



Royal Agricultural Society of NSW

Teacher's Manual

2026 Sydney
Royal School
Angora Wether
Competition

2 - 13 April 2026
Sydney Showground
Sydney Olympic Park
www.rasnsw.com.au



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Invitation

The Goat Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) is delighted to extend an invitation to all New South Wales schools that have the appropriate facilities for keeping goats to take part in the 2026 Sydney Royal School Angora Wether Competition.

This unique educational initiative offers students a hands-on opportunity to engage with the angora goat industry, develop practical animal husbandry skills, and participate in a structured, curriculum-aligned trial that culminates in showcasing their work at the prestigious Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Participation not only supports agricultural learning outcomes but also fosters teamwork, responsibility, and pride in student achievement.

What the Competition Aims to Achieve

The 2026 Sydney Royal School Angora Wether Competition is designed to provide a rich, hands-on learning experience that connects students with the agricultural industry—specifically, the commercial production of angora goats and mohair. The competition aims to:

- **Promote Agricultural Education** - Introduce students to the principles of livestock management, animal welfare, and sustainable farming practices through direct involvement in goat rearing and care.
- **Develop Practical Skills** - Equip students with real-world skills in animal husbandry, including feeding, housing, health management and grooming, while reinforcing the importance of biosecurity and ethical treatment of animals.
- **Encourage Scientific Inquiry** - Engage students in a structured trial that involves data collection, observation, and analysis of goat growth and mohair production, fostering critical thinking and scientific literacy.
- **Support Curriculum Integration** - Align with key learning outcomes across subjects such as Agriculture, Science, Technology, and Business Studies, making it a valuable addition to school programs.
- **Foster Industry Awareness** - Provide insight into the Australian angora and mohair industries, including economic considerations, market trends, and career pathways.
- **Build Confidence and Teamwork** - Encourage collaboration, communication, and leadership as students work together to prepare their entries and present their projects at the Sydney Royal Easter Show.
- **Celebrate Student Achievement** - Offer a platform for students to showcase their hard work, knowledge, and dedication in a prestigious, real-world setting.

What the Competition Involves

The 2026 Sydney Royal School Angora Wether Competition will be conducted as a school-based trial, where students will rear and prepare goats for exhibition at the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Each participating school team will consist of a pen of three wethers, and schools are welcome to enter multiple teams.

To be eligible, schools must have goats under their direct, daily care and management throughout the trial period (October 2025 – April 2026).

All schools entering the Angora Wether Competition will automatically participate in the following four components:

- **Group of Three:** A pen of three goats will be judged on uniformity in weight, fleece quality, body condition, maturity, overall conformation, and temperament.

- **Production Class:** Goats will be assessed on mohair and carcass traits, including maturity and body condition. Mohair samples will be evaluated for fibre diameter, length, strength, yield, and other key quality indicators. All goats will be shorn, with fleeces weighed and valued based on current market prices.
- **Project Presentation:** Students will deliver a 2–3 minute in-ring presentation at the Show, outlining how the goats were raised and prepared, with reference to the Australian angora and mohair industry and data collected during the school trial.
- **Herdsmen Competition:** Schools will be judged on the overall presentation and maintenance of their team, including the grooming of goats, cleanliness and layout of pens, and student interaction with the public.

Schools completing all components will be eligible for the Most Successful School Award.

Students are welcome to participate in the Angora Wether Paraders' Competition; however, taking part is entirely optional for each individual student.

How to Enter

Entry to the Competition is free of charge, and all participating schools will receive support in sourcing angora wethers from a registered breeder if requested.

All exhibitors must comply with the Conditions of Entry to Sydney Showground, the RAS General Regulations, and the Special Goat Regulations, which can be found at www.rasnswnsw.com.au.

To register for the 2026 Sydney Royal School Angora Wether Competition, please complete your entry online at www.myras.org.au. Should you have any questions about the competition, please contact the RAS Goat Section on (02) 9704 1211 or email goat@rasnswnsw.com.au.

