

## Tuesday, 12 September 2023

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## What's On in the Next Few Weeks

### [AIE | Information Evening](#)

**September 11, 2023**

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, film, 3D animation and visual effects at the AIE Information Evening. The evening will include presentations on different areas of industry to get into as well as information about AIE full-time and part-time courses and entry requirements. We will be showing off AIE student work and our staff and teachers will be available to chat with you about our courses and how AIE can get you into a creative career.

[Find out more](#)

### [The GiST | Tracking student choices – barriers and motivations for choosing STEM subjects](#)

**September 11, 2023**

What are the factors that encourage students to choose STEM subjects and careers? Professor Louise Archer from University College London will report on the UK-based ASPIRES project which has tracked how and why young people come to see science as being 'for me', or not, with the goal of informing policy and practice to support increased and more equitable participation in STEM.

Find out more about how your school might adjust practices and teaching approaches/content to attract and retain students in Science and Science-related subjects.

[Find out more](#)

### [University of Newcastle | Ma & Morley Application Help Workshop](#)

**September 12 to September 14, 2023**

Join the Ma & Morley team for our Application Help Workshops, where you'll have an opportunity to ask your burning questions and the team can guide you through the application process. There will be one face-to-face workshop and one via Zoom.



Face-to-face:

- When: Tuesday 12 September, 4:30pm-5:30pm
- Where: University of Newcastle, Callaghan Campus, Lambert Room (US321), Shortland Building

Online

- When: Thursday 14 September, 4:30pm-5:30pm

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | MySydney Entry and Scholarship Scheme Webinar](#)

**September 12, 2023**

Find out how you can enter your dream degree with the MySydney Entry and Scholarship Scheme for students residing in low socio-economic areas. Hear about the great benefits offered, including entry on a reduced ATAR, a \$8,500 per annum scholarship and a range of ongoing support throughout your studies. Find out what you need to know about eligibility criteria, how to apply, frequently asked questions and more!

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Talk with Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists and Physiotherapists](#)

**September 12, 2023**

Join us online to hear from ACU alumni about their experiences improving people's quality of life. Take part in a Q&A session with our graduates and learn about the rewarding and challenging careers of physiotherapists, occupational therapists and speech pathologists.

[Find out more](#)

## [TAFE NSW | Careers Advisers Virtual Event](#)

**September 13, 2023**

TAFE NSW will host a Careers Advisers Virtual event to help you nurture your students' lifelong learning and career aspirations. Receive the latest TAFE NSW updates and learn more about school pathways, Higher Education and support services.

If you're a careers adviser, teacher, principal, VET coordinator, or high school student support person, make sure you join us for this virtual event.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Nutrition and Dietetics at Sydney](#)

**September 13, 2023**

Join us to learn more about the Bachelor of Science/Master of Nutrition and Dietetics degree. Learn about the program, work placements and what a typical student day looks like. This session is delivered by current students studying this fascinating discipline.

[Find out more](#)

## [RBA Economic Update Webinar for High School Students](#)

**September 13, 2023**

Aimed at students in Years 11-12, this webinar will feature an RBA economist sharing insights on monetary policy and current economic conditions. It's a great opportunity for students to get the latest information about what's happening in the Australian economy and pose questions to an RBA economist. Students and educators should register directly to attend this online event.

[Find out more](#)



## [University of Sydney | Architecture and the Built Environment](#)

**September 13, 2023**

Are you interested in becoming an architect or working within the built environment sector? Come along to this webinar to learn about the degree pathways that you can explore and the careers that you can pursue from undertaking one of our degrees in architecture and the built environment. There's so much more to this industry than just designing buildings.

[Find out more](#)

## [AIM | How To Nail Your Next Audition Webinar](#)

**September 13, 2023**

Get expert tips on how to succeed in an audition, making the most of your talents to give your best performance. Discover tried and tested techniques to manage your nerves and make your musical talent shine.

In this webinar, we'll be exploring...

- How to select pieces to suit your musical talent and style
- How to confidently approach your next audition or performance exam
- Tips on what audition and exam panels are looking for, and how to showcase your abilities

Plus, you will get an understanding of the AIM audition process so you be ready for a successful audition.

Auditions are a requirement for all applicants interested in studying a performance-based degree at AIM.

This session is designed for future students, parents, teachers and anyone else seeking tips on showcasing their musical talent.

[Find out more](#)

## [endota Wellness College | Open Evening](#)

**September 13, 2023**

Discover our nationally recognised courses and how we train our students to become job-ready and qualified in as little as 12 months! Take a tour of our spa-like campus, learn about student life on campus, enjoy a facials masterclass and receive a free goodie bag.

What's happening:

- Hear from our CEO, Helen Robb-Lacey, as she shares her passion for wellness and the incredible potential of our courses.
- Learn about career pathways and opportunities within Australia's largest spa network – your ticket to a successful and rewarding career.
- Meet our team of expert trainers and immerse yourself in an interactive masterclass.
- Enjoy nourishing nibbles and refreshments, plus goodie bags for all attendees!

[Find out more](#)

## [NIE | Pathways into Medicine and Dentistry Live Webinar](#)

**September 13, 2023**

This forum is an excellent opportunity for teachers, students and their parents to find out about the UCAT, pathways into medicine, and have all questions answered by an expert teacher who has been working in the field since 1999.



