

## **Stuartholme School boarding – the Macqueen family**

Us, and our home...

We have three children who all are at boarding school and on holidays they come home and work for us and with us. They're very much a part of our business. Their first thing they do is get on a horse and daylight the next morning and they're gone. We have to make sure we have the horses close by for them, for the next day. They are very much a part of our business.

We muster cattle, we brand, and we trail weaners. But when we're not doing that, we usually fix some fences, cleaning out troughs, whatever mum and dad want us to do.

Why Stuartholme? Why boarding?

We chose Stuartholme after looking at a couple of other schools. I have family connections there, my sisters went there and my mother went there. They've done a particularly good job in those days and they're still doing it now.

The girls going away to school was never a secret. We've talked about it for a long time and they were looking forward to it. They wanted to go away to school, they wanted to go to Brisbane and meet new people and experience new experiences that the city can bring, that we can't bring them here.

When the time came to leave home and go into boarding at Stuartholme, I was a bit scared and nervous but I thought it would be fun cause I get to know a heap of people and with the orientation, I knew a couple of girls, so it was a bit less scary then.

Outside of school, we mainly just do sport but when we're not doing that, we get to meet up with boys schools, we get to go to the movies, we get to do all sorts of different rec activities and they're very mindful of the fact we have brothers and so we are able to see them at different boarding schools as well.

A second family...

I think Stuartholme cares for the girls extremely well. I have no worries about them being looked after. I know that they're right. I think that the boarding staff are their mums when I'm not there.

Stuartholme does well, I think it has a great sense of community. It brings the day families and the boarder families together and we think they do that really well.

They truly are cared for, so I'm just so grateful for that.

The best things...

The best things about boarding would have to be being able to see your friends every day, just hang out in the boarding house with the supervisors. Everyone's really nice so it's pretty welcoming.

The best thing about Boarding at Stuartholme is the different girls that you get to meet. There are girls from all sorts of different places and they literally become your second family.