

# 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



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## HORTICULTURE AND AGRICULTURE HUBS FOR GLENORMISTON

The Andrews Labor Government is establishing new horticulture and agriculture facilities at South West TAFE's Glenormiston campus, boosting training opportunities in south-west Victoria's thriving food and fibre sector.

The Labor Government's \$2 million upgrade of the Glenormiston site will deliver on a key election commitment, after the former Liberal and National government shut the campus and tried to sell it without a commitment to future education at the site.

Works are well underway on the projects, which will feature a new hothouse, garden beds, workshop, refurbished classrooms and the introduction of new agriculture technologies to deliver world-class education to Victoria's future primary production workforce.

The upgrades also include classroom and workshop areas for practical and theory lessons, including artificial breeding programs for dairy and cattle industries to accommodate a growing cohort of students since the Labor Government reopened the site and resumed training under South West TAFE.

As part of their studies, agriculture and horticulture students will be invited to contribute to the care and conservation of the picturesque homestead gardens and pastures.

On-site accommodation, including short-stay accommodation for 24 students and staff, will be refurbished to house participants of specialist workshops and programs. The investment will also support new fire protection systems to meet occupational health and safety and fire standards, security systems and storage facilities.

About 20 local workers, including apprentices, are undertaking the upgrade works – which are expected to be finished later this year in time for Semester One, 2022.

The upgrades have been funded through the Labor Government's \$2.6 billion *Delivering for Regional and Rural Victorians Program*.

Since 2014, the Labor Government has made a record \$3.2 billion investment to rebuild TAFE and support universities and higher education to ensure Victorians have access to high quality education and rewarding careers.

The *Victorian Budget 2021/22* includes a \$383.8 million investment in the sector to ensure more Victorians get the training they need for in-demand jobs.

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney**

*"Glenormiston College is loved by the local community and plays a huge role in agricultural training in Victoria – which is why we're proud to have reopened it and now we're making on-site training better than ever."*

### **Quote attributable to Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas**

*"The revitalisation of Glenormiston and expanded training at the site is a vital part of our plan to ensure Victoria has the skilled workers it needs for our thriving agriculture and horticulture sectors."*

### **Quote attributable to South West TAFE CEO Mark Fidge**

*"Glenormiston has a proud history of delivering agriculture training, and we will be working closely with our food and fibre stakeholders to ensure our future programs meet the rapidly changing needs of the sector."*

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