This is not a sales, advertising, or promotional seminar. The session is packed with invaluable information during which we will be covering the following topics, and more:

- What is UCAT? UCAT scores? UCAT Sub-tests?
- Year 10, 11 and 12 – things to consider now.
- The Undergraduate Selection Criteria
- Application process into universities for medicine and dentistry
- When and who can sit the UCAT
- UCAT vs UMAT – How is UCAT different and why was UMAT replaced?
- GAMSAT
- Can you prepare for the UCAT?
- Undergraduate interview process
- Gap Year
- Alternative degrees and career choices
- Q & A

[Find out more](#)

## **[Coping with emotional challenges in career development – R U OK? Day 2023](#)**

**September 14, 2023**

Young people face uncertain employment pathways in their futures, and often feel enormous pressure to make the “right” career decisions to ensure success. Many typical career development tasks and situations can trigger or worsen stress and mental ill-health.

In this webinar, the teams from the Student Wellbeing Hub and the myfuture career information service will join in a discussion about how career development influences, and is influenced by, wellbeing and emotional resilience. Coinciding with R U OK? Day 2023, they will share practical tips and resources for educators and parents to help young people cope with the emotional challenges that are so central to career development learning.

[Find out more](#)

## **[UTS | Sport Tours](#)**

**September 14, 2023**

Interested in exploring what UTS sport has to offer? Join us on the following dates to get an exclusive tour of our sport facilities and have your sporting questions answered.

[Find out more](#)

## **[University of Sydney | Open Night](#)**

**September 14, 2023**

Domestic students living in regional or interstate areas are invited to our online Open Night. Find out about our new Regional and Remote Entry Scheme, our new central scholarship application process as well as other University of Sydney highlights.

You'll then have the chance to chat with staff from our faculties, admissions, scholarships, and accommodation, and have all your questions answered about life in Sydney.

[Find out more](#)



## [Macquarie | Arts After Dark: AI needs intelligent humans...or does it?](#)

**September 14, 2023**

Macquarie University's Faculty of Arts is hosting Arts After Dark: AI needs intelligent humans...or does it? on Thursday 14 September.

Prepare to be propelled into the fascinating world of AI and how humans can avoid its pitfalls whilst also leveraging its benefits. Join award-winning foreign correspondent Peter Greste and leading experts in film, culture and education from 5:45pm as they lead us through a fascinating debate which will affect all of us. Future students, parents, teachers and the local community are encouraged to attend.

[Find out more](#)

## [Sydney Actors School and Sydney Film School | Open Day 2023](#)

**September 16, 2023**

Come along from 10am-3pm for an action-packed day, and really get a feel for what we're about here at Sydney Actors School and Sydney Film School.

We'll be running masterclasses in our classrooms, and all are invited to attend! Want to learn how to set up a good quality self tape quickly and easily? Maybe you'd like to get some screenwriting tips. Or even participate in an Impro workshop! The masterclasses will cover all of these things, and more! You'll definitely get a taste of daily life at SAS and SFS. Our current students will be around the building, and participating too, and will only be too happy to chat to you about their experiences. The classes will also be run by our world-class tutors.

Our students' work will also be playing in our Screening Room, so you can see for yourself the wonderful talent we have coming through the schools. In the Soundstage we will also have a film shoot set up – maybe you can go and slate a shot! Or press record on the camera!

[Find out more](#)

## [AIE | Industry Experience Days](#)

**September 20 to October 4, 2023**

AIE's Industry Experience Day is a great opportunity for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to learn about the local and international game development, 3D animation and visual effects industries. Students will get the opportunity to learn about the different pathways to get into the industry, what should be in a portfolio and will be able to get creative in practical workshops using industry-standard 3D animation and game development tools.

The sessions are run by industry professionals who have worked on some blockbuster games and films. Everything is provided for you to participate in the hands-on workshops and you will be using the same software that is used in the industry.

Event dates:

- Melbourne: September 20th
- Sydney, Canberra and Adelaide: October 4th

[Find out more](#)



## [WSU | Nursing and Midwifery Taster Day](#)

**September 20, 2023**

We're excited to invite you to our Nursing and Midwifery Taster Day, where you can immerse yourself in the dynamic atmosphere of university life. Join us at our Liverpool campus to learn about our undergraduate nursing and midwifery programs and the various entry pathways. There is also opportunity to explore our Clinical Practice Units, participate in interactive activities and take part in a campus tour.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Vet Medicine Undergraduate Admissions Information Session](#)

**September 20, 2023**

Join this session to learn about the Bachelor of Veterinary Biology and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (BVB/DVM) at the University of Sydney. This session will cover undergraduate admission requirements for the BVB/DVM, including details for the submission of your commitment statement and completion of the Casper situational judgement test. You will be able to ask questions to the Sydney School of Veterinary Science, and get advice on your undergraduate application into the degree.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Demystifying the Teacher Personal Statement](#)

**September 20, 2023**

If you're applying to study a teacher education degree at the University of Sydney (excluding early childhood), you will be prompted to complete a personal statement questionnaire during the application process. The statement allows us to assess your suitability for teaching against the non-academic capabilities common in successful teachers, as those attributes and motivations are common to effective teachers. Writing your statement shouldn't be a daunting – in fact, it's a great opportunity for you to think deeply about why you want to become a teacher and discover a little bit about yourself along the way! Join the School of Education and Social Work for an interactive session where we will take you through the process step by step, leaving you confident and prepared when it comes time to submit your personal statement.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Talk with Exercise Science and High Performance Sport Professionals](#)

**September 20, 2023**

Join us online to hear from ACU alumni about their experiences working as exercise scientists and high performance sport professionals. Take part in a Q&A session about where a career in sport and exercise science could take you.