Discounted School Show Tickets

Participating Schools are eligible to apply for up to ten (10) one day entry passes, issued at the discretion of the Events Manager and only upon request. Contact goat@rasnswnsw.com.au for further details.

Schools will also be eligible to purchase additional discounted tickets to visit the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show. These tickets can be purchased via the Sydney Royal Easter Show website, alternatively please contact education@rasnswnsw.com.au for more information.

Competition Guidelines

- Wethers must be at least 12 months old or older at the time of the competition.
- All wethers must be halter-trained and accustomed to handling.
- Wethers must be under the direct, daily care of the exhibiting school from no later than **29 October 2025** and remain so until the conclusion of the competition.
- All wethers must be "Regulation Shorn," meaning they must be shorn on or after **7 October 2025**.
- Each wether must be tagged and tattooed for identification purposes.
- Wethers must meet the RAS Goat Health Standards, and schools must submit all required health documentation by **18 February 2026**.

Competition Timeline

Please note that dates are subject to change.

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entries Close: Wednesday 29 October 2025• Enter at www.myras.org.au
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Angora Goats to be under day to day management of the school from October 2025
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goat health forms are due to RAS: Wednesday 18 February 2026
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sydney Royal Easter Show Bump In and Inspection: Sunday 4 April 2026
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Herdsman Competition judged over duration of the 2026 Sydney Royal Easter Show
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Group of Three: Tuesday 7 April 2026
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Production component: Tuesday 7 April 2026
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Presentation: Tuesday 7 April 2026
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wether Paraders: Wednesday 8 April 2026
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bump out: Wednesday 8 April 2026

Wether Paraders Competition (optional – not included in the overall competition awards)

The Angora Goat Wether Paraders Competition is a valuable educational event designed to teach students the art and discipline of presenting livestock with confidence, care, and professionalism in front of a judge. This competition highlights the importance of animal handling, presentation skills, and personal conduct in the show ring.

Key Requirements:

- All wethers must be halter-trained and responsive to handling to ensure safe and effective presentation.
- Only current students enrolled at the exhibiting school are eligible to compete.
- Competitors must wear a clean, white dustcoat along with boots or sturdy closed-toe shoes to ensure both safety and a professional appearance in the ring.

Entry Information:

- Entries for the Wether Paraders Competition are separate from the main School Angora Wether Competition.
- Schools and students interested in participating must submit entries online via www.myras.org.au.

This competition not only builds confidence but also encourages students to take pride in their animal care and presentation abilities. It's an excellent opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge, preparation, and connection with their animals in a formal show environment.

Completion of the Competition

At the conclusion of the Competition, all mohair produced by the participating wethers will be collected and sold through the Australian Mohair Marketing Organisation (AMMO). The proceeds from these sales will be returned to the participating schools, providing a valuable opportunity for students to understand the commercial aspect of mohair production and the broader agricultural supply chain.

Following the event, all wethers can be returned to their original breeders, in accordance with any pre-arranged agreements made between each school and breeder.

Competition Awards

1. **Group of Three**

Prize ribbons awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

2. **Production Class**

Prize ribbons awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

3. **Project Competition**

Prize ribbons awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

4. **Herdsmen Competition**

Prize ribbons awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

5. **Most Successful School**

Presented to the school that demonstrates the highest overall performance across the Group of Three, Production Class, Project, and Herdsmen Competition.

- Points are allocated as follows: 1st place = 3 points, 2nd place = 2 points, 3rd place = 1 point.
- If fewer than three awards are given in any category, points will be assigned based on the order of merit.

Using the Competition for Learning

The 2026 Sydney Royal School Angora Wether Competition has been designed as a scientific trial exploring the commercial production of mohair and the management of angora goats. Participating in this trial with your students offers valuable opportunities to integrate learning across multiple curriculum areas, supporting the delivery of a comprehensive unit on goat production.

NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum – Science K-10 Syllabus

Early-Stage 1

Skills	STe-4WS A student explores their immediate surroundings by questioning, observing using their senses and communicating to share their observations and ideas.
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Knowledge and understanding	STe-8NE A student identifies the basic needs of living things.
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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.
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Knowledge and understanding	ST1-10LW A student describes external features, changes in and growth of living things.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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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.
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Stage 4

Skills	<p>SC4-6WS A students follow a sequence of instructions to safely undertake a range of investigation types, collaboratively and individually.</p> <p>SC4-7WS A student processes and analyses data from first-hand investigation and secondary sources to identify trends, patterns and relationships, and draw conclusions.</p> <p>SC4-9WS A student presents science ideas, findings and information to a given audience using appropriate scientific language, text types and representations.</p>
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Knowledge and understanding	SC4-14LW A student relates the structure and function of living things to their classification, survival and reproduction.
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Stage 5

Skills	<p>SC5-6WS A student undertakes first-hand investigations to collect valid and reliable data and information, individually and collaboratively.</p> <p>SC5-7WS A student processes, analyses and evaluates data from first-hand investigations and secondary sources to develop evidence-based arguments and conclusions.</p> <p>SC5-9WS A student presents science ideas and evidence for a particular purpose and to a specific audience, using appropriate scientific language, conventions and representations.</p>
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Knowledge and understanding	SC5-14LW A student analyses interactions between components and processes within biological systems.
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NSW Education Standards Authority 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"> Plant 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 Summary

Group of Three

Each entry in the competition must consist of three Angora wethers, each at least 12 months old and carrying a commercial-length fleece, a minimum of six months' growth suitable for mohair production. This class is designed to evaluate the consistency and quality of animal care and fibre development across a team, with judging focused on uniformity, fleece quality, body condition, conformation, temperament, and production profitability.

Uniformity is a key judging factor. The three goats should closely resemble one another in size, fleece characteristics, and overall appearance, reflecting consistent management and care. Selecting animals of similar age helps ensure uniformity in physical development and fleece type. Larger animals are generally preferred, as they offer more surface area for fleece production. Judges will also consider horn structure, horns should clear the head and neck, curve away from the body, and have a reasonable gap at the base to prevent injury and assist with shearing. Pigmentation, such as black spots on the skin around the eyes, nose, and ears, should be minimised, as it may be penalised by some judges.

Fleece quality will be assessed based on length, density, lustre, and cleanliness. Ideal mohair should be bright and lustrous, not dull under light, and have a natural greasy feel without being harsh to the touch. Fleece should cover the animal evenly from chest to rump and exhibit a good balance of style (twist) and character (wave or crimp), with uniform fineness throughout. All three animals should present the same fleece type such as kid, young goat, or fine hair to ensure consistency. Fleece must be free from vegetable matter, matting, and staining, as these reduce its commercial value.

Body condition is another important aspect. Judges will look for animals that are healthy, well-fed, and appropriately muscled. Maturity will be evaluated by examining skeletal structure and muscle development to ensure the goats are progressing appropriately for their age. Structural soundness, and conformation, will also be considered. Faults such as weak backs, poor pasterns, or abnormal gait can hinder mobility and reduce productivity. Goats must be able to access food and water effectively, as poor mobility directly impacts their ability to thrive and produce fleece.

Temperament plays a role in scoring as well. Calm, well-handled goats that respond positively to halter training reflect good animal welfare and training practices and are easier to manage in both show and production environments.

Finally, production profitability is a critical consideration. Judges will assess whether each animal can maintain high fleece quantity and quality over time before its meat value surpasses its fleece value. Understanding fleece classification terms such as fine kid, kid, young goat, and fine hair and their associated micron ranges is essential. For example, a two-year-old goat still producing kid fleece is more productive than one producing fine hair indicating a longer fleece producing lifespan. Resources like the Mohair Australia classing manual can help exhibitors learn these terms and improve their selection strategies.

