



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

Teacher's Manual

2024 Sydney
Royal School
Commercial Pig
Competition

22 March - 2 April 2024
Sydney Showground
Sydney Olympic Park

www.rasnsw.com.au

Sydney Royal
SINCE 1822



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INVITATION

The Pig Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW is pleased to invite all NSW schools with the facilities for keeping pigs to participate in the 2024 Sydney Royal School Commercial Pig Competition. This competition is proudly supported by Australian Pork Limited (APL).

WHAT THE COMPETITION AIMS TO ACHIEVE

Preparation for this competition will take place at your school in the lead up to the 2024 Sydney Royal Easter Show and aims to:

- Give students an insight into commercial pig production.
- Allow students to compete in a curriculum linked comparison trial for the growing of pork.
- Assist in giving students a practical, hands-on insight into future employment opportunities within the pork and pig industries.
- Create a component within our pig competition that is both commercially and industry relevant.
- Provide students with the opportunity to compete at the Sydney Royal Easter Show, in particular, schools with limited space for larger livestock.

WHAT THE COMPETITION INVOLVES

To participate in this Competition, schools obtain three (3) pigs by December 2024. The pigs may already reside at the school, or they can be arranged from a supplier/breeder. APL or the RAS can provide assistance if schools do not have pre-existing relationships with a supplier/breeder.

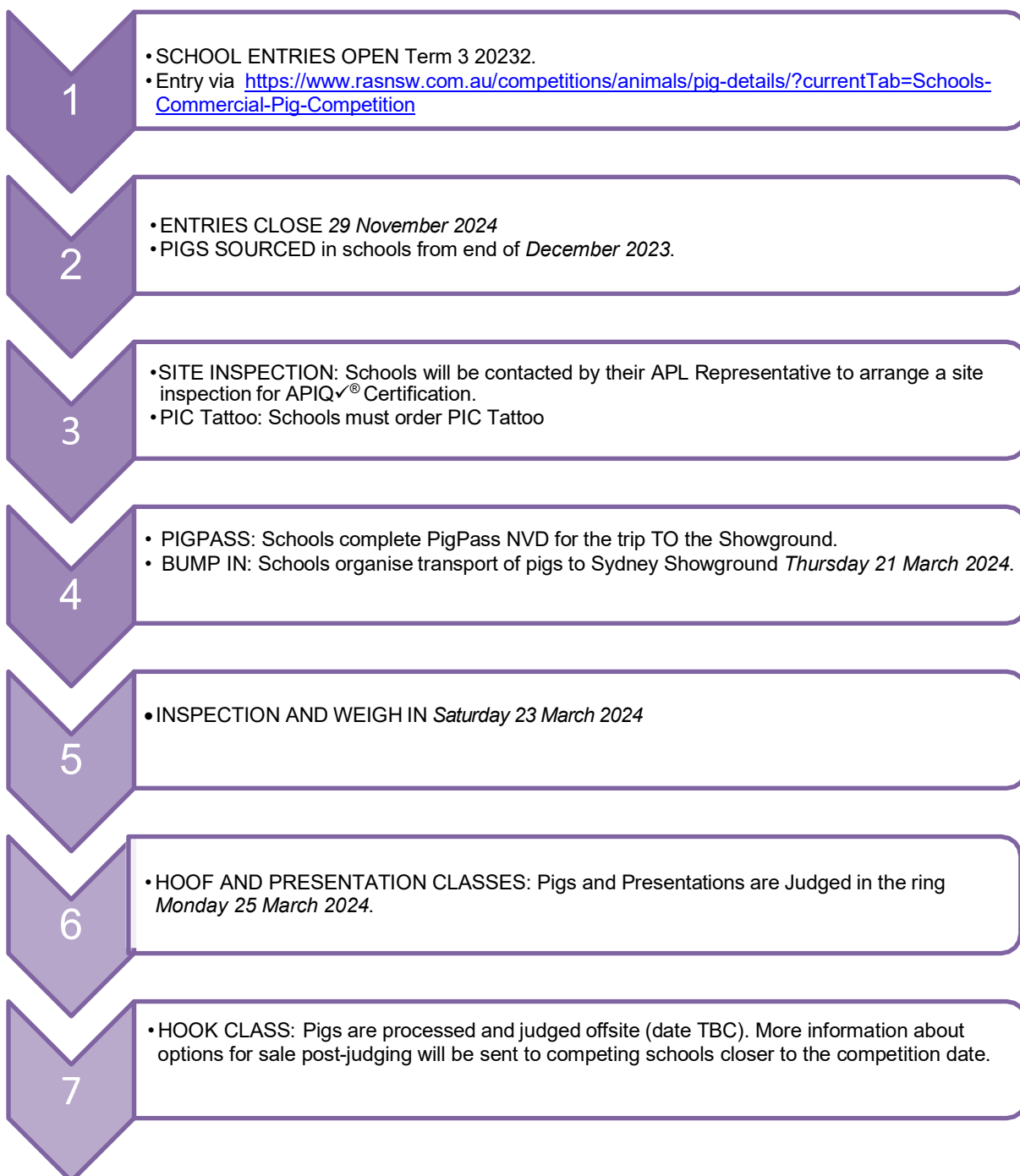
The pigs will be under direct day to day control and management of the school from December 2024 until the conclusion of the Competition (minimum sixty days). Schools are responsible for rearing and preparing the pigs to compete at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.