[Find out more](#)

## [Aviation Job Skills Workshop – Blue Mountains](#)

**September 21, 2023**

Join us at our workshop to explore the huge variety of Airports and Aviation job career pathways available to the women of Western Sydney. Each workshop is designed to share career pathways, training options and skill requirements, job application tips for women to apply for aviation jobs. It's a great insight into the amazing career opportunities that exists at Airports, including careers that do not require any formal qualifications to enter.

[Find out more](#)



## [ACU | Talk with Arts Graduates](#)

**September 21, 2023**

Join us online to hear from ACU alumni about their experiences after graduating from an arts degree. Take part in a Q&A session about the vast range of careers an arts degree can lead to.

[Find out more](#)

## [Charles Sturt | Making it in Media Workshop](#)

**September 22, 2023**

We are inviting Year 11 and 12 students to an interactive workshop; Making it in Media.

Students will be welcomed by one of our distinguished Alumni, Edwina Bartholomew, a news presenter on the Seven Network's breakfast television program Sunrise, and will then participate in a simulated media event, collaborating with students from other schools in our TV studio and creative hub – and experience working in the world of news, media, advertising, PR and content creation.

Parents and teachers are also welcome to watch what is created and see how students learn to work in a team environment and get hands on Industry experience.

Charles Sturt University has a strong reputation in the field of Communication, having produced some of Australia's biggest names in media such as Hamish McDonald, Mel Doyle, Tara Brown and Edwina Bartholomew. Our Bachelor of Communication degree has been co-designed and is co-delivered with our distinguished Alumni and leading Industry professionals.

[Find out more](#)

## Important Future Events

### [WSU | Free HSC Study Sessions](#)

**September 25 to September 29, 2023**

From 25-29 September 2023, Western Sydney University will be offering a range of online study sessions to assist Year 12 students in their preparations for the HSC.

Delivered by highly qualified senior teachers with 25 free sessions across 16 key HSC subject areas, the sessions will include content analysis, tips and strategies, and a detailed exploration of key syllabus and curriculum areas.

Students will also have the opportunity to sit a practice exam and deconstruction, with feedback and advice from experts.

The HSC Study Sessions are offered in partnership with leading education services provider InspirationED, with their team of highly qualified HSC teachers and experienced markers to deliver the sessions.

[Find out more](#)

### [UOW | EmpowerHER STEM Summit](#)

**September 26 to September 27, 2023**

The University of Wollongong is thrilled to announce the introduction of the EmpowerHER STEM Summit. This hands-on, two-day event, taking place during the September school holidays, is exclusively designed for fierce female students in Years 9, 10 & 11.

Brace yourself for an exciting experience as we raise the STEM-bar for girls and ignite their passion for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM)!



Students will journey through UOW’s vibrant Wollongong Campus, the awe-inspiring Innovation Campus, and external sites (TBC). Accompanied by faculty, current students, and industry professionals, this event promises an enriching, yet collaborative experience.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Year 11 Regional Residential Program 2023](#)

**October 3 to October 6, 2023**

Regional NSW Year 11 students on an ATAR pathway are invited to join us on-campus in the September/October school holidays. This is your opportunity to explore our campus and prepare for future study at the University of Sydney.

Supported by current students and faculty staff, this will be an immersive experience where you will:

- explore course study options
- learn about the [Regional and Remote Entry Scheme](#), [MySydney Scheme](#) and other pathways.
- gain an experience of life as a University of Sydney student
- get orientated to our campus and sightsee around Sydney!

The University will organise and cover the cost of travel, accommodation, food and experiences that are part of the program.

[Find out more](#)

## [Clusters PD – Support the ones with no idea](#)

**October 5, 2023**

Join Lucy from Study Work Grow for an interactive Professional Learning session where we’ll unpack some tips for supporting students who don’t know where to start.

Not all students find themselves in this position, but, for the ones who do, the Clusters can give you a starting place from which you can start to explore.

This will be an interactive session of one hour, with time for questions at the end.

[Find out more](#)

## [Campion College | Overnight Immersion](#)

**October 6 to October 7, 2023**

Have you ever wondered what it’s like to pursue higher education in an environment that values intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and vibrant discussions? Join us for an immersive experience that goes beyond the ordinary campus visit.

During this exclusive overnight event, you’ll have the chance to fully immerse yourself in the life of a Campion College student. Our schedule includes time for sample lectures, thought-provoking discussions, socialising with our current students and fostering connections with fellow attendees. You’ll also have the opportunity to bond over shared meals, reside in one of our residential halls and gain firsthand insight into the unique academic and social aspects that set Campion College apart.

We have a very limited number of spots available for this event, ensuring the Campion College Overnight Immersion remains an intimate and focused experience.

[Find out more](#)





## [Online Panel: Navigating a Pathway in STEM – What girls and their family supporters need to know](#)

**October 11, 2023**

We know that for young people, and their family supporters, navigating a pathway into a STEM career can be challenging for a range of reasons. First, STEM offers diverse options in careers, some of which are unknown or misconceived. Second, information available can be outdated, limited or misinforming depending on access to information.

