

Encourage your child to think outside the square



When you think of an apprenticeship, you may think of traditional trades like carpentry and panel beating. Apprenticeships and traineeships are available in over 500 occupations in an increasing range of studies.

VCE students take up School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships to develop their career pathway to further education and training opportunities, such as a university degree or other tertiary qualifications.

Students may complete one SBAT and start another in a different occupation. This allows students the chance to “test drive” industries and see if the “perceived” career path matches reality before leaving or finishing school. Here is one example:



Nichole – Year 11 student, SBAT - Certificate IV in Aeroskills – Mechanical Engineering

- Started her SBAT in Year 10 with Apprenticeships Plus
- Knew that she wanted to work with small planes after doing work experience at Essendon Airport
- She does her off-the-job training one day a week at RMIT
- Has been working during her school holidays
- Nichole's interest in engineering has been influenced by her family's professional background. Both her father and sister are engineers.
- All the best Nichole!

Never feel it's too late to get started if your child is already in Year 11 or 12.



How can you help your child?

1. Discuss your own work experiences with your children
2. Encourage them to think about their career options sooner rather than later to give them more time to investigate alternatives
3. Research career websites. My future website is a good starting point.
4. Encourage them to be flexible and adaptable, not just to focus on one occupation but instead to consider a number of related occupations in an industry
5. Praise their achievements at school
6. Encourage them to get involved with community and service organisations to build their life skills
7. Assist them to actively pursue part time work whilst at school. This work should not interfere with their school work and the skills that they gain will stand them in good stead when they apply for other jobs
8. Attend Career Selection Expo's in your region
9. Visit Open days at TAFEs and Universities.

How do you get started?

- Have a conversation with your child about their interests
- Speak to your child's Careers Coordinator at school
- Make a plan
- Find your local Apprenticeship Centre or Group Training Organisation using the internet or your local phone book
- Don't be afraid to ask further questions if you don't understand the process.

Useful Resources for Parents

My future www.myfuture.edu.au
University www.goingtouni.gov.au
www.grouptraining.com.au
www.education.vic.gov.au/parents
<http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au>
www.education.vic.gov.au/about/publications/translation/default.htm

Job Guide www.deewr.gov.au
Tafe www.tafe.vic.gov.au
www.llen.vic.gov.au

This resource is an initiative of the Northern School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Task Force and acknowledges the work of its partners and sponsors.



VCAL

VCE

SBAT

SWL

VET

TAFE

UNIVERSITY

Lost in the career maze?

Need help to navigate your way out?

Help your child connect to their future

Here's your map to success

Don't be put off by the jargon. Find out what it means.



Understanding the education terminology...

Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE): A senior secondary certificate of education awarded on completion of a student's secondary schooling. VCE is often pursued by those students who require an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) score to access particular courses at University or TAFE.

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL): VCAL is a hands-on option for Years 11 and 12 students, offering practical work-related experience and learning. Like the VCE, VCAL is a recognised senior qualification. Students who start in VCAL and then decide they would like to complete their VCE are able to transfer between certificates. VCAL students do not receive ATAR scores, which means they are not eligible to directly apply for university courses at the end of the completing year. However, some universities may accept students on an interview basis or they can apply later as a mature age student.

Vocational Education and Training (VET): VET allows students to complete a vocational certificate whilst also completing their VCAL or VCE pathway. VET courses provide the student with practical learning both on and off the job, an additional qualification at the end of their VCAL or VCE as well as contributing towards the VCE ATAR score. Students are informed in Year 10 of the VET subjects available for completion as part of their VCAL or VCE qualification.

Making the right choices for the future

As a parent you have a key role in helping your child make career decisions. Things for you both to consider are:

Work Experience is usually undertaken by Year 10 students. It involves a short-term placement of approximately one or two weeks with a 'host' employer. Students gain an understanding of their chosen field of work and are paid a nominal rate.

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is usually undertaken by Year 11 & 12 VCAL or VCE students completing on-the-job training to master a set of skills and competencies relevant to their VET course.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships

Did you know that your child can start their career while they are still studying at school and get paid for it?

Connect your child with a School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship



School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT) allow students to learn skills in a particular industry by combining school studies, training and paid employment. They are available to secondary school students from 15-years-old who are enrolled in VCE or VCAL and permanent residents of Australia.

How do they work?

- Students sign contracts which combine their training, schooling and employment
- SBAT leads to a nationally recognised qualification at Certificate II, III* with provision to go onto Certificate IV
- Training can be delivered on-the-job, off-the-job, or a combination of both. Off-the-job training is done with TAFE colleges or other approved training providers
- Students are in training and employment for a minimum of 13 hours per week and spend the rest of their time at school.

How does it benefit your child?

- Your child will be exposed to the 'real' world of work to affirm a career direction
- Gain confidence and employability skills to increase their career opportunities
- Finish secondary school with two certificates that are nationally recognised, giving them an advantage over other students on entry to the workforce
- Study and be paid at the same time whilst being trained
- Receive credits towards VCAL, VCE ATAR score and/or full-time apprenticeship or traineeship.

* NB: If your child plans to go on to a full time apprenticeship COMPLETION of a Certificate III qualification in that field may limit their apprenticeship opportunities. Just be careful and check this out with your local Apprenticeship Centre.

Who are involved?

Australian Apprenticeships Centres deliver apprenticeship support and provide access to apprenticeship opportunities and information about training, traineeships and apprenticeships.

Group Training Organisations provide a one-stop-shop service for apprentices and trainees. They manage recruitment, training contracts, wages and entitlements, administration, training delivery and monitor skill development.

Student Education and Career Pathways