All goats must be free from internal and external parasites, such as worms and lice, and must be vaccinated against common diseases including Johne's Disease and Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis (CAE). These health requirements are essential for maintaining biosecurity and ensuring the wellbeing of all animals involved in the competition.

Production Class

In the Production Class component of the competition, each entry must consist of three Angora wethers, all at least 12 months of age and carrying a commercial-length fleece—a minimum of six months' growth suitable for mohair production. This class is designed to evaluate the animals from a commercial production perspective, focusing on both mohair quality and carcass characteristics, while reinforcing the importance of balanced animal care, nutrition, and commercial viability.

Judging begins with a detailed assessment of the mohair fleece, which is the primary focus of this class. Each goat's fleece will be evaluated for length, density, lustre, and overall quality. The goats are shorn as part of the competition, and their fleeces are collected, weighed, and valued according to current market prices, giving participants a real-world understanding of fibre production and its economic implications. The ideal fleece length is "B" length, measuring 125–150 mm per staple (one ringlet). Fleece longer than this is considered overlong and may require trimming to suit processing systems, while shorter fleece can limit usability due to breakage and the need for joining. Exhibitors are encouraged to use fleece rulers from the Australian Mohair Marketing Organisation or Mohair Australia, and to learn how these measurements correspond to hand spans for quick field assessment.

Fleece weight and quality must be balanced to maximise value. For example, 2 kg of fleece at \$55/kg yields \$110, while 6 kg at \$30/kg yields \$180. Both quantity and quality contribute to overall fleece value, so selecting animals with strong fleece characteristics and good body size is essential. Animals aged 12–18 months are ideal, with does often selected for quality and bucks for quantity.

Beyond fleece, judges will assess carcass traits, including maturity and body condition. Animals should demonstrate appropriate physical development for their age, with good muscle tone and fat coverage, indicators of effective nutrition and management. These traits are important for evaluating the animal's suitability for commercial meat production and overall health.

Judging will once again consider the same elements assessed in the Group of Three class. Uniformity is important in team entries. Goats should be similar in size, fleece type, and overall appearance, reflecting consistent care and age. Larger animals are preferred for their greater fleece yield. Judges may also assess horn shape and placement, and will note any pigmentation around the face, which can be penalised.

Fleece quality is judged on length, density, lustre, and cleanliness. Ideal mohair should be bright, soft, and evenly distributed from chest to rump, with consistent fineness and style. All animals should present the same fleece type, and fleeces must be free from vegetable matter and staining.

Body condition and conformation are also key. Goats should be healthy, well-fed, and physically developed for their age. Structural faults like weak backs or poor leg alignment can affect mobility and productivity. Animals must be able to move easily to access food and water.

Temperament contributes to scoring. Calm, well-handled goats that respond to halter training demonstrate good welfare and are easier to manage in both show and production settings.

On the meat value side, Angoras are estimated to dress at 43%, meaning 43% of the live weight (minus fleece) is the hot dressed carcass weight. Animals are weighed prior to shearing, fleece weight is subtracted, and dressed weight is calculated using a spreadsheet formula. Meat value is then determined using the latest Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) pricing, which provides an average across all networks. While animals are not processed at the show, this real-time data offers insight into their potential meat value. Most animals in this class still have significant production potential and will return to farm operations after the event.

Herdsman Competition

The Herdsman Competition is designed to recognise and reward students for their commitment to high standards of animal care, presentation, and public engagement. This component of the competition encourages students to take pride in their work, demonstrate responsibility, and actively promote their involvement in the angora goat industry. Judging will take place throughout the event in the Paddington Pavilion, with assessors observing the ongoing care and presentation of each school's exhibit.

Students will be evaluated across several key areas. The groomed appearance of the goats is a major focus, with judges looking for animals that are clean, well-presented, and handled with care. A high-performing team will demonstrate consistent grooming practices that reflect attention to detail and animal welfare.

