Western Australian College of Agriculture
Denmark

“Excellence and innovation In agricultural education”

For over 75 years
Welcome to the WA College of Agriculture–Denmark.

Our College...

The WA College of Agriculture-Denmark is centrally located to the township of Denmark in the beautiful coastal region of the Great Southern of Western Australia. It sits within a 560 hectare dry land farm with Simmental stud and a commercial beef herd; a large Holstein/Friesian commercial dairy herd; sheep flocks including Merino, Dohne, Corriedale and Poll Dorset breeds and a wine grape operation producing premium quality wines, organic and conventional vegetable crops and a managed forestry asset producing fence posts and sawn timber products.

Our Vision...

To be recognised as a leading provider of high quality education and training for the agricultural and related industries. Graduating students who have the necessary attributes to become successful citizens and contribute positively to Australian society and, in particular, to rural communities.

Our Purpose is to...

Ensure that all members of the College community promote the values of learning, excellence, equity and care and that all students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to achieve their individual potential and contribute to society.

We will provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills, values and understandings within the context of rural industries and provide them with opportunities to achieve nationally recognised vocational qualifications and secondary graduation. All of our students will be provided with the opportunities to assist them to access employment or further their education.

For over 75 years the WA College of Agriculture-Denmark has provided a caring and learning environment to nurture excellence and innovation in agricultural education.

As Principal of the school I welcome you to the WA College of Agriculture-Denmark.

Mr Kevin Beal
Principal
Steeped in History...
A Progressive Future

The “Denmark School of Agriculture” began in 1942 when students relocated from Narrogin School of Agriculture while it was used as a war convalescent hostel for returned servicemen. Students were privately boarded in Denmark until boarding facilities were built in 1947 which catered for up to 40 boys. In 1953 the school was amalgamated with the high school and became known as the “Agricultural wing of the Denmark Agricultural Junior High School”. In 1972 it became the “Denmark Agricultural District High School”. Due to its progressive development the agricultural wing separated from the high school in 1991 to become the Denmark Agricultural College catering for Year 11 and 12 students.

Since then the College has advanced considerably and is considered one of the leading lights in the achievement of educational and training outcomes for young men and women in a diversity of agricultural and related fields. It is part of a consortium with four other regional agricultural Colleges and is now known as the WA College of Agriculture - Denmark.

Today the College is a modern boarding facility providing comprehensive education and exceptional levels of care for Year 10 to Year 12 students. The curriculum includes hands on participation in the commercial operation of the College beef, sheep, dairy, vineyard, horticulture and forestry enterprises, providing learning in both the practical and business aspects of these enterprises.

Air conditioned classrooms and dormitories, a state of the art lecture theatre, science laboratory, well stocked library, extensive computer network and interactive high speed broadband provide excellent educational facilities, in addition to sports facilities and dedicated residential programs to enhance student learning. A school nurse, chaplain and counsellor contribute to the health and welfare of students.

Planning for future building and development will continue to ensure that students have access to the best possible facilities to enhance their educational experience.
Boarding …
Your home away from home

The College is home to some 110 boarding students who receive 24 hour care. Our dormitories are well equipped single bed rooms with under floor heating, a wardrobe and study desk. Each dormitory has its own comfortable common room designed for congregating after school and contains modular lounge suites; a television and a small kitchen with facilities to make hot drinks and snacks outside of dining room hours. Students are encouraged to add decorative touches to their rooms to create their own space. Boys and girls from Years 10 to 12 are accommodated in separate dormitories and students are cared for by experienced Residential Supervisors once the school day has finished.

The dining room provides nutritious, well designed meals all prepared under the direction of a qualified Chef. Meals include breakfast, morning and afternoon tea, lunch and dinner. In addition to using locally grown produce, the Chef uses some organic vegetables, eggs, meat and milk that is grown and produced on the college farm for the college kitchen as well as being sold commercially. Special meals are prepared for those students who may suffer food allergies.

