

# UQL Cyberschool – Campus experience day for outreach schools

As a further extension to our pre-existing Outreach Program, UQL Cyberschool was able to host some of its participating 2015 schools for an on-campus experience day at the St Lucia campus.

Five schools – Kingaroy SHS, Beerwah SHS, Morayfield SHS and Kadina and Alstonville High Schools – were able to bring a group of students to experience the St Lucia campus first-hand. Cyberschool funded buses and morning tea for the visiting groups.

The visit commenced with a tour of the whole St Lucia campus, generously guided by staff from the Office of Prospective Students and Student Equity (OPSSE). Highlights of the tour included visits to the Advanced Engineering Building, Global Change Institute and the Student Union precinct (shops and food!).

Some of the groups were also able to fit in a tour of a residential college, Union College, and were able to go inside a college room and see other college facilities such as the library and dining hall.

Cyberschool staff then conducted a library research skills lesson. Students were given the opportunity to search the UQ website for information on possible future study options and course prerequisites. This was followed by a session looking at online sources of information and using databases. Search tips such as phrase searching, truncation and wildcards were also provided.

Free time during lunch allowed students to visit places of interest such as the Great Court, Antiquities Museum and bookshop before departing.

Feedback from the visit program has been overwhelmingly positive. Student feedback includes:

*"The UQL trip was amazing and the facilities were an experience and a half I would love to go again. It gave me a great insight into Uni life."*

*"The UQ visit was an amazing insight into university life, with friendly and informative tours throughout the university. This trip is a perfect way to get a taste of university life and the positives of going to UQ for your university degrees."*

*"I found the UQ Day really fun and quite a good experience. The facilities and food were awesome. After attending this day, I have decided that I would like to attend this Uni."*

*"I believe the UQ trip was very beneficial to me as I got another insight at Uni life with the tour of the*

*residential college and the access to look at facilities and courses available at UQ ... If given the chance I would jump at the chance to go again."*

*"It was a good experience. We got to find out what the Queensland University is like, and what it is like to live in one of the colleges. We also learnt how to research properly. It was a good day."*

*"I found that it was good to experience that environment and see how uni operates, especially for people who want to go to Uni after school. It was really good and I really appreciated it. It was good to be able to ask questions and find out more about the courses and the facilities. It made me look forward to going to university and I am really excited."*

*"It gave me an idea of University life including the residential colleges, the buildings designed for different courses, and also other interesting places like the museums. I also got a lot of useful information like how to access the State Library Database as we were taught that it is more reliable than other sources found on Google. It was definitely an experience that will help me finish my last two years of high school, and made me look forward to this possible post-school option."*

Feedback from a visiting teacher included:

*"Thank you so much for inviting us to the UQL Cyberschool. It was an amazing experience that the students haven't stopped talking about. We would love to do it again next year."*

The on-campus visits proved to be a very successful program for visiting students, with many aspiring to return to UQ as future students.