We have heard from girls, parents/carers and teachers, that addressing the challenges to navigating STEM pathways is a priority. This online panel will host a range of people that are passionately involved across the STEM careers sector.

[Find out more](#)

## [The Future of Education Summit 2023](#)

**October 12, 2023**

Welcome to The Future of Education Summit. This National Summit has been designed to empower educators, innovators and workforce shapers as we explore how we can prepare our next generation for the ever-changing future. Over the course of the Future of Education Summit, attendees will be challenged to find new and exciting ways to engage students, explore how they can scale their impact, and experience authentic collaborations with other changemakers.

As educators around the world work to redesign curriculum, reimagine their schools, and rethink the student learning journey, the Future of Education Summit has been designed to give attendees the skills and experiences they need to become leaders in their communities.

[Find out more](#)

## [Clusters PD – The Clusters with younger students](#)

**October 26, 2023**

Join Lucy from Study Work Grow for a Professional Learning session which looks at how you can use the Career Clusters to support younger students.

For junior secondary students, you can use the quiz and aligned resources, but when working with children younger than about 12 years old it's not ideal to ask them to complete a quiz. You can instead use the Clusters to explore what careers could look like, and broaden their horizons, while also avoiding creating bias around career paths.

This will be an interactive session of one hour, with time for questions at the end.

[Find out more](#)

## Scholarships

### [Scholarships – more benefits than money](#)

Scholarships are often seen as a means to ease the financial strain of education. While a scholarship does provide crucial monetary support, their benefits go far beyond just dollars and cents. Let's explore some of the other advantages that can come with being a scholarship recipient.



## **Recognition and prestige**

Receiving a scholarship is more than a financial boost; it's a badge of honour. It's a recognition of your hard work, dedication, and potential. This acknowledgment can boost your confidence and pave the way for future opportunities.

## **Resume enhancement**

Including scholarships on your resume is like showcasing a seal of excellence. It distinguishes you from the crowd and shows your commitment and dedication. Employers and universities value this demonstration of merit.

## **Networking opportunities**

Many scholarships offer access to a network of peers, mentors, and experts in your chosen field. These connections can be invaluable for forging meaningful relationships and uncovering new opportunities in academia, business, or any other industry.

## **Professional development**

Workshops, seminars, and conferences often come as part of the scholarship package. These events provide a platform to hone your skills, learn from seasoned professionals, and gain invaluable insights into your chosen field.

## **Exposure to new ideas and perspectives**

Scholarships often bring together a diverse group of individuals. This exposure to different backgrounds and viewpoints can expand your horizons and cultivate a global mindset – an essential quality in today's interconnected world.

## **Long-term opportunities**

A scholarship can be the gateway to further opportunities. It may lead to internships, mentorship programs, or employment opportunities that can shape your career trajectory in ways you might not have expected.

As you can see, scholarships aren't just about financial aid; they're about unlocking a whole world of opportunities. They can offer recognition, networking, professional growth, exposure to diverse perspectives, and so much more. So while you search for a scholarship, remember to consider these other benefits, not just money value.

You can search for scholarships on our database [here](#).

## **Some scholarships you may be interested in:**

### **[National Summer Art Scholarship](#)**

Open: August 1, 2023

Closes: October 15, 2023

Value: Development program



## Apprenticeships and Traineeships

### Supporting your high schooler's path to Apprenticeships and Traineeships

As your high school student prepares to graduate, apprenticeships and traineeships might be one of the pathways on their radar.

Providing hands-on learning opportunities they're a valuable alternative to traditional university paths, and they're a great way to help ease your child into full time work.

They'll be guided and mentored, all while:

- working on a vocational qualification,
- gaining real-world experience,
- making valuable industry networks, and
- earning a salary.

If your young person is considering this route, we've put together some tips to help you support them in finding the right opportunity, set realistic expectations, and encourage them, from their training through to completion.

### **Start early and explore options together**

Encourage your child to begin exploring apprenticeship and traineeship options during high school – they could even start a School-Based Apprenticeship from as early as Year 10.

Find out more about Apprenticeships vs Traineeships to see which one could be the most suitable. This will help to start narrowing down their options.

Attend career fairs, workshops, and information sessions with them. Research industries and companies that offer apprenticeships and traineeships, as well as looking at Registered Training Organisations (RTOs). Together, you can make a list of potential paths and narrow down the choices based on your child's interests and skills. Then figure out the next steps together.

### **Leverage school resources**

Contact the Guidance Officer or Careers Advisor at your child's high school. They'll be able to provide you with more information and may even have contacts who are looking for apprentices and trainees.

Encourage your child to utilise all the resources to find up to date and relevant information, get help putting together their resume and a template cover letter, and hear about other students who've followed the same pathways.

### **Set realistic expectations**

Open and honest conversations with your child about what to expect from apprenticeships or traineeships are important.

These opportunities typically involve a combination of on-the-job training and classroom instruction, so they'll need to be prepared to commit to full-time hours.

You might also want to discuss the pay scale – [Fairwork's Pay Calculator](#) is a useful place to start. They might feel disappointed at how low it is in the first year, but keep in mind it will increase with each year they complete.