The Residential Manager, supported by a team of residential staff, fosters frequent contact with parents to ensure your child’s care between home and college is seamless.
Outdoor Education... challenge the status quo

Developing practical skills is an integral part of education and outdoor education can promote dynamic learning using unconventional methods. For example, studies relating to environment and eco-systems can take students along our spectacular coastal beaches where they assess native bushland and collect seed for propagation. While on farm there is the challenge of handling livestock and heavy farm machinery.

Students have the opportunity to attend and participate in a wide variety of agricultural shows, both in Western Australia and interstate, as well as a wide range of excursions throughout their two or three year attendance. Selected students attend major shows such as the Perth Royal Show; Wagin Woolorama; and the Newdegate Farm Field Day.

These unique learning opportunities are led by our skilled and experienced staff.

Extracurricular activities... countless opportunities

It’s not all academic, there is play too...diversity and enjoyment is an important aspect of our education program here at the college and there are countless opportunities for extracurricular activities to broaden our students perspectives, build confidence, develop leadership skills, work together and share experiences.

By being involved, students develop skills and attitudes that are important aspects of life after they leave college.

Our “Ex-Aggies” build life-long partnerships and friendships that are celebrated at reunion events.
Healthy body... healthy mind

Sports and physical education is a vital part of the College education program. Students can be involved in a range of water-based sports options including surfing and scuba diving, which are inclusive and designed to foster team building and rapport. A well equipped sports gymnasium, weights room, pool table, and trampoline are also available for out of school hours use and the TV lounge adjacent to the Gym receives Foxtel.

Students can enter local sporting competitions at the Denmark Recreation Centre, join the Denmark-Walpole Football Club, the Golf Club and earn a Recreational Skipper's Ticket for boating. Music and Woodworking courses are run in association with the Great Southern Institute of Technology for interested students. The College Ball is another exciting event, with students involved in the planning and organising of this much anticipated night.

Each weekend a variety of activities are organised and fully supervised by residential staff such as movie nights; trips to the beach; regular Saturday morning shopping trips to Albany and Friday night outings to Albany for ten-pin bowling or movies. There is a residential bus trip into Denmark townsite for personal shopping during the week. There is even the opportunity to agist your horse in our equine centre.

In order to focus on academic performance every student undertakes supervised study time in evening residence for up to 1.5 hours from Monday to Thursday.

The College has a purpose built medical centre on site, staffed on a part time basis by a clinical nurse. A consulting school psychologist and chaplain contributes to our pastoral care program.
Our program... developing the individual

Together with committed staff, excellent facilities and a well ordered environment the College aims to teach students to reach their full potential. WA College of Agriculture-Denmark graduates have a well documented history of gaining employment opportunities upon graduation or entry into their preferred course of study at TAFE or university level. The College also has a successful rate of students winning scholarships at both a state and national level, a reputation the college is justly proud of.

The learning program is geared to support all levels of student aptitude:

Year 10 provides every student with a general program of studies to provide a pathway into any of the Year 11 and Year 12 programs.

Year 11 is comprised of an ATAR pathway (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) which is recommended for students who have achieved high academic performance and intend to study at university after completion of Year 12; A Year 11 agricultural studies pathway for students with a history of satisfactory academic performance and who intend to gain an apprenticeship, undertake further training or join the workforce upon leaving school; and a Year 11 Vocational pathway which is designed for students who may require additional literacy and/or numeracy support and who intend to gain an apprenticeship, undertake further training or join the workforce upon leaving school.

The three Year 11 pathways continue into Year 12 with the addition of the Year 12 Agricultural Trades pathway for students who are committed to seeking an apprenticeship in the automotive or engineering trades. It includes an increased allocation of time in the automotive and engineering training areas.

The College takes a disciplined approach to study and supervised after hours study mediums. Students are also encouraged to participate in career investigation, work experience programs and have career counselling to help them plan for their future.
Industry qualifications...