The condition and economic use of bedding will also be assessed. Pens should be clean, dry, and appropriately bedded, with minimal waste of materials. Judges will also check for the absence of excretal matter, as cleanliness is essential for both animal health and public presentation.

The condition of feeders is another important criterion. Feeders should be clean, functional, and positioned to allow easy access for the goats without contamination. In addition, the general tidiness of pens will be evaluated, with judges looking for well-organised, safe, and visually appealing setups.

Finally, students will be assessed on their overall presentation, promotion, and knowledge. This includes their ability to speak confidently about their goats, explain their management practices, and engage positively with the public and judges. Schools that demonstrate enthusiasm, professionalism, and a strong understanding of the industry will score highly in this area.

Each of these elements contributes to a total score out of 50, reflecting the comprehensive nature of the Herdsman Competition and its emphasis on both practical skills and educational engagement.

Herdsman Competition			
Criteria	Score	Guidelines /5	Guidelines /10
Groomed Appearance of Goats	/10	Low Performing Score 0-1 Average Performing Score 2-3 High Performing Score 4-5	Low Performing Score 0-4 Average Performing Score 5-7 High Performing Score 8-10
Condition and Economic Use of Bedding	/10		
Absence of Excretal	/5		
Condition of Feeders	/5		
General Tidiness of Pens	/10		
Overall Presentation, Promotion and Knowledge	/10		
Total	/50		

Project Rubric

Each school must create a project detailing how their goats were raised and prepared for the Show, to be presented in-ring on **Tuesday, 7 April 2026**, in a 2–3-minute presentation. The project should show students' understanding of goat growth and demonstrate knowledge of animal care, housing, nutrition, and the economics of the angora industry.

<i>Project Criteria</i>					<i>Score</i>
Category	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Excellent	
Score	1-2	3-5	6-8	9-10	
Content – Project/ Growth 25%	The presentation includes a little summary of the goat growing phase. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Husbandry • Housing • Economics 	The presentation includes a basic summary of the goat growing phase. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Husbandry • Housing • Economics 	The presentation includes a good summarisation of the goat growing phase. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Husbandry • Housing • Economics 	The presentation includes an excellent summary of the goat growing phase. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production • Husbandry • Housing • Economics 	
Content – Industry 25%	The presentation demonstrates little research into and discussion of the Australian Angora and Mohair industry, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production Types • Production in Australia 	The presentation shows a basic attempt to include Australian Angora and Mohair Industry research and discussion, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production Types • Production in Australia 	The presentation shows good research into and discussion of Australian Angora and Mohair Industry, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production Types • Production in Australia 	The presentation shows excellent research into and discussion of Australian Angora and Mohair Industry, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production Types • Production in Australia 	
Organisation of Growth Data 15%	Data is not included.	Data collection has been attempted and included in the project.	Good data collection and organisation, such as a table.	Excellent data collection and organisation such as tables, graphs and/or charts.	
Presentation & Structure 15%	Students make little reference to data and research in presentation. Overall project has limited structure.	Students make basic references to data and research in presentation. Overall project has basic structure/or some formatting mistakes.	Students make good use of data and research in presentation. The overall project is structured, with minimal formatting mistakes.	Students use data and research to support their presentation. The overall project is well structured, with appropriate formatting.	
Oral Presentation Skills 20%	Students are unprepared to present, with a marked lack of eye contact. Poor pacing and tone.	Students are somewhat prepared, with some eye contact and gestures. Inappropriate tone or pacing.	Students are well-prepared and deliver with eye contact and appropriate gestures. Enthusiastic tone and good pacing.	Students are very well prepared and deliver ideas clearly with enthusiasm. Eye contact, pacing and gestures contribute well to the presentation.	
Total					

Goat Husbandry

Arrival at School

- Record the first round of trial data, using the sample provided on page 13 of the booklet as a reference.
- It is strongly recommended that wethers be kept separate from other goats to minimise the risk of disease transmission. For schools receiving goats, it is advised that animals be treated for parasites and common diseases either immediately after shearing or upon arrival at the school.
- All goats must be tagged or tattooed for clear identification.