You could also chat about the duration of the program and their responsibilities, both to the RTO and their employer. It's going to take and dedication on their part to complete their training successfully, so it will be helpful for them to know what to expect before they commit.



## **Talk positively**

Apprenticeships and traineeships offer loads of benefits, such as job security, gaining practical skills, receiving professional guidance, and valuable work experience.

Doing well can often lead to a permanent job with the same employer once they're finished. Or if they'd prefer to work elsewhere, they'll be well equipped to be a great candidate for other jobs.

Emphasising these advantages and highlighting the benefits could help to keep them motivated and upskill without student loan debts.

Universities see vocational qualifications, work, and life experience as positives, so if they decide they'd like to head to university later, their efforts could help to get them a place.

## **Foster commitment and persistence**

Demanding workloads, balancing work with learning, and entering the workforce could all be challenging for your child.

Ask how you can support them or help them to come up with ideas that will help in these situations. You can also talk to the professionals who are supporting them at work and with their learning for their suggestions.

## **Celebrate milestones**

Celebrating each achievement along the way, whether it's completing an assessment, reaching a specific time milestone, becoming certified, or securing a full-time job after the program ends, are a fantastic way to boost your child's confidence and motivation.

## **Check in**

Your emotional support and encouragement could make all the difference in their success.

You could ask about their decisions, experiences, challenges, and goals. It doesn't have to be lengthy or complex.

## **Your input counts**

Completing one of these programs is a huge achievement that could set your child up with a career path that they'll enjoy for life, or it could be a stepping stone to another qualification and a different career. In either case, they'll always have the skills and knowledge they've acquired to fall back on as well.

Your support and encouragement could certainly help your high school graduate to find and succeed in an apprenticeship or traineeship, and ultimately a successful career.

## **Find more information**

If you're looking for more practical information and steps to follow, our updated Apprenticeships and Traineeships Guide will be out soon. It has detailed information about the steps to take, finding opportunities, and more. Check [here](#) for updates.

**Note:** If your child's school is a Study Work Grow or Ponder Member, you can get the Guide for free.



## Getting Ready for Work

### Key skills for your future career: flexibility

In today's rapidly evolving professional landscape, one key skill has emerged as a true game-changer: flexibility. Whether you're a high school student setting your sights on the future or an adult navigating the complexities of the working world, honing your ability to adapt and be flexible can significantly impact your career trajectory. Let's explore why flexibility is so crucial and how you can cultivate this valuable skill.

#### **Embracing change**

A common saying is that the only constant in life is change – and the same holds true for the world of work. Industries evolve, technologies advance, and new challenges arise. Being open to change and willing to adapt is a trait highly sought after by employers. It demonstrates your ability to navigate shifting circumstances with grace and poise.

#### **Problem-solving powerhouse**

Flexibility often goes hand-in-hand with problem-solving. When you're faced with unexpected situations or shifting priorities, a flexible mindset enables you to approach these challenges with creativity and innovation. It allows you to think on your feet, find solutions, and turn obstacles into opportunities.

#### **Expanding your skill set**

Being flexible means being open to learning and acquiring new skills. This mindset not only keeps you relevant in a constantly changing job market but also positions you as an asset to any organisation. Embrace opportunities for training, workshops, and self-improvement, and you'll find yourself more adaptable and valuable in your career.

#### **Building strong relationships**

In the professional world, teamwork is often the cornerstone of success. A flexible individual is someone who can work effectively with a diverse range of personalities and adapt to various work styles. This ability to harmonise with others fosters strong, collaborative relationships, creating a positive and productive work environment.

#### **Seizing new opportunities**

Flexibility can open doors to unexpected opportunities. By being open to different roles, projects, or even career paths, you may find yourself on a trajectory you never imagined. Embracing change can lead to exciting new experiences and personal growth, ultimately shaping your career in ways you might not have anticipated.

#### **Maintaining work-life balance**

In today's fast-paced world, achieving a healthy work-life balance is essential for your wellbeing. Flexibility in your approach to work allows you to better manage your time and priorities, ensuring that you have the space to pursue your passions, spend time with family and friends, and take care of your physical and mental health.

As you chart your course through high school and beyond, remember that flexibility is a key skill that can propel you to success, not just in your future career but your personal life too. Embrace change, hone your problem-solving abilities, and be open to new opportunities.

Find out more about the world of work [here](#).



## Competitions

### [Grok Web.Comp 2023](#)

Web.Comp is a web design competition for school students. We'll teach you how to build a website as we go along, rather than expecting you to be an expert already.

Web.Comp has two components:

**Learn** is a 4-week series of challenges where students learn as they go along. Each week, we'll release interactive notes with the information students will need to complete the week's web design challenges. Students earn points for completing problems and claim a place on the leaderboard – participants will receive certificates for their results in this competition. The Learn competition starts October 23rd.

**Tournament** is a week long competition where students can design their own web pages and submit their creations to compete against other students' designs. They can also vote for their favourites. The Tournament begins on November 20th.

Web.Comp is free to all Australian students thanks to the generous support of WiseTech Global.

Find out more and register [here](#).

## Resources

### [To the Class of 2023](#)

*This guest article was written by Claire Pech, Careers Advisor at an independent school in Sydney, and consults as [Claire Pech Careers](#).*

Another year comes around and I find myself reflecting on our Year 12 group, about to rush out through the school gates. I have a few pointers that I would like to send them off with.

