

Gateway Newsletter

Term 4 2021



Welcome to 2021

What a fantastic year it has been for the Primary ITO Gateway programme. This year we have engaged with 85 schools and currently have 140 students who are undertaking in excess of 450 Unit Standards.



Primary Industries are so much more than farming, students are undertaking training in **Seafood, Horticulture, Arboriculture, Sports Turf, Apiculture** and **Hard Landscaping**, and it has been a true pleasure to watch a number of students make a tentative start and then go on to order new units as their passion for their particular industry grows.

Next year we are introducing additional Units. There has been a lot of enquiries for Level 3 learning for the Year 13s, to round off their pathways out into industry and I'm very pleased to advise that in 2022 we will be adding a number of Level 3 units, in addition to Level 2 Pest Control, Arable farming and Garden Retail learning.

If you are new to the Primary Industries as a pathway for students, I have compiled lists of suggested Unit standards, including information pertaining to certain criteria which must be met. I am happy to discuss these and work with you to ensure that students are in the correct placements for successful completion.

Exciting to note that students have been able to attain micro credentials in Fencing and 2021 has shown that some students, who are undertaking two days of learning, can actually complete a Level 2 qualification in Primary Industry skills. This is a complete qualification which sits on the NZQA framework, and there are several students who have the potential to complete.

Student profile – Stacey Bell – St Peters Cambridge

Hailing from a Dry Stock farm on the West Coast, King Country, Stacey Bell is a Year 12 student. The family farm was originally sheep and beef, but for the moment are running dry stock, plus leasing additional land for their operation.

Stacey has been undertaking the Gateway programme through her holidays and during school weeks she assists in every day farm duties and is well on the way to completing her Level 2 Primary Industries Skills qualification. We recognise that students undertaking Gateway often don't have the luxury of a subject specific teacher to assist their learning, meaning they have to be additionally resilient and focused to achieve their learning. Stacey came to my attention due to a comment from her marker; "Attached is Stacey's marking sheet. She has completed this assessment – it was absolutely brilliant! If there is such a thing as a Gateway prize I think Stacey deserves it. Her assessments are always amazing."



Stacey's hobbies include photography, soccer, hunting and fishing, and her plan for next year is to attend Telford to undertake their two year programme, and leave with at least one trained dog. Her long term goal is to be with her well trained dogs, working on a Station, hopefully on horseback.

I have no doubt that Stacey will achieve her goals and wish her the very best for her future.



Notes for Participating Schools

Evaluation Form: Early in Term 4, I will be issuing individualised evaluation sheets for students who have undertaken learning with us and would be grateful if these could be returned prior to the end of the year.

Unfinished Learning: Term 4 is the time to be following up on any students who are yet to complete their work, as per the Results sheets which I sent out earlier in the Term. If your student has left school, please advise so that I may Withdraw them from our system.

Late Marking: It is possible for students to hand in work right up until the last day of term – not ideal, but, learning can still be marked and reported prior to close off of 2021 returns.

I take this opportunity to wish you a successful Term 4, with the final push in sight for the end of the school year.

Ngā mihi
Suzanne Carruth
PITO Gateway Co-ordinator