

## Sheep at Tocal 360 - transcript

[00:45] Hi my name's Elyse Parker I'm a Field Officer here at Tocal College. I'm actually an ex-student of the College, I came through in 2005 / 2006.

Today we are here at the sheep yards up at Bona Vista and we're doing some sheep skills with the students. These students here, they're horse course students we've got with us today. We're just going to do a bit of ... they're actually just drenching them now. So they've drafted them up in to ewes and lambs. And we're just drenching according to their weights.

[01:54] We also did, earlier we did some catch and restrain a sheep and we did a bit of mousing. So mousing is important to understand how old the sheep is and if their teeth are in good order so they can eat and have condition on them.

[02:24] So here at Tocal we run a Dohne flock, it's a self replacing herd that we just use for educational purposes for the students. So the second years' are involved in the shearing of the sheep, its an elective they do in Certificate IV.

[02:42] There's about 300 ewes in total, so the ewes have just lambed down in the last sort of ...they've still got the lambs at foot so they're about five months old.

And up here at BV they all run on improved pastures and we have the maremma dogs - Jack, he's our new pup and we have Dunnedoo, he's our older maremma that we have. They're just used to keep the wild dogs away, we've had a few problems with dogs so we use them and they're quite effective.

So the maremmas are with the flock 24/7 and then the staff of the beef section come and monitor the sheep every other day and feed the maremmas. So that's the sheep at Tocal College.