



Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

This year, most of our Year 10 students will be undertaking a new *Virtual Careers Experience* program in lieu of attending work experience placements during the week of **June 22-26**. We have developed a week long program that incorporates access to an innovative digital careers platform; *The Careers Department* (www.thecareersdepartment.com)

We have invested in the product this year as we strive to inspire and empower our students to make informed career decisions. Exploring the idea that *"if you can see it, you can be it"*, this product showcases 800+ pieces of industry and course content that can show students the many and varied options on offer to them post high school.

The digital program is a touchpoint for our students to not only experience different industries, but to see these industries in action and to learn from their professionals.

FAQs for Doncaster Students:

What does the program involve?

Each student will create an individual account and have 24/7 access to www.thecareersdepartment.com.

This includes:

- Over 800 pieces of industry content, including virtual tours, videos, podcasts, career timelines and more.

Content examples include, 'How to get a job at a Big 4 accounting firm', 'The truth about studying exercise science,' 'What are the job prospects for a future lawyer,' 'What to expect inside an engineering degree,' 'Site tour with a residential builder'.

- Virtual work experience tasks
- A job finder and CV builder
- Profiling assessment
- Live webinars
- Live guest speakers
- Career goal tracking

Is there a cost for the program?

There is **no cost** to you for your child to be involved; this program has been funded by the school.

What do I need to bring to school for the program?

Students will need a **charged device** for most lessons and **earbuds/headphones** so they can access online content within the class.

For students who had finalised Work Experience arrangements with an employer, will they attend the placement or school?

- For the students who had already submitted *Work Experience Arrangement Forms* for placements this week, we have contacted all employers and those placements that can go ahead, will be able to.
- These students will have received a pack of information to support their Careers Experience placement.
- Students should speak to the Careers Office staff if they are unsure about their arrangement.

Will Virtual Careers Experience run at school or remotely?

- Students will be required to attend at school Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri to participate in the various activities of the week. There is a key Investigation Project to complete on Wednesday and the school has decided that **students can choose to work from home on Wednesday** to be able to focus on the Project and better utilise resources they may have access to.
- Students will still be required to check in with their teachers on Wednesday as they did during remote learning.
- **Students will require permission via the Event on Compass to work on the Project from home on Wednesday.**
- Students without consent will be expected at school and usual attendance requirements will apply for all students.

Will there be any regular classes for Year 10 students?

- Virtual Careers Experience is a week-long alternate program so normal subject classes will not be running. Students will still need to follow their Compass timetable however for room and teacher allocations.

What will a student with a Year 11 class do?

- Year 10 students who are undertaking a Year 11 subject will be able to attend their scheduled Year 11 class.
- If they would prefer to continue with the *Virtual Careers Experience* program, they can speak to Senior School staff.

What should a student with a VET class on Wednesday afternoon do?

- Year 10 students who are undertaking a VET course on Wednesday afternoons will still be able to and should attend or access their course (if remote learning) on Wednesday afternoon after completing the Virtual Project during Periods 1-3.

Do students need to wear normal school uniform?

- Yes, normal school uniform requirements are expected for Monday – Thursday.
- However, on **Friday (June 26) students will be encouraged to 'dress to impress'**, coming dressed as they would be required to for a job interview or as would be necessary for the career area they choose to investigate for their project. Presentations and awards for the week will be also be made on Friday.

Is this program compulsory?

- Yes, normal school attendance requirements will apply for the week.
- Those students with external Work Experience placements will have this entered into Compass and it will show on their timetable.

Do students still need to do an actual Work Experience placement?

- Some students may choose to reschedule or arrange a Work Experience placement during Semester 2 but it will be optional.
- All paperwork must be finalised in advance with the Careers Centre and students will need to communicate with their teachers regarding classwork for any time absent.
- Students who are anticipating going into the VCAL program in 2021 should still be actively seeking to meet the expectation of two weeks of work experience. (This may be reconsidered as part of the VCAL application process where COVID restrictions have made this difficult)

Please contact the Year 10 Coordinators, Asli Dulger and Jonathan Tennant or the Career Development Coordinator, Vanessa Ramsay if you have any further questions.

Kind regards,

DSC Senior School Team