



Charles Sturt
University

Wangaratta Regional Study Centre

Inspirations

School and Community
Activities and Programs

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Welcome

The Wangaratta Regional Study Centre (WRSC) offers a broad range of activities and programs for schools and community groups. We aim to

- Build aspirations for life-long learning
- Equip young people and community members with knowledge, skills and capabilities that will help them make informed decisions about life and careers
- Support schools and their communities
- Create pathways to higher education
- Develop industry and community capacity.

We would love you to help us create and share new knowledge through our state-of-the-art facilities including a full science laboratory, a teaching kitchen, seminar and conference rooms, common learning and study spaces, and staff offices.

As part of what we offer to the region, we engage with our young people and communities across the North East through our Outreach programs and the provision of digital resources. This booklet provides a small insight into a variety of events and offerings that may suit your needs; you are welcome to join us at any or all! If you would like to see something that is not included, please do not hesitate to contact us and let us know how we can support you.

We recognise that the options we provide may be affected by ongoing Covid restrictions, however we will always seek to provide online alternatives.

We look forward to continuing to strengthen the region through continued work raising aspirations and creating pathways into higher education across the North East.

For further information, or to contact us, find our details on the Charles Sturt University website at: <https://about.csu.edu.au/wangaratta>

Support for Schools

At WRSC, we offer our partner schools various kinds of support according to their needs – In House Support, Access to Resources, Access to Charles Sturt Alumni, Academic Encouragement Awards, Activities and Events, and targeted Teacher Professional Development and Careers Network.

In House Support

Schools are busy and vibrant places of learning, not just for the students. Charles Sturt at WRSC is available to support your school through attendance at any of your scheduled events for the year:

- Parent Information Events
- Careers Evenings
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Support with Subject Selection
- Career and Work Education support and advice

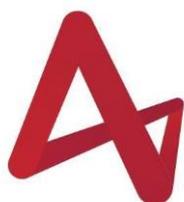
Academic Encouragement Awards

Each year, Charles Sturt encourages schools to nominate students for our Academic Encouragement Awards. These Awards are aimed at increasing the aspirations and capacity of students who may:

- Have experienced disadvantage yet have shown the capacity and ability in their studies and behaviour to consider tertiary education
- Be first in family to consider a tertiary education
- Need encouragement or confidence building to believe in their own capacity to aspire to, or participate in, tertiary education
- Demonstrate distance travelled in their academic achievement despite difficult circumstances

Where possible we will try to attend any Award Presentation or Speech Nights as required by schools.

Access to Charles Sturt Alumni



We have an extensive and vibrant Alumni, with many individuals who are willing to share their time and expertise through mentoring opportunities and the provision of career and pathway advice.

If you would like a Charles Sturt Alumni to visit your school, to attend an event, give a guest lecture or provide support through your programs, please let us know.

Access to Resources

We have an extensive range of Digital Resources available in conjunction with the Digital Technologies Advisory Committee (DTAC) which can be found later in this booklet.

Student Activities

Changing World of Work



Career Planning is a dynamic and constantly evolving process, open to frequent adjustments and changes in direction as young people move through life. The Foundation for Young Australians' (FYA) New Work Order has

identified significant implications for young Australians as jobs become increasingly global, automated and flexible, with the average 15 year old facing a predicted 17 jobs over 5 different careers.

Discussions that enable young people to navigate the future of work through identifying skills and capabilities to respond to both theirs, and society's changing and diverse needs, are crucial to ensuring they are suitably empowered with the skills mindset and confidence they need.

Charles Sturt partners with schools and their communities to:

- Introduce the idea of a career and lifelong learning
- Raise awareness of post school options and different pathways
- Lift aspiration for university study, regardless of which university they choose to attend
- Increase students' educational attainment whilst at school
- Engage with parents to help them support their children in their post-secondary choices

Career Aspiration Workshops at your school.

Working with a Strengths Based approach, workshops are designed to encourage students to engage in self-reflection, career exploration and decision making to help:

- Identify their skills, interests and capabilities
- Find their career passion and future possibilities and opportunities
- Understand the labour trends in today's world
- Consider the options and next steps available to them and their situation
- Set realistic career goals and explore the range of educational and career options available

On Campus Events

Dates will vary every year. The aim will be to hold these events face-to-face, but online alternatives may be made available instead.



Science Days at Wangaratta Regional Study Centre

Charles Sturt University acknowledges the continued need to provide hands on STEM related activities and a chance for students to connect with leaders in industry. In Terms Two and Four, we will offer practical STEM careers workshops for Year Eight and Nine students designed to showcase the breadth of STEM careers available and inspire through hands-on learning.



Digital Workshops

In collaboration with the Digital Technology Advisory Committee (DTAC), Charles Sturt University offers two day workshops for students in Year Five and Six in the January and July school holidays. Students will design, build, code and drive robots, learn about building websites and creating apps and games as well as explore technology in an informal, creative and social environment.

Health Careers Forum, Wangaratta and North East Victoria

The Health Careers Forum is an annual event which brings together many facets of the industry in workshops that showcase and explain health careers both locally and further afield.

Regional Tertiary Information Day, Wangaratta and North East Victoria

An Expo of Tertiary Institutions providing valuable information about post schooling pathways.

Off Campus Events

Winton Hands-on Trades and Pathways Careers Expo

An interactive expo with displays showcasing the various trade careers on offer in the region.

Food and Fibre Careers Day, Dookie

A variety of hands-on workshops for secondary students are held throughout the day at Dookie, showcasing and explaining food and fibre careers.

BiG Day In

The BiG Day In events are aimed at senior secondary school and university students interested in careers in ICT and technology. BiG Day In helps students obtain more information about ICT and technology careers, and helps them make a better informed decision about their future.

Teacher Professional Development

North East Careers Network

NE Tracks LLEN, in collaboration with Charles Sturt University, facilitates a regional network for career practitioners to support teachers and career advisors in regional secondary schools. Members of the network also include tertiary education providers and job service providers. The network meets 8 times a year to share information and resources promoting career and pathway options for students. Network activities also include promotion of professional development for career practitioners, lobbying and advocacy to State Government and input to government inquiries.

<https://www.netracksllen.org.au/ne-careers-advisors-network>

Charles Sturt University Careers Advisers Website

Book an appointment with a Charles Sturt adviser or browse our wealth of resources to help your students make their next step with confidence. Our Insight guide enables students to explore different careers, next steps and undergraduate study. A range of videos, booklets and info sheets and events are available for students and their families. See more at: <https://study.csu.edu.au/career-advisers>

The Mathematical Association of Victoria (MAV) Regional Conference



With a broad and inspiring program, this Regional Conference enables teachers, academics, policy makers, curriculum experts and resource developers to come together to share their collective expertise, experiences and ideas.

The Science Teachers' Association of Victoria (STAV) Regional Conference



The Science Teachers' Association of Victoria, in collaboration with partner schools and Charles Sturt University, conducts a regional conference in Wangaratta annually. The conference provides schools across the region with access to leaders in the fields of science and STEM education. Representing the collective voice of all teachers of science in Victoria, STAV prepares an engaging and stimulating program, suitable for any person involved or interested in science and STEM education; this includes preservice teachers, laboratory technicians, primary, secondary and tertiary educators. For more information contact STAV at (03) 9385 3999 or admin@stav.vic.edu.au



Support for your Studies

At WRSC, we offer you three kinds of study support: Orientation, Study Support and StudyLink. We also have quiet study spaces with Wifi, computers and printing for all our Charles Sturt students to use.

Our aim is to give you the support you need to succeed in your studies, so if there is something you think of that you can't see here, please let us know.



Orientation

At the start of every semester we aim to hold an Orientation and Study Skills Session, for commencing and continuing Charles Sturt students, whether studying online, mixed mode or face to face.

Study Support Sessions

Subject to demand, we can organise a weekly drop-in Study Support Session. Some weeks these will be general, answering your queries and working out who you need to get in touch with. Other weeks we will focus on introducing you to a range of StudyLink courses available for free.

Study Link - Free Short Online Subjects

Study Link at Charles Sturt University offers short, online subjects that prepare students for success in further learning, wherever they choose to study. Whether they are just considering University, studying through other institutions, or heading straight into work, students can take a Study Link subject to up-skill for work, or even just to build and consolidate their own learning across Maths, Science, English and Humanities.

Study Link is ideal if someone:

- has had a break from study
- is about to start a maths or science-based degree and needs to refresh their knowledge
- wants to brush up on grammar
- needs some pointers on academic writing and referencing
- is new to online study
- wants a smooth and easy transition to University

At a glance

Study Link provides a choice of up to 26 short subjects which can all boost university studies by giving you academic skills you will need and a chance to fill any 'knowledge gaps'.