#### **Do lots**

As we know we spend the majority of our lifetime at work. That's why getting it right (not perfect) is so important. But it takes time to refine. I find the more experiences (not just jobs) we have throughout our lives; the more informed career decisions can be. This is something that every career advisor talks about to their students, particularly in application forms, resume creation, interview practice and thinking about the future. Experiences can be valuable lessons in teaching us what we like, what we are good at, and what we don't like.

Kathryn Taylor, from [Turning Point Consulting](#) (and my careers hero) says "Take a chance by stepping out of your comfort zone, reaching for new opportunities and meeting new people. Whether it be a conversation, a casual or volunteer opportunity, or a work experience, gain real insight into different workplaces, their people and positions without judgement or assumptions."

#### **What works?**

An important part of career-navigating can be to find out what you are good at – what works well for you – and link this to your values/interests. I wish I was told this when I left my school gates. Very often what we are good at, is what we enjoy, what feels natural, where we can flourish and also grow. I know a lot of people in roles that don't excite them, and their days are not filled with much joy. When you can tap into the skills that you feel come naturally to you – that can be a great path to travel down. But it takes time, and feeds back into point number 1, the more jobs, experiences, opportunities and industries we get exposed to – the more likely we are to find them.



## The 'passion' paradox

'Do what you love and you will never work another day in your life'. I am not a big fan of this phrase. Firstly, I don't think it's always true. I have personal experience of the opposite. Secondly, it can sometimes be a difficult path, especially if there are issues with job prospects, job instability or a saturated market. Thirdly, other traits may be needed alongside that passion – such as tenacity, grit, determination, a thick skin and good old luck, timing, connections. You can be the most talented person, with buckets of passion, but without determination, that passion may not get you where you want to go. Lucy Sattler, Career Practitioner, from [Study Work Grow](#) – prefers the question 'What problem would you like to solve?' – that can show us where we want to put our energy into.

A more balanced approach could be to ensure that passion remains present throughout life. Keeping that passion alive is important. Whether it's performing, music, drama, art, sports, academic pursuits, a hobby...the importance is to hold on to that passion. It could be as a hobby, a sideline, a potential future side-hustle, a future club to join, or an area you will want to be involved in. If you pursue it and turn it into your future career – then good on you! Just don't feel under pressure to do so. And don't feel bad if you have not found your passion, or 'a' passion. They can turn up at any stage. I have friends who have started new hobbies later in life, only to realise it's been the best thing they have ever done, the joy of their week. Passions can change. Jim Bright, from Bright and Associates, creator of the [Chaos Theory of Careers](#), talks about the ramifications of following your passion. Here is his [article](#) on the 12 things to consider when weighing up career options.

## Sydney, oh Sydney

Studying and working in Sydney is an expensive pursuit. We know house prices are out of control, rents are rising and inflation is squeezing us all at every level. Over the last few years, I have heard more and more students not choosing teaching, nursing, social work and community services, due to the lower salaries. In short, and I can fully empathise with this, these salaries will not be able to sustain mortgages in one of the world's most expensive cities. To be honest, there are not many professions nowadays that will. This is a very real concern for a lot of our young people. And I appreciate where they are coming from, as I am stunned each week with my growing grocery bill. But, we have to remember that what we study can stay with us for a long time into the future (particularly if we are professionally bound and it provides accreditation to a profession). Our jobs may move us around. Job mobility is high. People transfer, travel and globe trot. There are other cities in Australia, not to mention international opportunities. Keeping a wider lens can help when we consider the longer game.

## Use your personality

Our personalities tend to remain a constant over time. Yes, people can change and I have no doubt that everyone leaving their school gates is going to grow immeasurably. But our personalities – our core – tend to remain the same. The extroverts at school tend to be extroverts as adults. Those really organised students. tend to make organised adults. The same for those that are funny, kind, bossy, empathetic, talkative, musical, creative, whingey...those traits tend to stay with us throughout our lifetime. How can we harness those traits – the positive ones – to aid our career? For me, when I was at school, I liked connecting and talking with others. And I liked being organised. I now use these traits every day in my job. Reflect on your own personality and think how can you use them to your advantage?



## **If school wasn't for you...**

What if you found school a bit confusing, a bit annoying, a bit tiring or a bit stressful? What if you felt like you didn't really excel at anything or you never found your great strengths – like some of your friends did? You are not alone. Or what if you are the 20% of people that are neurodiverse and you felt that your learning profile did not blend well with the school system? School is not for everyone. But more so, the school system tends to test and appraise only a certain skillset. Your HSC and your ATAR only measures a small set of future skills you are going to use in your job, a very small set. Not to mention the fact that the HSC and ATAR are a measure at a point in time, they are not a future prediction. I know lots of people who got ATAR's in the high 90's who are not in particularly enjoying or fulfilling careers. And I know people in the exact opposite situation too, people who didn't do very well at school who are now thriving in their careers. So it's worth keeping it all in perspective.

Exams at the end of school in a lot of countries, do not measure abilities such as people skills, being a good team-player, being co-operative, being entrepreneurial, energetic, positive, and so on. This is important. If you felt school was a place where you did not excel or find what you were good at – there is a whole testing ground out there waiting for you. When future-You finds those great skills – and you will – use them to make strides in your career and use them in industries that really value them.