The WA College of Agriculture-Denmark is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) which means that while your child attends the College they can actively study towards a certified qualification, placing them a step ahead and making them work ready by the time they leave school. Nationally recognised training packages are offered in the following subjects:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Code</th>
<th>Training Package Qualification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHC10210</td>
<td>Certificate I in AgriFood Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHC20110</td>
<td>Certificate II in Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHC21310</td>
<td>Certificate II in Shearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHC21410</td>
<td>Certificate II in Wool Handling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHC20310</td>
<td>Certificate II in Production Horticulture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FPI20105</td>
<td>Certificate II in Forest Growing and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHC21010</td>
<td>Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEM20198</td>
<td>Certificate II in Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUR20512</td>
<td>Certificate II in Automotive Servicing Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21908VIC</td>
<td>Certificate II in Equine Industry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional training and certificates also available, include:

- Farm Safety
- Artificial Insemination
- Driver Training
- FESA Bush Fire Fighting
- Senior First Aid Course (Delivered by Great Southern Institute of Technology)
- Chemcert Using Chemicals Safely Course
- Healthy Lifestyle and Health Education workshops
- Recreational Skipper’s Ticket
- SCUBA Diving
- Chainsaw Course (Delivered by Great Southern Institute of Technology)
- Certificate II in Hospitality (Delivered by the Great Southern Institute of Technology)
- Certificate II in Aquaculture (Delivered by the Great Southern Institute of Technology)
Your college education…
where it can take you

The College prides itself on making sure that students are work ready or are ready to pursue their academic career through further training or entry to university.

Our graduate destination data demonstrates that almost 100% of graduating students find or have already found placements when they graduate. Employers comment on how employable students from the WA College of Agriculture are due to their sound training and hands on experience before entering the workforce.

The following provides an indication of the career paths available to graduates.

### Training Pathways WACoA: Denmark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career Options</th>
<th>Further Training</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forest Ranger</td>
<td>Horticultural Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry worker</td>
<td>Nurseyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plantation Manager</td>
<td>Groundsman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vineyard Manager</td>
<td>Landcare technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellar hand</td>
<td>Welder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vineyard worker</td>
<td>Boilermaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm hand</td>
<td>Metal Fabrication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Manager</td>
<td>Mechanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stud master</td>
<td>Butcher/Slaughterman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vet Nurse</td>
<td>Stockfirm Rep</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TAFE:**
- Traineeship Certificate III Certificate IV
- Diploma
- Advanced Diploma

**University:**
- Associate Degree

### Tertiary Pathways WACoA: Denmark

#### A selection of some Career Options
- Agricultural Business
- Agricultural Scientist
- Agriculture Teacher (with Diploma)
- APB-Research Officer
- Cellar Hand
- Environmental Consultant Natural Resource Manager
- Farm Manager
- Finance (Banking)
- Forest Ranger
- Forest Worker
- Horticulturalist
- Horticultural Research
- Nurseryman
- Plantation Manager
- Research Officer
- Turf Management
- Vineyard Manager
- Viticulturist
- Winemaker

#### A selection of some University Options
- **University of WA (UWA)**
  - Bachelor of Science Degree
- **Curtin University (Muresk)**
  - Associate Degree in Agribusiness
  - Aquaculture
  - Aquatic Resources
  - Bachelor Degree in Agribusiness
  - Farm Management
  - Horticulture
  - Marketing
  - Viticulture
- **Murdoch University**
  - Animal Science
  - Animal Health
  - Environmental Science
  - Plant Biosecurity
  - Veterinary Studies
  - Biological Science
  - Conservation & Wildlife Biology
- **Edith Cowan University**
  - Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management)

#### Entrance Requirements
- **ATAR**
  - ATAR is a requirement for all University entrants.
  - Some universities also offer alternative entrance arrangements via:
    - Principal recommendation
    - Bridging courses
    - Interviews
The education programme at WACoA Denmark provides students with university and vocational pathways. Students typically leave the College with a broad skill and knowledge set and a wide range of career options.
"My knowledge learnt at Ag School was one you cannot learn just in a book. The way we were taught was very practical and hands on. I believe this made learning more enjoyable.

After leaving College I decided to start my own fabrication business which also made me look into a qualification in engineering drafting; having already completed some of the units at the College I used recognition of prior learning to shorten my course.”