The 2024 Sydney Royal School Commercial Pig Competition is judged by pig industry experts and consists of three (3) components:

1. **Presentation of Exhibits: On the Hoof (Pen of 3)** pigs are judged on uniformity of weight, body condition, maturity, general conformation, temperament and market suitability (p7).
2. **Presentation Component** – students are asked to submit a project (min. 2min – max. 3min) on a topic related to pig husbandry (p8).
3. **Carcase Component: On the Hook (Pen of 3)** pigs are processed and carcasses are judged on uniformity of weight, body condition and maturity (p9).

More information about options for selling carcasses post-judging will be sent to competing schools closer to the competition date.

COMPETITION TIMELINE



COMPETITION JUDGING TIMETABLE

Sydney Royal Easter Show Dates: **Friday 22 March – Tuesday 2 April 2024.**

Competition Component	Due Date/Judging Date
Inspection and Weigh In	Saturday 23 March 2024
Live Pig Judging	Monday 25 March 2024
Project Component	Monday 25 March 2024
Carcase Component	TBC (offsite)

PIC TATTOO

Schools MUST order a striker (to apply PIC tattoo) for individual pig identification. To order please contact Bainbridge Vet Supplies (sales@bainbridgevet.com.au). Please provide the School PIC Number and NSW mailing address for the striker to be created and delivered.

Please also note, any made to order items such as the striker plates currently have a lead time of approx. 7-8 weeks.

Please refer to the codes below when ordering:

A1046 Pig Striker - NSW (Striker Only - 6 Division)

A1047 Pig Striker with Digits (Plate Only)

A6010 Tattoo Ink Black - 1 Litre

ATTENDING THE SHOW FOR COMPETITION

All Teachers and Students are required to familiarise themselves with the Conditions of Entry outlined in the RAS General Regulations and the 2024 Sydney Royal Pig Schedule. These will be available on the RAS website soon.

TO ENTER

The Competition is FREE to enter. Exhibitors must adhere to the Conditions of Entry to Sydney Showground, the RAS General Regulations and the Special Pig Regulations, located at www.rasnsw.com.au Schools must be able to meet the requirements for the Australia Pork Quality Assurance Program (APIQ®) Certification to be eligible to compete. This Competition is limited to one entry per School.

To participate in the 2024 Sydney Royal School Commercial Pig Competition at the 2024 Sydney Royal Easter Show please complete the online entry on the RAS Website <https://www.rasnsw.com.au/competitions/animals/pig-details/?currentTab=Schools-Commercial-Pig-Competition>

THE COMPETITION AWARDS

The results of the 2024 Sydney Royal School Commercial Pig Competition will be awarded in-ring.

Awards Include:

1. PRESENTATION OF EXHIBITS (On The Hoof)
2. CARCASE COMPONENT (On The Hook)
3. PROJECT COMPONENT
4. MOST SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL
5. Awarded to the school that has competed to the highest standard in all three elements of the Commercial Competition: On the Hoof, On the Hook, and Commercial Pig Competition Project.
1st prize to count as 3 points, 2nd prize to count as 2 points and 3rd as 1 point.
Should there be fewer than three Awards in any one Class, points should be on the said basis in order of merit.
RAS Award of Excellence Medallion for Most Successful School Commercial Pig Competition

USING THE COMPETITION FOR LEARNING

The 2024 Sydney Royal School Commercial Pig Competition has been developed as a scientific trial investigating the commercial production of pigs and pork. Completing the trial with your students can cover a number of curriculum areas supporting a pig unit of work.

NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum – Science K-10 Syllabus	
Stage 1	
Skills	ST1-4WS A student investigates questions and predictions by collecting and recording data, sharing and reflecting on their experiences and comparing what they and others know.
Knowledge and Understanding	ST1-10LW A student describes external features, changes in and growth of living things.
Stage 2	
Skills	ST2-4WS A student investigates their questions and predictions by analysing collected data suggesting explanations for their findings and communicating and reflecting on the processes undertaken.
Knowledge and Understanding	ST2-10LW A student describes that living things have life cycles, can be distinguished from non-living things and grouped, based on their observable features.
Stage 3	
Skills	ST3-4WS A student investigates by posing questions, including testable questions, making predictions and gathering data to draw evidence-based conclusions and develop explanation.
Knowledge and Understanding	ST3-11LW A student describes some physical conditions of the environment and how these affect the growth and survival of living things.
Stage 4	
Skills	SC4-6WS A student follows a sequence of instructions to safely undertake a range of investigation types, collaboratively and individually. SC4-7WS A student processes and analyses data from a first-hand investigation and secondary sources to identify trends, patterns and relationships, and draw conclusions. SC4-9WS A student presents science ideas, findings and information to a given audience using appropriate scientific language, text types and representations.
Knowledge and Understanding	SC4-14LW A student relates the structure and function of living things to their classification, survival and reproduction.
Stage 5	
Skills	SC5-6WS A student undertakes first-hand investigations to collect valid and reliable data and information, individually and collaboratively. SC5-7WS A student processes, analyses and evaluates data from first-hand investigations and secondary sources to develop evidence-based arguments and conclusions. SC5-9WS A student present science ideas and evidence for a particular purpose and to a specific audience, using appropriate scientific language, conventions and representations.
Knowledge and Understanding	SC5-14LW A student analyses interactions between components and processes within biological systems.

NSW Education Standards Authority (Board of Studies) Agricultural Technology Years 7-10 Syllabus

Stage 4

AG4-3 A student identifies and explains interactions between the agricultural sector and Australia's economy, culture and society.

AG4-10 A student implements and appreciates the application of animal welfare guidelines to agricultural practices.

AG4-11 A student undertakes controlled experiments in agricultural contexts.

AG4-12 A student communicates experimental data using a range of information and communicates technologies.

AG4-14 A student demonstrates plant and/or animal management practices safely and in collaboration with others.

AG4-7 A student identifies and uses skills to manage the interactions within animal production enterprises.

Stage 5

AG5-4 A student investigates and implements responsible production systems for plant and animal enterprises.

AG5-10 A student implements and justifies the application of animal welfare guidelines to agricultural practices.

AG5-12 A student collects and analyses agricultural data and communicates results using a range of technologies.

AG5-14 A student demonstrates plant and/or animal management practices safely and in collaboration with others.

AG5-7 A student explains and evaluates the impact of management decisions on animal production enterprises.

NSW Education Standards Authority Technology Mandatory Years 7-8 Syllabus (2017) - Agriculture and Food Technologies

Outcomes	TE4-5AG A student investigates how food and fibre are produced in managed environments
Identifying and Defining	Students investigate how food and fibre production is managed in environments as a system and how sustainability can be improved, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plants and/or animal species grown in managed environments
Researching and Planning	Students investigate ideal conditions for growth and development of an agricultural plant or animal

JUDGING CRITERIA –ON THE HOOF (PEN OF 3)

Schools' Pen of Three pigs will be judged on the below criteria, with emphasis placed on uniformity of the three pigs:

