

# Media Release

**The Hon Gayle Tierney MLC**  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Minister for Training and Skills  
Minister for Higher Education



Thursday, 19 November 2020

## **BOOST FOR TRAINING FACILITIES IN WARRNAMBOOL**

Horticulture and cabinet making trainees in Warrnambool now have state-of-the-art equipment and facilities to use and learn in.

Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney today visited South West TAFE's Sherwood Campus in Warrnambool to inspect its refurbished hothouse, classrooms and new equipment.

Trainees undertaking the Certificate III in Horticulture and the Certificate III in Cabinet Making will now have access to modern equipment and facilities available following a \$385,000 investment by the Victorian Government.

This investment delivered upgrades and improvements to the campus' hothouse, which now aligns with current industry standards so that trainees are job-ready when they complete the course.

It also funded a classroom refurbishment and a new skid steer, skid steer trailer and mini excavator for horticulture trainees to use.

The upgrades helped South West TAFE to exceed enrolment targets for the course with students from all walks of life, including school leavers, people with disabilities and people retraining accessing the course.

The funding also paid for a new, software, online resources so trainee cabinet makers are learning the latest skills in an industry that is moving towards greater automation.

South West TAFE was recently named large training provider of the year at the Victorian Training Awards and is shortlisted for the corresponding national award.

Since 2015, the Victorian Government has committed more than \$1.5 billion to rebuild our TAFE system and ensure students can get the skills they need for the jobs they want.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills and Higher Education Gayle Tierney**

*"We will keep investing in and working with TAFEs and training providers to make sure Victorians continue to get the skills they need for the jobs they want."*

*"This is another great example of how TAFEs are delivering for Victoria's trainees, industry and economy by matching the skills being taught with the needs of industry, economy and community."*