For further exploration of these courses please visit <https://www.csu.edu.au/studylink>.

Facilities



Students and their studies

One of our main purposes here at WRSC is to support Charles Sturt students in their studies through the provision of state of the art facilities including quiet study spaces, equipped with wifi, computers and a printing facility. The impact of this on your studies can be profound:

"I had booked in to do the course by distance education but I had no idea how I would do it. I couldn't believe it when I first came here ... it's an incredible learning environment. I couldn't have achieved what I have without the Charles Sturt Study Centre" Andy, Masters of Education.

At WRSC we also act as a regional exam centre, welcoming students from many universities.

The facilities we have available

With state of the art and recently upgraded facilities, the Wangaratta Regional Study Centre offers individuals, community and organisations a location that:

- Supports teaching, research and the development of knowledge
- Builds industry and community partnership development
- Enhances the delivery of services into this region
- Offers a high quality facility designed to support online delivery
- Has direct access to the Charles Sturt IT network with Interactive Video Teaching capability.

The facilities at the Wangaratta Regional Study Centre include:

- 2 x 40 person seminar rooms which can be joined to accommodate 80
- 40 student Science Laboratory
- Teaching kitchen with 3 phase power attached to seminar room space
- 20 person Information Technology/Computer Lab
- Access to a further 4 x 25 person classrooms
- Open plan student commons facilities with Charles Sturt student computers
- A variety of meeting and break out rooms to hold up to 12
- Video-conferencing facilities for 2 – 40
- Hot desks for visiting Charles Sturt staff and students.

We also collaborate with the new Ovens [Country Universities Centre](#) in Wangaratta, Mansfield and Corryong.

Wet Lab – Teaching and Research



Charles Sturt aims to build aspirations and encourage young people to investigate and explore the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). With a fully equipped, University Science Lab and Prep Rooms on campus, schools are offered the opportunity to create a science learning experience for students in our state-of-the-art facility, while researchers have access to top quality lab space.

Designed to support team-based work, our Teaching Lab is used to strengthen a student's practical understanding of scientific concepts through experiments that link in with the National Curriculum, and more specifically the Victorian Certificate of Education. We would love to have schools use this space to explore, engage with and discover the world of STEM in a University Laboratory.

Facility Use

Teachers are encouraged to bring their classes on campus and use the Teaching Lab for experiments that they may not ordinarily be able to perform in their own labs. There is no charge for the use of the facility but there is a Staff Induction requirement in line with Charles Sturt University's Lab Induction Policy. Once completed, the facility can be booked and used at any time with students.

Equipment such as spectrophotometers, autoclaves, centrifuges, hot plate stirrers and Eppendorf pipettes can extend and complement the Science Curriculum.



Digital Resources Library

A STEM learning curriculum includes the connected areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, is based on real-life applications, and encourages learners to think critically and flexibly in order to adapt to changing situations.



Please find below STEM related resources for use in schools and the community provided by DTAC and Charles Sturt.

Resource	Number
Spheros	15 x Spheros (bundled as one class set)
Sphero Bolts	15 x Sphero Bolts (bundled as one classroom set)
VEX 123 Classroom Kit <i>(On order - available in 2022)</i>	9 x 123 Robots & coders + Field (Bundled as one class set)
VEX GO Classroom Kits	3 x VEX GO classroom Kits (5 x student kits + field tiles in each classroom set)
VEX IQ Kits	8 x VEX IQ student kits (max 2 kits per school – unless negotiated with DTAC for special occasion/event)
Bloxels Set	6 x Bloxels Sets (bundled as one classroom set)
8” Dobsonian Telescopes	3 x 8” Dobsonian Telescopes
Osmo	5 x Osmos (bundled as one classroom set)
Pocket Lab Voyager Kit	10 x Pocket Lab Voyager (bundled as a classroom set)
Vex Field	1 x Vex Field for VEX IQ competitions
Ipads	Ipads are available to be borrowed for resources above if school requires them for use with spheros, sphero bolts, Bloxels & Osmos.

Find further information, links to teacher resources and borrow these items at:

<https://dtac.zone/pages/resources>

VEX 123



VEX 123 is an interactive, programmable robot that takes Computer Science and Computational Thinking off the screen and brings them to life for Pre-K through 3rd Grade students. No Devices? No Problem! The 123 robot is programmable without a computer. Using the VEX Coder and physical cards, you can learn real programming away from screens.

