

THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

NE Tracks and NELLEN (Local Learning and Employment Networks) have secured funding from Regional Development Victoria for the Schools to Industry Skills and Pathways Project, an education model that introduces Year 9 and 10 students to industry and employment opportunities before they make important VCE / VCAL subject decisions. The project involves “hands-on” learning that informs young people’s vocational choices while focusing on the pathways available to them. This model successfully supports the transition of students into vocational positions.

The project develops secondary students’ practical work skills by connecting them and their schools to local businesses. The focus for 2021 is on the agriculture / horticulture, health and manufacturing sectors. These sectors offer strong work placement and employment opportunities for young people in North East Victoria.

The project team works with schools to ensure that industry learning is offered at Year 9 and above, liaising with local employers and community members to broker relationships for work placements, Certificate II, and School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeships (SBATs). The team convenes advisory groups at government, industry and education levels to ensure the relevant skills and knowledge are articulated to all project participants.

BENEFITS FOR SCHOOLS

- Improved student engagement, learning outcomes and school retention through practical learning opportunities
- Establishes pathways for career options through SBATs, subsequent certificates and university courses
- Provides opportunities for STEM learning, community engagement and Department of Education and Training goals and initiatives for school improvement

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Opportunities to learn outside the classroom at Year 9 and above
- Contribution to VCAL and VCE units including the ATAR
- Development of work skills, profession experience and independence
- Access to career pathway options in these sectors through Certificate II and senior subject selection
- Establishment of relationships with local industries, making it easier to engage with local careers

BENEFITS FOR PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES

- Fosters strong partnerships with schools, enabling smoother transitions from school to business
- Addresses the significant need for businesses to attract compatible local employees
- Provides a mutually beneficial opportunity for matching young people with traineeships and jobs

CONTACT DETAILS

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