## **Keep on learning**

[Sue Ellson](#), careers development practitioner and careers expert, cites the most important thing you can do for your career is to '*keep on learning*'. I think no matter which direction your path takes, we can all learn from every success, failure, venture or new opportunity. We know that Artificial Intelligence is here to stay with unknowing possibilities. In a post-covid world, the nature of employment has also changed. Workers need to stay fresh, current and up to date with our changing environments. Learning new skills and knowledge has never been so easy. It can also be a great way to test an industry or academic area, without having to sign up for a whole degree. This is why sometimes doing a Diploma to test out a Bachelor degree, can pay dividends. Micro credentialing can be cheap and accessible. Not to mention the knock-on effect this has on recruitment software which can now bring the job opportunity directly to the candidate. So, as we farewell the Class of 2023, and watch them head out of the school gates – we wish them all the best. Good luck. Have fun. Learn lots. Make lots of mistakes, learn from them, change directions often, meet a tonne of new people, have some adventures and enjoy all that is ahead.

And best wishes.

*Claire Pech works as a Careers Advisor at an independent school in Sydney, and consults as [Claire Pech Careers](#).*

## **[Apply for the National Computer Science School 2024](#)**

NCSS is a ten-day summer school bringing together talented young people from around Australia, running from 6<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. NCSS will run streams at UNSW in Sydney (Cyber Security) and at the University of Melbourne (Chatbot/web/cloud development). Both streams involve learning advanced computing skills in a university setting.

The programme also includes fun teamwork activities, and the opportunity to meet industry professionals. All NCSS students reside on campus at a residential college, with NCSS tutors and staff providing pastoral care for the duration of the summer school.

Applications will close at **5pm AEST on 15th September**.





We can offer financial support to students from low-SES schools, rural and remote areas, and in cases of financial hardship. If you have any questions about financial support, or need any further information please email us via [summerschool@grokacademy.org](mailto:summerschool@grokacademy.org).

To find out more and complete an application, please visit [grokacademy.org/ncss](http://grokacademy.org/ncss).

## [Updated Veterinary Science closing dates at Charles Sturt](#)

Charles Sturt have made some changes to the application closing dates for the [Bachelor of Veterinary Biology / Bachelor of Veterinary Science](#) course for 2024.

They have extended the closing date for you to preference the course in UAC, and have brought forward the date for you to have your documents uploaded to complete your application.

**The new closing date for both preferences and document uploads to UAC is midnight 14 September 2023.**

If you haven't preferenced this course and uploaded all required documentation by this time, your application will not be accepted.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to [Charles Sturt](#) or visit the [UAC](#) website for more information.

## Workplace Spotlight

### [What is it like to work in a fashion boutique?](#)

A fashion boutique serves as a specialised store that offers a curated selection of clothing, accessories, and sometimes even jewellery. Unlike larger department stores, boutiques often focus on unique and carefully selected items. They aim to provide a distinctive and personalised shopping experience for their customers. Boutiques often cater to specific styles, trends, or even niche markets, allowing customers to discover clothing that aligns with their personal taste and preferences.

Working in each fashion boutique will be different, but they do have some things in common:

1. Quality is key – most boutiques pride themselves on the quality of their items and service.
2. Communication is important too – between customers, suppliers, and fellow co-workers.
3. A love of fashion – you'll need to be on the forefront of the latest trends and designs.

### **Offer curated and unique fashion**

Fashion boutiques can play a vital role in supporting local designers and artisans. Many boutiques feature items from independent designers or small-scale fashion labels, helping to promote creativity and diversity in the fashion industry.

### **Key tasks**

- Assist customers in finding and trying on clothing
- Provide personalised style and fit recommendations
- Maintain a tidy and organised store environment
- Keep track of inventory and restock merchandise
- Process transactions and handle cash or card payments
- Stay updated on current fashion trends and products
- Collaborate with designers and suppliers for new arrivals
- Create attractive window displays to entice customers
- Offer exceptional customer service and build client relationships



## **You can find fashion boutiques in the retail trade industry**

Fashion boutiques are usually found in the retail trade industry. There are various types of fashion boutiques, ranging from vintage-inspired shops with timeless pieces to avant-garde boutiques featuring cutting-edge, high-fashion designs.

## **You can expect regular hours and on-site work**

*Regular hours | Work on-site | Jobs more common in metro areas | Strong job growth*

Fashion boutiques are usually open from the standard 9 to 5. Sometimes they are open on weekends too, but are commonly closed on holidays.

On-site work is more common in boutiques. Staff need to be physically present to assist customers, curate displays, and maintain the store's atmosphere. However, with the rise of online shopping, some roles can be done remotely too.

Boutiques are more commonly found in metro or urban areas. This is because cities and urban centres tend to have larger and more diverse customer bases. But there are some boutique businesses in rural areas as well, often catering to a more localised customer base with unique and carefully selected items.

## **The Career Clusters you'll find in a fashion boutique**

People from all Clusters are needed for a fashion boutique to run successfully, but Linkers and Coordinators are typically the most common Clusters. In many roles, you might find yourself performing tasks across multiple Clusters.