Jason, Year 12

"The hands on skills and the confidence that I gained at the College all contributed to my enjoying and excelling in the workplace.

Whilst at the College, I gained a score that enabled me to enter a course of my choice. Eventually I chose to study Environmental Biology at Curtin University.”

Katelyn, Year 12

"Graduating with a Certificate II in Automotive, Agriculture and Engineering has given me hands-on skills and a head start, as I was able to gain credit and have my apprenticeship time reduced.

The College offered a very different way of learning that appealed to me and I found myself learning more easily and enjoying school more.

George, Year 12
“My passion for Animal Production Systems studies has led to my consideration of studying Animal Science at Murdoch University or doing Agribusiness at Curtin University. I won the Agricultural Student of the Year in the National Farmer of the Year Awards in 2014, in addition to an AgLinkEd Scholarship the year before—with the help of the College, this has paved my way for the future.”

Roxanne, Year 12

Diesel Mechanic Apprentice at McIntosh and Son and a WA College Agriculture–Denmark graduate, I was awarded Apprentice of the Year in 2014. The selection criteria included demonstrating pride in work, effective communication skills and demonstrated knowledge and skill.

I have a passion for mechanics, in particular farm equipment. I view this work as an additional opportunity to broaden the scope of my skills and knowledge learned at the College.”

Daniel, Year 12

After leaving school, I got offered a traineeship to do my Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing through TAFE in Bentley. I hope to have my traineeship finished early next year and be a qualified Vet Nurse, which has been my dream ever since I could remember.

Attending an agricultural school definitely helped me gain my goal of becoming a vet nurse. It allowed me to experience hands on, a wide range of animals and take animal studies.

I do miss the College a lot, but I keep in touch with most people I went to school with.

Laura, Year 12
Smaller class sizes allow our teachers to provide a supportive environment in which to learn and gives teachers the opportunity to really get to know your child.

Due to its popularity the WA College of Agriculture – Denmark has a limited number of places available each year and as a result, a stringent selection process is in place for both residential and day students wishing to enrol. The following stages outline the process for expressions of interest and subsequent enrolment of a child and explains the basis for decisions on student selection.

**Expression of interest…**

If you are interested in finding out more, you may wish to complete an *Expression of Interest Form*. On receipt of this form a school officer will contact you to make arrangements for you and your child to visit the College and meet with the Principal or Deputy Principal and to tour the College facilities. If you have not already been requested to provide information prior to interview, you will need to bring with you copies of your child’s last two school reports (preferably semester reports). Copies can be made at the College if you do not have access to photocopy facilities. Year 9 NAPLAN results are also greatly appreciated.

**Application assessment…**

Once in receipt of all information, the senior management team will make a selection on the following basis:

- The student's enthusiasm and suitability to undertake the education program offered at this College.
- The student's past behavioural record will be taken into account, particularly in relation to their suitability to living in a residential environment.
- The student's academic record is also considered by the College and will be discussed at interview. Students are not selected on their grades but their effort and attendance is taken into account.
- Program options including ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) General and Vocational are available and will also be discussed at interview.
- The College may ask for a confidential report from your last school to be sent direct to the college.
- Applicants will be notified of the status of their application as soon as practicable after interview.

*Note: A comprehensive Contributions, Charges and Fees booklet is available by contacting our administration centre on Ph: 9848 0200. Successful applicants will be required to pay a small deposit, which guarantees a place at the College.*
Where to find us...

The main entrance to the College is located on the corner of Jack Moore Avenue and 872 South Coast Highway, Denmark. Follow the avenue of trees up to the Administration Building on the right. Parking is provided.

We’re on-line...

You may also wish to visit the College website at www.denmarkag.wa.edu.au and you can follow us on Facebook by visiting facebook.com/denmarkag to keep up to date with what is happening around the College. There is a comprehensive photo gallery, up to date calendar of planned events and regular newsletters. All designed to keep you abreast of what is going on at the WA College of Agriculture-Denmark.
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