possible without the supportive relationships we have built."

Caitlin finds that working in a small rural town really extends out of the classroom and that's what is truly rewarding.

"As teachers, we are working to set our students up for future post-schooling success. Living in a small community, you really get to see this," she said.

"One of my favourite projects is our Agriculture Career Immersion program, which involves students from across southern Queensland visiting St George for a week-long camp. This includes multiple site visits to working agricultural facilities and farms.

"To see students stepping out of their comfort zones and thinking critically about their career paths and taking action is very inspiring.

"Seeing students go through the program and then transition into local agricultural careers has validated the work we do in making a difference."

When providing advice on people thinking about a career in teaching, Caitlin said the work is so diverse.

"There are so many roles you can work in as a teacher, you just need to find the right fit where you are able to apply your passion and skills," she said.

"I have found teaching to be full of other supportive professionals, so it's important to reach out and ask for the support you need."

Caitlin Crowe

St George State High School – St George QLD