Exhibition of Pen of Three Judging Criteria							
<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Score Pig1</i>	<i>Score Pig 2</i>	<i>Score Pig 3</i>	<i>Pen Total</i>	<i>Guidelines /10</i>	<i>Guidelines /15</i>	<i>Guidelines /20</i>
Exhibit Type	/20	/20	/20	/60	Low Performing Score 0-4 Average Performing Score 5-7 High Performing Score 8-10	Low Performing Score 0-7 Average Performing Score 8-12 High Performing Score 12-15	Low Performing Score 0-10 Average Performing Score 10-15 High Performing Score 16-20
Exhibit Temperament	/10	/10	/10	/30			
Market Suitability	/10	/10	/10	/30			
Pen of 3 Average (max 40)				$\frac{\text{TOTAL}}{3}$			
Live Weight	/30	/30	/30	/90			
Pen of 3 Average (max 30)				$\frac{\text{TOTAL}}{3}$			
Presentation of Pigs	/15	/15	/15	/45			
Presentation of Handlers and Handling	/15	/15	/15	/45			
Pen of 3 Average (max 30)				$\frac{\text{TOTAL}}{3}$			
Individual Pig Total	/100	/100	/100	/100			

EXHIBIT TYPE

Pigs must be functional and structurally sound. Judges will review the head, body, legs and feet to ensure the pigs can eat, drink and move with ease and smoothness, as well as their ability to yield a good quality carcass.

EXHIBIT TEMPERAMENT

Pigs must be calm in the Show ring and exhibit characteristics of a well-handled animal. Pigs with aggressive, stressed or anxious tendencies are not suitable for commercial piggeries.

MARKET SUITABILITY

Pigs must meet the required specifications for their destined market including weight, fat cover and muscularity.

LIVE WEIGHT

Each pig must weigh between 65kg and 75kg on the day of weighing. Points will be deducted for every kilogram above or below specified weight range, and for variance within the pen of 3.

PRESENTATION OF PIGS

Pigs must be clean and well-handled before entering the Show ring. Pigs must be calm and move when directed by handlers to present for the judge.

PRESENTATION OF HANDLERS AND HANDLING

Handlers are required to be well-presented, remain calm in the Show ring and be attentive to the Judge and Ring Stewards at all times. Handlers must be suitably attired in clean, white coats with boots or strong shoes.

INDIVIDUAL PIG

The pig with the highest individual score when judged within the pen of three will be awarded 'Best Individual Score' for the 'On the Hoof' competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA – ON THE HOOK (Pen of 3)

Schools' Pen of Three Carcasses will be judged on the below criteria, with emphasis placed on uniformity of the three pigs:

Carcase Judging Criteria				
<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Score Pig 1</i>	<i>Score Pig 2</i>	<i>Score Pig 3</i>	<i>Guidelines /10</i>
Pig Identification	/10	/10	/10	Low Performing Score 0-7 Average Performing Score 8-12 High Performing Score 12-15
Eye Muscle Area	/10	/10	/10	
Butt Shape (A-10, B-8, C-6, D-4, E-2)	/10	/10	/10	
Meat Texture	/10	/10	/10	
Fat Depth and Distribution	/10	/10	/10	
Carcase Weight (specification of 45-55kg)	/10	/10	/10	
Carcase Yield (70% plus specification)	/10	/10	/10	
Total	/70	/70	/70	

PIG IDENTIFICATION

Pigs must have suitable identification for processing.

EYE MUSCLE AREA

The Eye Muscle (loin) Area is assessed for muscularity, trimness and meat quality. The Eye Muscle Area should appear full and well-rounded with less fat over the loin and fine textured, bright, reddish pink meat.

BUTT SHAPE (A-E)

The Butt Shape will be assessed for muscularity, trimness and meat quality. The Butt should demonstrate thickness, width, length, plumpness with less fat over the collar and belly pocket (flank).

MEAT TEXTURE

Exposed lean (meat) will be assessed for texture qualities and are expected to be fine textured with bright, reddish pink meat. Pale, soft watery lean is undesirable as is dark, firm lean. Pork carcasses can also exhibit PSE (pale, soft exudative meat), which will be heavily penalised.

FAT DEPTH AND DISTRIBUTION

Exterior and interior carcass fat will be assessed on depth, distribution firmness, colour, dryness and marbling. Less external fat over the entire carcass is desirable however in contrast; a high degree of feathering (streaks of fat in meat between rib bones) is a desirable internal fat trait. Firm, bright white, dry fat cover that is evenly distributed across the carcass indicates a good quality carcass.