VEX GO



VEX GO is an affordable construction system that teaches the fundamentals of STEM through fun, hands-on activities that help young students perceive coding and engineering in a fun and positive way!

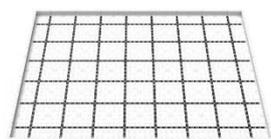
Color-coded VEX GO containers help teachers stay organized while their students are learning on-the-go.

VEX IQ Kit



This VEX IQ Robotics Construction Kit comes with over 750 components (included with 4 motors, a colour sensor, bump switch, touch LED and controller) which you can use to build your own robot so you can develop your STEM learning skills and have fun at the same time. You can find instructions for pre-set builds online, or you can create your own machine then program it using VEXcode. VEXcode is a coding environment with an intuitive layout that meets students at their coding level (blocks & text).

Vex Field



A 6' x 8' VEX IQ field is *required* for use in the VEX IQ Competitions. The field's snap-together construction allows for assembly in minutes. The VEX IQ Field comes in a Carrying Case.

Sphero



The Sphero Enabled Robot is perfect for introducing students to the world of robotics, coding and programming. It's powered by the Lightning Lab app which makes programming quick and easy, allowing you to get started and understand the basics in almost no time. You can use the app to collaborate with users around the world to enhance your own experience.

Sphero Bolt



Sphero BOLT's eye-catching, programmable 8x8 light matrix opens up an endless array of coding and gaming capabilities. Use advanced sensors to track speed, acceleration, and direction, or drive BOLT without having to aim your robot thanks to the compass. BOLT also features infrared communication, allowing your robot to "talk" with other BOLTs. Program BOLT with the Sphero Edu app from nearly any mobile or desktop device, discover awesome community-created activities, or just drive and play.

Osmo



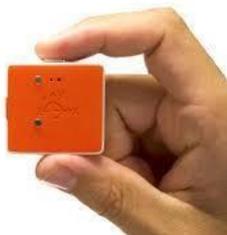
Osmo makes hands-on learning games in which players use objects in the real world to interact with the digital world shown on their iPad. With a focus on problem solving, numeracy, and literacy, students learn abstract concepts by connecting them to objects and actions in the physical world. In addition to teaching traditional subject matter, Osmo games foster social-emotional skills like problem-solving, creativity and perseverance

Bloxels



Bloxels is a hands-on platform for students to build, collaborate, and tell stories through video game creation. Students use coloured blocks to design their characters and settings to tell their own amazing stories! The game board is scanned using the free iPad app to make the creation come to life. This engaging classroom tool is putting learning into the hands of students. Imagine designing a scientific process, a historical location, or even a story about yourself. Bloxels has created lessons plans and activities for you. These easy to follow lessons help bring this amazing makerspace technology to your classroom in Science, History and Math.

Pocket Lab Voyager



Pocket Lab Voyager is an all-in-one science lab that can measure motion, light, magnetic fields, and weather. Pocket Voyagers are perfect for data collection in the classroom. Units are user friendly and require little training to become skilled in their use. Their connectivity to the free app is quick and simple, and the parameters of what is being measured are easily controlled. The units have a multitude of applications, both in and out of the classroom. From simple acceleration experiments to modelling head on collisions, the Pocket Voyagers are the perfect hand held sensor.

8" Dobsonian Telescopes

These are extremely easy to use, sturdy and strong 8" Dobsonian Telescopes. No fancy adjustments required, just aim and look. Great to observe the moon and planets, to inspire all ages.

Note these are quite large items: Weight approx. 13kg, Height approx. 1.5m.



Proudly supported by



Community Partnerships

One of our major goals at WRSC is to build the success of this region, and Charles Sturt is proud to be involved with a broad range of community partnerships working across the North East of Victoria and beyond. Although our partners and partnerships are too numerous to list here, some examples are:

NETracks LLEN



The NE Tracks Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) supports young people and works with schools and other organisations to achieve higher rates of school retention and participation in Education, training and employment. NETracks LLEN includes Benalla, Wangaratta and Mansfield areas. With almost 100 members, our core objective is to improve participation, engagement, attainment and transition outcomes for young people 10-19 years of age.

