

Crafting next leaders



Alpine School principal Mark Reeves surveys the school's developing new campus at Glenormiston.

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By ALEX SINNOTT

THE leaders of tomorrow look set to shine at a state-of-the-art education facility at Glenormiston.

A new campus of the Alpine School at Dinner Plain, near Mt Hotham, the \$3.88m facility will be the region's first rural learning centre, providing a "live-in" style of schooling to promote leadership.

Alpine School principal Mark Reeves said the new site was chosen because of

Program's \$3.88m campus

its natural features and the opportunities available for outdoor recreation, such as cycling.

"Because we are building on under-utilised Crown land, it allows us to spend more on the school building and other facilities," Mr Reeves said.

Construction has started on the single-level centre — on 8.8 hectares at Black

Road, Glenormiston — and is expected to accommodate its first batch of future leaders next year.

Mr Reeves said year 9 students were chosen from across the state for their academic and leadership potential to study at Glenormiston. Up to 45 students at a time will take part in the term-long live-in leadership program.

"In many ways it's a rite of passage for some kids as they've never lived away from home before and they come away from the program having learnt various life skills and made many friendships," he said.

"During their nine weeks here they will be involved in team building exercises (and) practical skills classes.

"We have begun a working relationship with the Glenormiston Agricultural College so there might even be the opportunity for the students to be involved in certificate 1 courses."

Michael Castersen will take up the position as head of campus after serving as principal of Derrinallum P-12.

Mr Reeves said the school would adopt an indigenous title as its name by the end of the year.