CARCASS WEIGHT

Each pig must weigh between 45kg and 55kg each. Points will be deducted for every kilogram above or below specified weight range and for variance within the pen of 3.

CARCASS YIELD

Pig Carcass Yield is assessed through consideration of the muscularity and trimness. A highly muscled, lean carcass will produce more quality retail cuts than a less muscled, highly fatty carcass.

INDIVIDUAL PIG

The pig with the highest individual score when judged within the pen of three will be awarded 'Best Individual Score' for the 'On the Hook' competition.

JUDGING CRITERIA – PROJECT PRESENTATION

Students are asked to create projects on one of the following topics:

- Pig Production - overview of the types of commercial pig production (free range, outdoor bred, indoor)? proportion of industry of each? pros and cons of each?
- Sustainability – what technologies and practices does the pork industry use? how do they make it more sustainable than some other agricultural industries?
- Pig Breeds - what breeds of pig are there in Australia? which are most popular (and why)? what are some traits of each?
- Biosecurity – what is it? why do we do it? key things to remember/consider.
- Nutrition – essential dietary requirements, how diets change with pig life-stage (and why)
- Pork – what are the most popular cuts and where on the pig do they come from? how much pork do Australians eat? compared to other countries.
- Quality Assurance - what is it? what does it consist of in the pig industry? why it is important?
- Traceability – what technologies and practices does the pork industry use to ensure we know where pigs/pork has come from? why it is important?

Presentations of student projects should go for a minimum of 2 minutes – maximum of 3 minutes.

Category	Project Presentation Judging Criteria				Score
	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Excellent	
Score	1-2	3-5	6-8	9-10	
Topic Content 30%	Presentation includes little summary of the topic. Student description of topic is minimal with few details.	Presentation includes a basic summary of the topic. Student engagement with topic is limited in fact and detail.	Presentation includes good summarisation of the topic. Student engagement with topic includes appropriate facts and relevant descriptive details.	Presentation includes an excellent summary of the topic. Student engagement with the topic is skillful and includes many appropriate facts, details and experiences.	
Research 30%	The presentation demonstrates little research. Data is not included.	The presentation shows a basic attempt to include research and discussion. Data collection has been attempted and included in the project.	The presentation includes good research and discussion. Good data collection and organisation, such as a table.	The presentation includes excellent research and discussion. Excellent data collection and organisation such as tables, graphs and /or charts.	
Presentation 20%	Students make little reference to data and research in presentation.	Students make basic reference to data and research in presentation.	Students make good use of data and research in presentation.	Students make excellent use of data and research to support their presentation.	
Structure 10%	Overall project has limited structure.	Overall project has basic structure/or some formatting mistakes.	Overall project is structured, with minimal formatting mistakes.	Overall project is well structured, with appropriate formatting.	
Oral Presentation Skills 10%	Students unprepared to present, with a marked lack of eye contact. Poor pacing and tone.	Students somewhat prepared, with some eye contact or gestures. Inappropriate tone or pacing.	Students are well- prepared and deliver with eyecontact and appropriate gestures. Enthusiastic tone and good pacing.	Students are very well prepared and deliverideas clearly & with enthusiasm. Eye contact, pacing and gestures contribute well to the presentation.	
					<i>Total</i>

PIG EXHIBITION ASSISTANCE**PREPARING FOR SHOW CHECKLIST**

Checklist		Ready?
1. Handling and Training	<p>The pigs will be moved in and out of pens and the Show ring a number of times throughout their time at the Show. It is important for students to handle the pigs with pig boards regularly to prepare for Showing.</p> <p>Construct a practice ring (small yard) for students to spend 20-30mins per session walking the pigs in circles using the boards to change direction by blocking their field of vision and encourage movement with light, regular contact. Practice sessions should be both individual pigs and working in a pen of 3.</p>	
2. Washing and Cleaning	<p>Pigs should be washed and brushed in preparation for the Show.</p> <p>Using warm, soapy water and a brush (horse or cattle brushes work well and are cheap from your local stockfeed store) to remove dirt, food and faecal matter from the pig's body, head and legs. Pay particular attention to the legs and feet. Take care not to get soap into the ears or eyes of the pigs.</p> <p>It is also important to use both soap and bucket as well as a hose to ensure pigs are desensitised to the different types of cleaning. Washing and cleaning is a great way to give your pig handling practice as well as prepare the pig for different activities it will participate in at the Show.</p>	
3. Feeding and Watering	<p>After cleaning, ensure your pigs have immediate access to feed and water.</p> <p>Pigs should be on a grower/finisher ration.</p>	
4. Packing List	<p>Please ensure you bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pigs! - Pig Food - Feed Bowls - White Dust Coats and boots or strong shoes (for showing) - Stock Boards - Washing Equipment - Pig Presentation on a USB <p>Please note: the RAS will supply straw for bedding (students are responsible for maintaining a clean area).</p>	