## **What do Makers do in a boutique?**

Makers help with the initial building and fit out of a boutique and are also needed for any ongoing maintenance and repairs. Some boutiques offer tailoring and repair services for customers, so they also need people who are skilled in altering clothing. Other Makers might be responsible for delivering goods to and from the boutique.

- Shopfitters
- Tailors
- [Maintenance Technicians](#)
- [Delivery Drivers](#)

## **The role of a Linker in a boutique**

Linkers are the backbone of boutiques, assisting customers with questions, helping them to find exactly what they're looking for, and processing sales (both in-store and online). They are responsible for creating attractive displays to entice customers into the store, as well as advertising the boutique to the public through social media, online, and other avenues such as TV and radio. Some Linkers might liaise directly with designers and suppliers to organise exclusive deals.

- [Sales Assistants](#)
- Sales Representatives
- [Visual Merchandisers](#)
- Marketing Managers



## Where you'll find Coordinators in a boutique

Coordinators oversee the behind-the-scenes operations of a boutique, ordering and managing stock, keeping the books in check, and supervising other employees. They work closely with the boutique's team members, designers, and suppliers to ensure that products are sourced, displayed, and sold effectively.

- [Store Managers](#)
- [Accounts Administrators](#)
- Inventory Managers

## What do Informers do in a boutique?

Informers provide specialist advice to boutiques on important matters like financial and tax reporting, copyright protection, and contract law, and can even help develop business strategies and plans to increase sales and efficiency.

- [Lawyers](#)
- [Accountants](#)
- [Business Development Officers](#)

## The role of Innovators in a boutique

Innovators design the clothes and accessories that are sold to boutiques, while others help to develop the boutique's brand, including logos, websites, and even shop signage. Some Innovators take charge of the internal design of a store, including layout design and lighting displays, further contributing to a boutique's brand and feel.

- Fashion Designers
- [Graphic/Web Designers](#)
- [Interior Designers](#)

## How do Guardians work in a boutique?

Guardians are responsible for making sure boutiques are accessible for both customers and staff, and that they comply with any necessary regulations. Some Guardians might help ensure the boutique and stock stay secure, while others might investigate whether clothes and materials have been ethically sourced.

- Accessibility Consultants
- Security Officers
- Ethical/Sustainable Sourcing Consultant

## How do we expect working in a boutique to change in the future?

In the future, working in a boutique is likely to undergo several noteworthy changes.

Technology is expected to play a more prominent role, with boutiques integrating advanced systems for inventory management, customer relationship management, and online sales platforms. This infusion of technology will not only enhance efficiency but also facilitate a smoother and more convenient shopping experience for customers. Additionally, there is a growing emphasis on sustainable practices in the fashion industry, which is likely to influence the offerings of boutiques. There has already been a shift towards eco-friendly and ethically sourced products, aligning with the increasing demand for more environmentally conscious fashion choices.

The growth of remote work also means that some administrative tasks like inventory management and marketing could be done fully online, providing workers with increased flexibility in their work arrangements.



As these changes unfold, adaptability and a willingness to acquire new skills will prove valuable for anyone working in the evolving landscape of boutique retail.

## Job Spotlight

### [How to become a Data Scientist](#)

Data scientists are professionals who engage in a process of collecting, analysing, and interpreting substantial datasets to extract valuable insights and support decision-making. They employ a combination of computational skills, statistical methodologies, and domain knowledge to tackle complex problems and discover meaningful patterns within data.

If you're great with numbers and enjoy solving puzzles, a career in data science could be perfect for you.

### **If you have these skills, you could make a great Data Scientist**

- Excellent problem solver
- Analytical and logical
- Strong maths skills
- Good communicator
- Programming knowledge
- An eye for patterns
- Willing to learn
- Great collaborator

### **What's involved in the job?**

- Gathering information from various sources
- Ensuring data is accurate and ready for analysis
- Selecting the right tools to analyse the data
- Looking for patterns and trends in the data
- Teaching computer models to understand the data
- Using these models to make predictions
- Visually representing findings to make them understandable to any audience
- Using data insights to improve processes and performance

### **Where do Data Scientists work?**

As a Data Scientist, you will be working mainly indoors, most commonly in offices and laboratories, but there may be some opportunity to work out in the field directly collecting data.

### **What kind of lifestyle can I expect?**

Most Data Scientists work full-time, and part-time and casual roles aren't very common. They often work for tech companies, government and the public service, and research institutions.

Many Data Scientists earn an above average salary throughout their career.

Data scientists are generally more common in metropolitan areas or urban centres – but as technology advances and remote work becomes more common, opportunities for data science roles in rural areas or smaller towns might also increase.



## How to become a Data Scientist

To become a Data Scientist you will need to complete a relevant university degree.

Step 1 – Complete high school with a strong focus on English and Maths. Sciences could also be beneficial.

Step 2 – Find work experience with STEM or tech-related organisations or businesses.

Step 3 – Complete a relevant undergraduate degree, such as in mathematics, statistics, or computer science.

Step 4 – Consider further studies or look into specialisations, such as machine learning or data visualisation

Step 5 – Start building a portfolio of projects you've completed or have worked on.

Find out more here:

- [Coursera](#)
- [Indeed](#)
- [BrainStation](#)

## Similar Careers to Data Scientist

- Statistician
- Machine Learning Engineer
- Database Administrator
- Programmer
- Systems Analyst
- Mathematician
- Actuary

Find out more about alternative [careers](#).

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