

'GROWTH & DISCOVERY' Program

Middle Years Work Experience Learning Program

'GROWTH & DISCOVERY' program**Middle School Work Experience Program****Rationale**

Years 9 & 10, the middle years, are exciting times when students really start to think about what their future career might be.

Work experience is an opportunity to have a taste of what work life is like.

We believe we can contribute to building student capabilities during this important growth stage of learning through authentic real-life connections and experiences.

Students will feel achievement through making a real and positive difference to their growth and development as well as to their community. When the right support structures and the right programs in place students are more likely to embrace challenging opportunities with confidence, commitment, curiosity and resilience.

Our School's motto is 'Integrity & Service' and our 'Values' incorporate the understanding of and the living of the concept of 'Care'. Care for oneself, for others, for the environment and for learning.

Program Overview and Outcomes***Overview:***

A holistic and unique program, spanning over two years, providing and building on skills, knowledge, values and attitudes that help students thrive as an individual and as a member of a team/community.

Three interdependent focus areas:

- Impacting my world
- Transformative work experiences based on volunteering.
- Transformative work experience based on career pathways.

During the middle years of a student's development, they become more aware of their likes and passions. They form views on career pathways.

The 'Growth & Discovery' program is a work experience program that provides authentic and real-life experiences that includes a community-based volunteering and a career orientated experience.

'GROWTH & DISCOVERY' ProgramMiddle Years Work Experience Learning Program**Outcomes:**

Students will leave the 'GROWTH & DISCOVERY' program with a key set of skills and competencies which will assist them with their later years of learning and with life.

Students will have a realisation that they can make a positive impact on their lives and the wider community.

- Immersive experience into a different and unique environment.
- Personal growth with a greater understanding of self and others.
- Recognition of the impact one can have on the world around them.
- Improved understanding and development of, through real life experiences, key capabilities as outlined in the Victorian Curriculum. These include improved collaboration, communication, and development of empathy, perspective and confidence.
- Authentic and real-life experiences in the areas of volunteering and career development
- Enduring relationships and a deeper connection with peers, staff and the wider community.

Transformative experiences- Timeline & Key experiences

A full week Year 9 work experience service/volunteering immersion program will run the same week as the year 10 work experience career/pathway program. Students will need preliminary workshops to ready them for the program.

Term 1:	Term 2:	Term 2:
1. Introduction to the program 2. Documents to be completed 3. OHS certification requirement	1. Workshops on how to contact organisations 2. Other considerations	1. Involvement in the 'Growth & Development' Work Experience Program.

Possible Workshops	Possible partnerships & experiences
-Project expectations & responsibilities -Associated documents and expectations -OHS requirements -Volunteering expectations and responsibilities -Contacting organisations -Do's and don'ts	- Kingston City Council - Various local support agencies - Indigenous community connection - Aged care connections - SCOPE - Red cross/Salvation Army -Career interest of students will vary