Preparing for the Show

Checklist		Ready?
1. Handling & Training	<p>Goats must be trained to calmly accept being tied for grooming, having their legs lifted for inspection, and allowing their mouths to be checked. They should also be comfortable being led to and from the show ring, touched by unfamiliar people, and having their feet positioned to stand correctly and quietly in a lineup.</p> <p>To support this, schools are encouraged to set up a practice ring where students can regularly walk their goats in circles. Training should include both individual handling and working with the full group of three wethers to simulate show conditions and improve confidence for both students and animals.</p>	
2. Washing & Cleaning	<p>Goats should be washed and brushed in preparation for the Show.</p> <p>Using warm, soapy water and a brush to remove dirt, food, and faecal matter from the body, head, and legs. Pay particular attention to the legs and feet. It is also important to use both soap and bucket as well as a hose to ensure goats are desensitised to different types of cleaning.</p> <p>Washing and cleaning is a great way to give your goat handling practice as well as prepare it for different activities it will participate in at the Show.</p>	
3. Cleaning their housing & pen area	<p>Maintain a clean environment for your animals to prevent fleece contamination from vegetable matter and stains. Provide access to a secure, fenced run with grass or pasture for grazing. Regularly clean the water trough and any areas where goats may rest to avoid buildup of urine and faeces. Ensuring a clean, comfortable space supports the overall health and wellbeing of your goats.</p>	
4. Packing List	<p>Please ensure you bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sufficient feed for your goats to last the duration of the event• Buckets for water• Clean feed bins• Hay bays• Mesh to place over straw bedding in pens• A rake or broom for cleaning and maintenance• School banners for display• Information sheets or signage about your wether(s)• White Dust Coats and boots or strong shoes (for showing)• Goat PowerPoint Presentation on a USB this can also be emailed ahead of time to the RAS Goat Section goat@rasnsw.com.au <p>Please note: the RAS will supply straw for bedding (students are responsible for maintaining a clean area).</p>	

Preparing for Transport

Checklist		Ready?
1. Health	Your goats must be in good health prior to transport. Any animal with signs of disease, injury or illness should be reviewed and not transported.	
2. Trailer or Ute	A plan for transport that includes a safe and efficient vehicle and route should be prepared well before departure. Trips over 3 hours should allow for stops and water offered to animals.	
3. Mandatory Documents	<p>Schools are required to provide the identification numbers of all goats when entering the Competition.</p> <p>Schools must complete and return the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sydney Royal Goat Show Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis(CAE) Health Declaration • Goat Herd Health Status Declaration for Shows and Sales • National Goat Health Statement <p>These Forms will be obtainable from www.rasnsw.com.au and must be emailed to the RAS Goat Section by Wednesday 18 February 2026.</p> <p>Schools must also complete a National Vendor Declaration (NVD) to be handed to Officials at inspection of the goats on arrival to the Showground. For more information, visit: www.integritysystems.com.au.</p>	

For more information on whether your goats are fit to load please have a look at [MLA Fit to Load Document](#)

Inspection & Weigh In

Exhibitors are reminded to review the Special Regulations concerning animals that are sick or diseased, as well as the inspection process for verifying type, identification, description, and eligibility.

All exhibitors must present copies of current registration papers at the time of inspection upon arrival.

Important: Schools are required to participate in the official inspection and weigh-in on **Sunday 4 April 2026**.

