

# Media Release

## The Hon Gayle Tierney MP

Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Minister for Training and Skills  
Minister for Higher Education  
Minister for Agriculture



Thursday, 28 July 2022

## KIDS GO FREE TO THE MELBOURNE ROYAL SHOW

Kids will be able to go to the Melbourne Royal Show for free this year thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney made the announcement at the Melbourne Showgrounds this morning with the Labor Government investing \$3.5 million to support free entry for kids.

The funding will be provided directly to Agricultural and Pastoral Societies hosting show's this year to defray the cost of free entry for kids under the age of 14, at more than 100 rural and regional shows across Victoria.

As the Melbourne Royal Show returns for the first time in two years, kids 14 years and younger will receive free entry, so more families can enjoy all the quintessential favourites including the wood-chop, arts and crafts, showbags and carnival rides - plus the new Show After Dark featuring 11 nights of live music.

Presented by The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, the Show remains one of the state's largest and most iconic annual community events and is a tradition among families and friends, contributing \$244 million annually to Victoria's economy and in previous years has attracted up to 460,000 visitors.

Agricultural shows are the cornerstones of Victoria's agriculture sector, building community spirit by celebrating agriculture in a fun, entertaining, educational and inclusive environment.

Agriculture Victoria is also working closely with the Melbourne Royal Show organisers to ensure biosecurity measures are in place, including livestock movement ahead of this year's event which opens on Thursday 22 September.

The Government is working hand-in-glove with state and federal counterparts to monitor the threat of foot-and-mouth disease and other biosecurity concerns.

There are over 300 dedicated biosecurity staff within the 1200 strong team at currently undertaking FMD-specific training, scenario planning, and participating in emergency exercises to ensure they're ready to respond quickly and effectively.

The investment in Victorian agriculture shows is part of the Government's 10-year Agriculture Strategy to drive recovery and bolster the state's economy. For more information about the Melbourne Royal visit the [royalshow.com.au](http://royalshow.com.au).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney

*"Agricultural shows are a fixture of Australian society and the Melbourne Royal Show is an institution."*

*"It's great to have the event back on the calendar and to know kids will go free and experience all the Show has to offer."*

### Quote attributable to Melbourne Royal Chief Executive Officer Brad Jenkins

*"The 2022 Melbourne Royal Show will be a celebration like no other for Victorians, with family fun and farm experiences by day and a feast of fabulous food, entertainment and live music by night."*

**Media contact:** Stephanie Hobbs 0429 275 437 | [stephanie.hobbs@minstaff.vic.gov.au](mailto:stephanie.hobbs@minstaff.vic.gov.au)