



Media Release

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Ryan Catholic College is embracing the future of flying – Drones!

Drones are herding cattle in western Queensland, delivering defibrillators to heart-attack victims and, with the aid of thermal cameras, finding people lost in wilderness areas. Drones are being tested for use in fields such as emergency services, health, defence, policing, agriculture, sport, photography and film.

More students will be taught how to fly drones under changes to the curriculum designed to make Queensland the nation's drone capital. Queensland will also develop commercial zones to test new drones within two years to entice companies at the cutting edge of the technology to set up in the state.



Ryan Catholic College is the only school in the Townsville Diocese to teach drone technology as part of a Certificate III in Aviation (Remote Pilot- Visual Line of Sight).

Acting Principal, Paula Duffy said there was growing demand for the course.

“The qualification and skills will provide our students with employment prospects across multiple industries, including farming, health, emergency search and rescue, shark and crocodile detection and photography to name a few,” said Paula.

“Drones could help farmers prioritise where to apply fertilizer, or help energy companies monitor their infrastructure.”

“We are excited to offer this as a subject in our school as it has so many career opportunities for our students.”

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For further information, please contact:

Karolien Kern – Marketing & Communications Officer

T. 07 4773 0970 M. 0417 227 049

kkern@tsv.catholic.edu.au