At the Show

Checklist		Ready?
1. Feeding and Watering	Schools are responsible for feeding and watering their goats every day of the show. All goats shall be fed and attended by the students, who shall be responsible for cleanliness and proper condition of the pens and shall be subject to the control of the Superintendent of the section appointed by the RAS.	
2. Cleaning & Mucking Out	Schools must complete cleaning of pens. Each school is responsible for the removal of soiled straw and manure from their pen prior to 7am each day.	
3. Judging Day	<p>To prepare for judging, each school will move their goats (when directed by Stewards) to a holding pen adjacent to the judging ring. During Judging, each group of three goats will be led into the ring and allowed to roam (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, goats can be returned to their pen.</p>	

4. Learn, Learn, Learn!	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 goats 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.	
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Grand Parade

Students may have the exciting opportunity to take part in the prestigious Grand Parade with their Angora wethers—an iconic event rich in history and tradition. Known as a centrepiece of the show, the Grand Parade offers a vibrant and unforgettable atmosphere, drawing large crowds and celebrating the dedication of exhibitors and their animals.

To participate, wethers must be calm, and halter trained. Students are also required to wear a clean white dust coat and a bush hat (Akubra style), so please include these items on your packing list.

Being part of the Grand Parade is not only a proud moment to showcase your hard work in the main arena, but also a cherished memory that students will carry with them for years to come. ***Please note that participation is dependent on the event schedule and weather conditions on the day.***

Competition Sample Data Collection

Sample data collection tables have been provided as a reference tool to support students in recording and tracking goat development throughout the trial period, from commencement to the final Show.

Arrival Data & Details – Wether 1	
Date of Arrival at School:	
Wether's Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Tag Number:	
Tattoo:	
Herd Book Number:	
Weight on Arrival:	
Breeder's Details (where goat came from):	
Breeder's PIC:	
Arrival Data & Details – Wether 2	
Date of Arrival at School:	
Wether's Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Tag Number:	
Tattoo:	
Herd Book Number:	
Weight on Arrival:	
Breeder's Details (where goat came from):	
Breeder's PIC:	

Arrival Data & Details – Wether 3

Date of Arrival at School:	
Wether's Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Tag Number:	
Tattoo:	
Herd Book Number:	
Weight on Arrival:	
Breeder's Details (where goat came from):	
Breeder's PIC:	

Trial Data & Details

	Week	Date	Weather & Environment Conditions (inc. min/max temperatures)	Amount of Feed (Kg)	Weight (Kg)
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					
Wether 1					
Wether 2					
Wether 3					
Totals					

Trial Feeding and Husbandry Details

Feeding Details:	Grain (kg)		Hay (kg)	
Husbandry and Housing:				
Health Management:				
Week #	Total Feed Consumed (kgs)	Total Body Weight (kgs)	Average Body Weight (kgs)	Feed Conversion Ratio
Final Week				
Final AssessmentDate: / /	Total feed consumed	Final total body weight of all goats	Average body weight of goats	Final feed conversion ratio
Totals				



Calculations

Total Body Weight (kgs) = sum of all goat's body weights

Average Body Weight (kgs) =
$$\frac{\text{Total body weight (kg)}}{\text{Number of goats}}$$

Feed Conversion Ratio =
$$\frac{\text{Total feed consumed (kg)}}{\text{Total body weight (kg)}}$$

Resources

Sydney Royal Goat Show – www.rasnsw.com.au

Royal Agricultural Society of NSW (RAS) Education Department – www.rasnsw.com.au/education

NSW Department of Education Animals in Schools – www.education.nsw.gov.au

Goat Industry Council of Australia (GICA) – www.gica.com.au

Australian Mohair Marketing Organisation (AMMO) – www.ausmohair.com.au

Mohair Australia Ltd – mohair.com.au

Animal Health Australia (AHA) – www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au

Agri-Futures Australia – www.agrifutures.com.au

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) – www.mla.com.au

Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Goat Resources – www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Livestock Production Assurance Program – National Vendor Declaration www.integritysystems.com.au

Animals in Schools

Caring for goats at school can be a highly rewarding and educational experience for students. However, ensuring the animals' welfare is essential. All NSW schools must comply with the **Animal Research Act 1985 (NSW)** and the **Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes**.

To meet these obligations, schools should familiarise themselves with the relevant requirements and ensure all practices align with approved standards. Comprehensive guidance is available on the **NSW Department of Education's Animals in Schools** website: education.nsw.gov.au.



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