PREPARING FOR TRANSPORT CHECKLIST

Checklist		Ready?
1. Health	Your pigs must be in good health prior to transport. Any animals with signs of disease, injury or illness should be reviewed and not transported.	
2. Trailer/Float	<p>A plan of transport that includes a safe and efficient vessel (vehicle, trailer) and route should be prepared well before departure.</p> <p>Trips over 3 hours should be allow for stoppages.</p>	

3. PigPass (NVD)	<p>A PigPass NVD must be completed for your journey to the Show. Please contact the APL PigPass helpline for more information.</p> <p>If using a transport company, please complete appropriate sections and give the green and white sections to the transporter. If transporting the pigs, yourself, please supply the completed white copy to the RAS.</p> <p>1. Please complete a PigPass FROM your School TO the Sydney Showground using the details below: Consigned to: Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Consignee Address: 1 Showground Rd, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127 Destination of Pigs – same as consignee address: YES Are they consigned to a: Show/Event</p>	
4. Show Preparation	<p>Make sure you are familiar with the Show Rules and Regulations which are printed in the Schedule, to ensure you have the required dress and know how to handle your goats in the pavilion and on presentation day.</p>	

AT THE SHOW CHECKLIST

Checklist		Ready?
1. Feeding and Watering	<p>Schools are responsible for feeding and watering their pigs EVERY DAY of the show. All pigs shall be fed and attended by the Students, who shall be responsible for the cleanliness and proper condition of the pens and shall be subject to the control of the Superintendent of the section appointed by the RAS.</p>	
2. Cleaning/Mucking Out	<p>Schools must complete cleaning of pens. Each school is responsible for the removal of soiled straw and manure from their pens – PRIOR to 7am each day.</p>	
3. Judging Day	<p>To prepare for judging, each school will move their pigs (when directed by Stewards) to a holding pen adjacent to the judging ring. For Judging, each group of three pigs will then be led into the ring and allowed to roam; they can be 'handled' in the ring using pig boards (no sticks or whips are to be used on the Showground). Stewards and Officials will be on hand to direct and assist – we recommend you restrict the number of students entering the ring for ease.</p> <p>The pen of three are judged and returned to their ringside pen. When directed by Stewards, pigs can be returned to their home pen.</p>	
4. Learn, Learn, Learn!	<p>Enjoy the experience and the camaraderie of your fellow students, but also make time to speak to others in the shed. Learn from watching how others prepare their pigs and present them in the ring. Don't be afraid to ask exhibitors why they do certain things, or for advice when cleaning or mucking out – they've often been showing for years and are more than happy to help. Feel free to ask for help or feedback from the Officials too – identified by the colourful badges on their dustcoats.</p>	

RECOMMENDED RESEARCH RESOURCES

Sydney Royal Pig Show

<https://www.rasnsw.com.au/sydney-royal-competitions/competitions/pig/pig-school-competitions/schools-commercial-pig-competition/>

Australian Pork Limited – Husbandry Resources

<https://australianpork.com.au/about-pig-farming>

Australian Pork Limited – Teaching Resources

<https://australianpork.com.au/classroom-activities>

Australian Pork Limited/ APIQ[✓]® Management (APIQM) 1800 789 099

PigPass Helpdesk 1800 001 458

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW – Education Department

www.rasnsw.com/education

NSW Department of Education Animals in Schools

Keeping Pigs at your school is an enjoyable and rewarding experience for students. Appropriate care is paramount. Schools are required to be familiar with and satisfy the requirements of the *Animal Research Act 1985* (NSW) and the *Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes*. <https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/animals-in-schools/animals-in-schools-species/pigs>

Department of Primary Industries – Pig Resources

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/pigs