Digital Technologies Advisory Committee (DTAC)



In Northern Victoria we know that access, ability and affordability all present barriers to digital inclusion, as documented in the current [Australian Digital Inclusion Index Report](#). In response to this, WRSC and Charles Sturt have been a founding member of the organisation now known as DTAC, providing events, advice and resources that give people in our region better access to information and communications technology and the resulting social and economic benefits.

Ovens Murray Digital Futures Coordination Group



Northern Victoria has one of the lowest digital literacy rates in the state, being particularly low in relation to digital ability and attitude. WRSC and Charles Sturt were founding members of what is now the Ovens Murray Digital Futures Coordination Group established by Regional Development Victoria to coordinate the roll out of the [Digital Plan](#) for the region. The success of this approach has been extraordinary, with over \$8 million coming into the region for digital projects.

Goulburn Ovens Tafe



Wangaratta Regional Study Centre was established by both GOTAFE and Charles Sturt, and the partnership is still going strong. We have worked together to allow Charles Sturt to offer both credit and articulated pathways for TAFE students to access ongoing education in a variety of courses. Creating

these kinds of pathways is something very important in a regional area whose workforces need professional development. At WRSC the study spaces and computer labs accommodate both Charles Sturt and GOTAFE students, allowing you to access information in the one virtual environment.

Startup- Shakeup



WRSC and Charles Sturt works with Startup Shakeup to support North East Victorian innovators and entrepreneurs with their start-up ideas, connecting them and building their networks, and opening the door to a variety of learning, development, mentoring and investment opportunities. Startup Shakeup also works with Shakeups – those businesses who realise a need to change what they do. This will ultimately help our region respond to fast paced change and disruption by developing and retaining skills to take advantage of new technologies and ways of working.

Ovens and Murray Agriculture Biz Alliance (OMABA)



Agriculture, food and fibre are a significant industry sector in this region, with many examples of best practice. Our diversity, productive land and plentiful water are amongst our biggest assets, with many opportunities for new and unique enterprises. However our diversity could also be our weakness and so WRSC and Charles Sturt have been working with a group of likeminded organisations to build a regional entity known as OMABA, an organisation of strong coordinated partnerships that collaborate to achieve thriving, innovative and resilient agribusinesses across North East Victoria. In 2019 we co-hosted the Victorian Agribusiness Summit, showcasing a set of inspirational, innovative, grounded speakers from across Australia.

Our Research Partnerships



**Charles Sturt
University**

As a University, Charles Sturt is of course heavily involved in research, particularly in the regions, and at WRSC our aim is to work out how to support research in ways most useful to regional needs.

Some examples of how this works in pure research terms are included overleaf, and we have also facilitated partnerships that see Charles Sturt academics undertaking applied research in areas such as workforce needs for regional bodies such as Regional Development Victoria.

WRSC Honours Research Scholarships and PhD Research support



Charles Sturt students often work on Honours research projects in this region, and to facilitate their success we regularly award small research scholarships. These are intended both to facilitate their work and encourage the presentation of their findings to a regional audience when they have finished. Thus the research becomes doubly valuable, training up future employees and sharing their findings.

Indigo Liveability Index

Population ageing is one of the most important social and policy issues we are facing today. In Australia, the population has been on an ageing trajectory for over the past century and population ageing is well advanced. Adapting now to population ageing is crucial for rural communities to remain thriving places for individuals and families to live, learn, work and play.

“In the Ovens Murray region right now, people aged 60 and over account for an extraordinary 32% of our community. This means there are more people over 60 living, working, learning and contributing to our community than any other group in the population”

- Sandy Austin, Director East Division Health, DHHS, August 2017

The Indigo Liveability Index is a project building on past work that brings together the Institute of Land Water and Society, Indigo Shire, North East Catchment Management Authority and Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning to develop a liveability index for Rutherglen and Chiltern, specifically for the older demographic. This will then form the basis for a further project developing an online Regional Liveability Atlas, with the ability to explore the components of the liveability index at a fine spatial scale across multiple cohorts.

Viticulture and Oenology: Research to Practice



The National Wine and Grape Industry Centre ([NWGIC](#)) is based at Charles Sturt in Wagga Wagga, and involved in conducting a wide variety of research.

After consultation with four of the regional wine associations in North East Victoria, NWGIC brought down a team of researchers presenting to a packed room on various relevant topics such as grapevine trunk disease management; potential biocontrol agents for grapevine phylloxera; benchmarking using both sensory appraisal and chemical analysis; and winemaking interventions for control of spoilage.





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