



Parent/Caregiver Information For Human Services

What do I need to know?

VET (Vocational Education and Training) courses are an excellent way for students to find out about work and to get a head start in a career.

NSW high school students may choose to study nationally recognised qualifications as a VET for Secondary Student or as a school based trainee while completing the HSC. The VET secondary student will work 105 hours over 2 years or the school based trainee will work equivalent of 100 days paid employment part-time in paid employment to gain on the job training. The off the job component of the qualification is provided by a Registered Training Organisation.

Human Services VET courses are offered for study by students as part of Stage 6 (Years 11 & 12) and in some cases may be commenced in Stage 5 (years 9 & 10). Human Services VET courses all lead to nationally recognised qualifications and count toward the HSC. Your school will be able to explain the available options.

Human Services VET courses are taught by Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) including TAFE and in some cases the high school. All Human Services VET courses provide pathways to further study either in VET or at university.

Courses in Individual Support (for Aged Care and Disability work) , Allied Health Assisting and Health Services Assistance are part of the Human Services Industry Curriculum Framework. This means that these courses count toward the HSC and allow students to sit for an optional exam which can contribute to the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Another VET for Secondary Students option is a School Based Traineeship. It is now possible to study Human Services VET courses as a school based trainee while completing the HSC. This means that the student will work part-time in paid employment for a minimum of 100 days to gain on the job training. The off the job training part of the qualification is provided by a registered training provider.

Human Services VET courses include:

- Individual Support (for Aged Care and Disability work)
- Allied Health Assisting
- Dental Assisting
- Early Childhood Education and Care
- Health Services Assistance
- Out of School Hours Care
- Education Support

What is a School Based Traineeship?

For School Based Traineeship the student will be employed at a service or facility where the employer is able to commit to employing and training them for the duration of the Training Contract. The school based trainee, training provider, school and the employer sign a Training Contract, a binding agreement that sets out the qualification being trained for, details of the employer and the trainee, the commencement date and the expected term of the traineeship. This means that the trainee will work part-time in paid employment for a minimum of 100 days to gain on the job training. The training contract sets out the responsibilities and obligations of each party. A parent or guardian will also sign the contract if the trainee is under 18 years of age. The training contract is prepared and lodged with State Training Services by the employer's preferred Australian Apprenticeships Centre.

A training plan is also prepared and specifies the Registered Training Organisation that will provide the formal training and the proposed pattern of part-time employment that will result in the trainee meeting the minimum employment requirements by the end of the HSC year.

What are the outcomes and opportunities?

VET in School and School Based Traineeship pathways equip the student with knowledge and skills to work as part of a team, be a good communicator and listener, solve problems, be organised with good time management skills, have an interest in people with non-judgmental and positive attitude, use initiative and be flexible.

A qualification in Aged Care, Disability, Early Childhood Education and Care, Dental Assisting, Education Support, Out of School Hours Care, Allied Health Assistance or Health Services Assistance will enable a graduate to be part of the dynamic community services and health industry. The community services and health sector is expanding and over the coming years employment opportunities will be plentiful at entry level. The skills and knowledge in a community services and health qualification are a sound foundation to career progression and transferable to other roles in direct client and community services work.

. . . . **SEE THE CAREER PATH SECTION OF THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS**

Who is involved?

- VET in School Student or School Based Trainee
- Employer
- Workplace supervisor and mentor
- School VET coordinator
- Parent/Guardian
- DEC Apprenticeship Centre (if doing a School Based Traineeship)
- Registered Training Organisation

What will I need to do?

Parents/carers have an important role to play in supporting the student's choice to attend the course and the employment commitments. Besides general support for the student, they may have to be involved in transporting them to and from the training centre, or the work site, covering the costs of the immunisations and any extra uniforms. Parents/carers are also encouraged to participate in communication between school, employer and the Registered Training Organisation.

Students or trainees may be required to provide proof of their vaccination status before their clinical work placement or employment. Parents/carers will need to meet the costs of required vaccinations.

There are strict uniform and personal grooming policies for working in a human services environment. The workplace will provide details of their requirements and may include such things as closed toe shoes (must be flat heeled, leather and waterproof), no long sleeves or tank tops, no jewellery, short clean nails (no acrylic nails or coloured polish), one pair of stud earrings (all other pierced jewellery must be removed), trousers (preferred, no shorts).

Students and trainees must be aware that patient and client privacy and confidentiality is to be maintained at all times, both on and off the job (no Facebook or Twitter comments of job or patients). Phones, including iPad, cannot be carried in the workplace.

. . . . SEE OTHER INFORMATION SECTIONS OF THE WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS