



Careers Newsletter

Disclaimer – all information is printed in good faith
It is the responsibility of the student to confirm all details with the appropriate institution.

To contact Mr Madani please email jmadani@stpiusx.nsw.edu.au or call 9414 4388.

JobJump - Parents and students please watch YouTube video and sign up

Sign up to JobJump for information about tertiary study options, ATAR's and apprenticeship and TAFE information. Create a resume, sign up for news alerts.

To register go to <https://www.jobjump.com.au/>

Search school – St Pius X Chatswood

Register with an email address (use a private address, not spx)

Password – pius (lower case)

Parent information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fZoyckJwvVg&feature=youtu.be>

UTS | Introduction to Electrical and Electronic Engineering

May 15, 2023

Discover how electrical and electronic engineers combine a range of technologies to underpin the ongoing transformation of how humans commute, stay connected and consume energy.

[Find out more](#)

NDIA | Pathways to Post School Life: NSW and ACT

May 16 to May 24, 2023

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) would like to invite NSW and ACT students with a disability in Years 9 -12, their parents, carers and education professionals, to attend a virtual information session.

This is a session about building skills and paving a pathway to post school life. We will discuss a range of NDIS-funded supports and other assistance to help young people build skills to prepare for their transition, and support them in achieving employment and other goals, post-school.

Session times:

- Tuesday, 16 May 2023 12.30pm – 1.30pm (AEST)
- Wednesday, 17 May 2023 7.00pm – 8.00pm (AEST)
- Thursday, 18 May 2023 9.00am – 10.00am (AEST)
- Tuesday, 23 May 2023 8.00am – 9.00am (AEST)
- Wednesday, 24 May 2023 7.00pm – 8.00pm (AEST)

[Find out more](#)

iCanMed | Why Most Top UCAT Scorers Start Prep at Least 12-24 Months Before the Exam

May 16, 2023

We've all heard it before; the early bird catches the worm. So how early is early? Also, what are we meant to do with the time we have available? Based on our ongoing conversations with top UCAT scorers, starting early and doing the right thing provides far more upside than you may have realised.

In this webinar, Ray, iCanMed's education advisor, will share with you the following topics to help you start early and reap the rewards!



- Identifying the most common mistakes that cause students to waste valuable UCAT time
- Outlining optimal methods for preparing for the UCAT (minimum time, maximum return)
- Sitting a short mock test, followed by live step-by-step teaching of the most commonly-asked questions

[Find out more](#)

WSU | Discover Western – Exploring Western, Early Offer Programs, Pathways & More

May 16, 2023

Hear from Western staff and current students about our HSC True Reward Early Offer program, alternate pathways, Adjustment Factors, Schools Recommendation Scheme and other entry programs.

[Find out more](#)

UOW | Southern Sydney Parents & Students Info Evening

May 16, 2023

Find out about our courses, Early Admission, ATAR and selection rank, important dates, scholarships, accommodation, upcoming events, student life and more at one of our Year 12 information evenings.

You will also have the opportunity to get your questions answered by course experts and our current students who are studying right now!

[Find out more](#)

AIM | Sydney Info Evening

May 16, 2023

Your career in music starts at AIM. Join us on campus for our Sydney Info Evening to explore your potential with one of Australia's leading music schools.

This is your opportunity to go behind the scenes at AIM. You'll get to experience our state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, get one-on-one advice from teachers, listen in on course info sessions, watch live performances, learn about careers in music, and meet our talented students and alumni.

With undergraduate and postgraduate courses in music performance, composition, audio, music theatre, musicology, and arts and entertainment management, we offer specialisations to match a variety of passions.

Find out everything you need to know about studying at AIM.

[Find out more](#)

UTS | Introduction to Bachelor of Information Systems

May 16, 2023

Understand complex information systems such as Systems Analytics, Service Innovation, Smart Infrastructure, and Sustainable Enterprises.

[Find out more](#)

ADF | Trade Careers Information Session, Sydney

May 16, 2023

Apply your existing trade skills or receive world-class training in order to work with formidable



military assets and enjoy the many benefits of a career in the Australian Defence Force. To find out more about available trade roles, come along to an info session and speak with current serving personnel.

[Find out more](#)

UTS College | Mid-Year Information Session

May 16, 2023

Fast track your way into second year UTS.

If you want to study at UTS but need another way in, UTS College can help. Enrol in a UTS College diploma this June and you could start second year at UTS in 2024!

Want to learn more? Come join our information session!

[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney | Interested in studying nutrition or becoming a dietitian?

May 17, 2023

Join us to learn more about our Bachelor of Science/Master of Nutrition and Dietetics degree, study pathways and how it will help set you up for success in your career aspirations in the nutrition and dietetics discipline. The nutrition field is constantly evolving with new information emerging daily, which is why our degree incorporates new exciting subjects, including: FMHU2001 Mythbusting food and health and NTDT3002 Evidence-based practice in nutrition. Our course will provide you with the knowledge, tools and professional accreditation to succeed in this fascinating discipline.

[Find out more](#)

UTS | Introduction to Bachelor of Artificial Intelligence

May 17, 2023

Learn how to become an AI expert and offer innovative solutions to challenges in the era of Big Data, cloud computing and automation.

[Find out more](#)

UAC Digital | Let's Chat – Applying to the Schools Recommendation Scheme

May 17, 2023

While the ATAR is still the main selection tool used by most universities, there are other ways for you to show that you're ready to succeed at uni. Many institutions have one or more early offer schemes for Year 12 students. Through these schemes, institutions assess you using criteria other than (or in addition to) your ATAR.

We'll give you an overview of the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS) and discuss:

- how to apply
- whether you're guaranteed early entry if you apply
- other universities' direct early entry schemes
- how many early entry schemes you can apply for.

[Find out more](#)

SCCE | Exchange Webinar

May 17, 2023

Preparing for your exchange program is an important part of the process and is vital to continued program success. At these online meetings, an experienced high school exchange advisor will share an overview of high school exchange programs with Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.



You'll learn more about living with a host family and how studying overseas can help you develop confidence and independence... and gain a lifetime of memories.

[Find out more](#)

UOW | Online Parents & Students Info Evening

May 17, 2023

Find out about our courses, Early Admission, ATAR and selection rank, important dates, scholarships, accommodation, upcoming events, student life and more at one of our Year 12 information evenings.

You will also have the opportunity to get your questions answered by course experts and our current students who are studying right now!

[Find out more](#)

Notre Dame | Young Achievers Early Offer Information Session, Sydney

May 17, 2023

Find out everything you need to know about the program, including selection criteria, the application process, important dates, benefits and more.

You'll also hear from current students about how receiving an Early Offer helped them finish Year 12 with added confidence, and have the opportunity to chat 1:1 with academics about your undergraduate study options for 2024.

[Find out more](#)

ADF | ADFA Careers Information Session

May 17, 2023

Would you like the opportunity to undertake military training in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) while earning a degree? All without debt – in fact, we'll pay you!

You will earn a salary while learning and step into a guaranteed role upon graduation as an Officer in the ADF.

Head to the upcoming info session to speak with current serving military personnel and learn more about the Australian Defence Force Academy.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle | HSC Support Webinar – Taking Action Towards Your Career

May 17, 2023

The taking action towards your career session is specifically designed to provide you with invaluable insights on how to set yourself up for success in your future academic and professional pursuits. The webinar will also feature a University of Newcastle Student Ambassador who will share details about the University's new Early Entry Program.

[Find out more](#)

UTS | Introduction to Software Engineering

May 18, 2023

Join us and learn how Software engineering is the application of engineering principles to the design, development, and maintenance of software.

[Find out more](#)



WSU | Unlocking Careers in Sport and Health

May 19, 2023

This on campus event for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander High School students raises knowledge and aspiration for Careers in Sport and Health.

Students will participate in a range of practical workshops, a Q&A Yarn Up with Indigenous industry professionals to gain insights into their work, their education journey and pathways leading them to their career.

All attendees will receive a free WSU Sport and Health Pack.

[Find out more](#)

JMC Academy | May Open Day, Sydney

May 20, 2023

Register for our Free Open Day! This is your chance to see our multi-million dollar world-class facilities.

Things to do at Open Day:

- Tour our world-class facilities and tech
- Explore your creative future in our hands-on workshops
- Meet our current students and industry expert lecturers
- Check out live student performances
- See creativity come to life with course demonstrations
- Build your creative network

[Find out more](#)

NIE | Simulated UCAT Day Workshop, Online

May 20, 2023

If you are in Yrs. 10, 11, 12, or you may be older and considering sitting the UCAT in the future, then this program is for you. The Simulated UCAT Workshop program is ideal and often a necessary step towards effective and efficient preparation for the UCAT.

This event will be conducted by the National Institute of Education in partnership in partnership with UCAT Preparation Australia, and MICAS (Medical Interviews and Career Advice Services).

The workshop is primarily designed to cover fundamental techniques in navigating all five sections of the UCAT test and also for participants to gain a better understanding of their own level of preparedness for the test.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney Design School | Open Day

May 20, 2023

Join us for our biggest day of the year! Our Director Amanda Grace will take you through our flexible course options. Meet our passionate Educators and get creative with colour and fabrics by making a mood board!

[Find out more](#)

ADF | Wagga Wagga Army Reserve Base Open Day

May 22 to May 23, 2023

In the Army Reserve you'll tackle new challenges, learn new skills and get paid to do it – all without giving up your day job.

Defence Force Recruiting will be hosting an upcoming Reserve Base Open Day at Wagga



Wagga Army Reserve Depot over two days in an exclusive opportunity for the public to experience a functioning Army Reserve Base.

On the day you will have the chance to check out:

- Military equipment and vehicles on display
- Local reserve unit demonstration
- Weapons displays
- Information sessions with current serving members

[Find out more](#)

UTS | Introduction to Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering

May 22, 2023

Get excited by robots, nanomachines, and biomedical devices – this can be your future career. Find out how by joining our webinar and discussing with our academics.

[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney | Film Studies Masterclass – Margaret Pomeranz and David Stratton

May 23, 2023

Calling all budding film-buffs, scriptwriters and creatives!

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is cracking open its doors to 20 lucky guests, to sit in with current creative writing and film studies students for a very special masterclass with Margaret Pomeranz and David Stratton.

Sign up for this unique opportunity to learn from Margaret and David about the films that changed their life, the evolution of the film industry, the power of language in film criticism – as well as how to turn your passion for cinema into a career.

[Find out more](#)

2023 Greater Western Sydney Careers Market

May 24 to May 25, 2023

The 2023 Greater Western Sydney Careers Market is taking place on Wednesday the 24th and Thursday the 25th of May at the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre.

This event offers exhibitors the opportunity to speak to thousands of Greater Western Sydney high school students and careers advisers as these students explore career paths and further education options available to them.

[Find out more](#)

Notre Dame | Pathways to Medicine Information Session

May 29, 2023

We will be providing information about the exciting new pathways into Notre Dame's Doctor of Medicine degree via our undergraduate Bachelor of Biomedical Science and Bachelor of Advanced Biomedical Science (Honours) degrees.

Our online info session is your opportunity to hear important information about these new pathway programs, admission requirements, and information on how to apply, course structure, as well as participate in a Q&A to have all your questions answered.

You'll hear from School of Medicine and School of Health Sciences academics, along with



staff from Admissions and the Prospective Students Office.

[Find out more](#)

BiG Day In Newcastle

June 1, 2023

Join us at UON on 1 June for the 2023 BiG Day In Newcastle. Bring your Year 9-12 students to learn where a STEM/technology career can take them & hear from organisations such as nib, Mudbath, Westpac, Wisetech Global, Australian Space Agency, Australian Signals Directorate & more to come.

[Find out more](#)

HSC and Careers Expo 2023

June 1 to June 3, 2023

HSC and Careers Expo celebrates its 15th year in 2023!

There will be a variety of organisations to chat with:

- universities, TAFE colleges and training providers
- providers of HSC resources, information and services
- organisations with apprenticeship information and opportunities
- organisations with employment opportunities
- organisations with cadetship opportunities
- career advisers and student support services
- providers of tutoring services, lecture and study skills programs
- providers of international exchange and gap year programs
- providers of youth services and programs

[Find out more](#)

Charles Sturt | EngFest 2023

June 6 to June 8, 2023

EngFest is Charles Sturt's annual three-day celebration of civil engineering, with exhibitions and presentations of student works and research, school visits and information sessions, a careers expo, industry networking, professional development events and more.

It brings together students, cadet and professional civil engineers, researchers, representatives of Engineers Australia, interested members of the public and school students. We invite you to come along to meet the engineers of tomorrow and see what the future of engineering holds.

[Find out more](#)

University of Newcastle | ExperimentFest

June 13 to June 23, 2023

For the more than 20 years, the University of Newcastle has been working with local high schools to provide authentic, engaging, and hands-on experiences for HSC students.

For those studying Stage 6 Science/Food Tech Subjects, Experiment Fest is the chance to improve laboratory skills and use specialised equipment that isn't readily available in regular classrooms, while conducting experiments that directly relate to the HSC syllabus in the areas of;

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Food Science and Human Nutrition



- Physics

[Find out more](#)

[Scholarships for Underrepresented Students in Australia](#)

We believe that education is a journey that should be accessible to all. Recognising the importance of diversity and inclusivity, lots of organisations and universities have established scholarship opportunities to support students from underrepresented backgrounds. These scholarships aim to empower students from diverse backgrounds, ensuring that their potential is realised and their dreams are within reach. In this article, we'll explore some of the scholarship opportunities available for different underrepresented groups.

Indigenous Scholarships

Australia's rich indigenous heritage is celebrated through various scholarships designed to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. These scholarships aim to create pathways for Indigenous students to excel academically and pursue their aspirations. Some examples include:

- [The Charlie Perkins Scholarship](#) supports outstanding Indigenous students in pursuing postgraduate studies at leading UK universities.
- [The Australian Indigenous Education Foundation](#) (AIEF) offers scholarships to Indigenous high school and university students, providing financial assistance, mentoring, and personal support throughout their educational journey.

Scholarships for Students with Disabilities

Recognising the talents and potential of students with disabilities, scholarships have been established to remove barriers and create equal opportunities. These scholarships provide financial support and resources to help students overcome challenges. For instance:

- The [Maple Scholarship Program](#) supports students with disabilities and those working in the disability sector, providing funding for education-related expenses.
- [Vision Australia's Further Education Bursaries](#) provide adaptive technology to help students who are blind or have low vision to fully participate and succeed in their chosen studies.

Scholarships for Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds

Many scholarships are dedicated to supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds, ensuring they have the opportunity to pursue their educational goals. These scholarships provide financial aid, mentorship, and guidance. Examples include:

- [The Smith Family Learning for Life Program](#) assists disadvantaged students with financial support, mentoring, and access to extra-curricular opportunities.
- [The Pinnacle Foundation](#) provide educational scholarships, mentoring and opportunities for young LGBTIQ+ Australians to realise their full potential and overcome challenges arising from their identity.

Scholarships can play a vital role in fostering inclusivity and diversity in education. They can empower underrepresented students and open doors to a world of opportunities that might



otherwise be inaccessible. We encourage anyone to explore the scholarship opportunities available – you never know what might be out there. You can find more scholarships on our database [here](#).

How Will AI Change the World of Work?

Artificial intelligence is a huge trend these days – each week it seems like there are bigger and better programs, doing everything from writing articles to creating images and even [helping with early detection of cancer](#). But with this comes a hint of fear. Is AI going to completely change the world of work?

It might seem all doom and gloom, but the reality is far from it. In this blog, we'll explore how AI is changing the world of work and offer some valuable tips on how you can prepare and adapt to thrive in this new era.

The Rise of AI in the Workplace

AI is transforming industries across the globe, revolutionising the way we work, communicate, and interact. According to the [World Economic Forum](#), it's estimated that by 2027, nearly half of all workplace tasks will be performed by machines.

What does this mean for us? We've heard that lots of jobs that require repetitive manual tasks are those most likely to be replaced by automation. But on the other hand, there's a boom of job opportunities that require uniquely human skills such as creativity, critical thinking, and emotional intelligence. Advancement in AI technology is creating new jobs too, particularly in fields such as data science, machine learning, and robotics.

It's not that there will be *less* jobs in the future – the jobs of the future will simply *look different* to how they do today. Just like how there are already [plenty of jobs that no longer exist](#), replaced by jobs that were unheard of just a few decades ago (think things like influencers and software developers).

Embrace AI as an Enabler, Not a Competitor

Rather than fearing AI as a threat to your job, it's important to view it as a tool that can complement your work instead. There have been [similar concerns throughout history](#) that technology will replace people entirely, but today we would hardly be able to imagine a world without these technologies.

AI is great at automating repetitive tasks, which frees us up to focus on higher-level thinking, problem solving, and innovation. This means you can spend more time at work doing the really important things, and [increase your productivity](#). It can also eliminate some undesirable jobs that *nobody* wants to do, whether it's because they're simply boring or downright unsafe.

Developing Essential Skills for the AI Era

As AI becomes more prevalent, [certain skills will be in high demand](#). To prepare for the future of work, developing these skills will become even more important, such as:

- **Digital Literacy:** Understanding how to use technology is already important, but will be even more so in the future. Start to familiarise yourself with AI applications, algorithms, and basic programming concepts.
- **Creativity and Innovation:** As much as it might seem like it, AI can't replicate human imagination and creativity. Nurturing your creativity and embracing innovation will allow you to bring unique perspectives and value to future (and current) jobs.



- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving:** AI may excel at processing large amounts of data, but it's human intelligence that can interpret, analyse, and make informed decisions based on that data.
- **Human-Centric Skills:** While AI is great at automation and data processing, it lacks the emotional intelligence, empathy, and social skills that make us uniquely human. Interpersonal communication, collaboration, and leadership skills will become increasingly valuable in a work environment that blends AI and human interactions.

Looking for the Positives

AI is changing the future of work, but it's not something to fear – in fact, there are so many ways [we can use AI to make the world a better place](#). By understanding the impact of AI on the job market and developing the skills needed to work alongside AI technologies, you can prepare for success no matter what the future might hold.

Preparing for Work Experience

Thinking about a career, but not sure if it's going to be the right fit? Work experience is a great way to get a taste of a job and build some important skills. So if you're thinking of going on work experience, this blog will provide you with practical tips and advice to help you prepare, and come out the other end feeling more secure about your career choices.

The Importance of Work Experience

Work experience can serve as a stepping stone towards your future career. It offers a glimpse into the real working world, helping you develop essential skills, gain industry insights, and make informed decisions about your future. By participating actively and preparing beforehand, you'll maximise the value of this experience and lay the foundation for your future career choices.

Research and Goal Setting

Before you begin your placement, do some research about the company or organisation you'll be joining. Familiarise yourself with their mission, values, and the work they do. This knowledge will demonstrate your enthusiasm and allow you to ask thoughtful questions. It's also a good idea to set specific goals for what you hope to achieve during your placement. Whether it's gaining exposure to a particular department or mastering a specific skill, having clear objectives will guide your efforts and make your experience more meaningful.

Dress Code and Professional Etiquette

First impressions matter, and dressing appropriately is an essential aspect of professional etiquette. Find out the dress code at the workplace and ensure your attire is clean, neat, and aligned with their expectations. Remember to maintain a professional demeanour throughout your work experience, including polite and respectful communication with colleagues, punctuality, and a positive attitude. These habits will demonstrate your enthusiasm and leave a lasting impression – and could net you a positive reference at the end of your placement.

Networking and Building Relationships



Work experience provides an excellent opportunity to network and build valuable professional relationships. Take the initiative to introduce yourself to colleagues, ask about their roles, and the journeys they took to get to where they are today. Actively participate in team activities and engage in conversations, showing genuine curiosity and eagerness to learn. Cultivating relationships within your chosen field can open doors to future opportunities and mentorship.

Embracing Challenges and Seeking Feedback

During your placement, you may encounter unfamiliar tasks or situations. Embrace these challenges as learning opportunities and push yourself beyond your comfort zone. At the same time, don't hesitate to ask for help or clarification when needed. Additionally, seek feedback from your supervisor or colleagues to gauge your progress and identify areas for improvement. This feedback will be invaluable in knowing the skills and knowledge you can work on in the future.

Reflecting and Learning from the Experience

Once your placement comes to an end, take time to reflect on the lessons you've learned and the skills you've acquired. Consider how this experience has shaped your understanding of your chosen career path and identify areas you'd like to explore further. Reflecting on your work experience will help you make informed decisions about your future studies and career aspirations.

By properly preparing, researching, embracing challenges, and building relationships, you'll maximise the benefits of your work experience placement. Remember, this experience could be a stepping stone to your future; stay positive, be proactive, and make the most of any opportunities that come your way.

You can find more blogs and advice about preparing for work experience and search for opportunities on our website [here](#).

2023 Travel Photographer of the Year Competition

The 2022 Travel Photographer of the Year awards (TPOTY) are now open.

TPOTY is truly global – wherever you live in the world and whether you are amateur or professional, beginner or expert, young or old, Travel Photographer of the Year is for you. Submit your entries in a range of categories which reflect the breadth and diversity of travel photography, combined with the values of environment, diverse cultures, sustainability and conservation.

Entries are open until 1 October 2023.

Find out more and enter here: <https://www.tpoty.com/>

The 2023 Next Gen Awards

With so many young people leading projects in their communities, the Next Gen Awards have been created as an opportunity to showcase our next generation of young innovators, entrepreneurs and leaders across the country.

Entries for this awards program are open to all Australian primary and high school students



and teachers with six categories to acknowledge young people that are building their 21st-century skills as they work on projects to bring their ideas to life and make an impact in their communities.

The 2023 awards program features a myriad of opportunities for young people to build their skills, network with other young leaders, and connect with leading organisations across the country looking to support innovative young professionals.

If you are a young innovator, entrepreneur or leader currently enrolled in a primary or high school across the country, make sure to nominate now!

Applications open on the 15th of May 2023, and will **close on the 21st of August 2023**.

Find out more: <https://www.bopindustries.com/next-gen>

Submissions Open for UN Youth's Global Advocate

UN Youth's Global Advocate magazine consists of literary and artistic pieces produced by young, talented Australians selected for their unique point of view. After a successful two publications last year, we are excited to be back for a sixth issue!

The theme for the next issue is JOURNEYS, which will aim to explore the physical and metaphorical journeys that extend across cultures, peoples and borders that make us human beings.

We are after essays, articles, short fiction, letters, poems, opinions pieces, artwork and photography that explores the ways journeys shape our lives and form our own identities.

Pitches are now open to Australian youth between the ages of 12-15 and close on the 31st of May.

Find out more: <https://unyouth.org.au/event/nsw-global-advocate/>

Surround Sound Band Competition 2023

Surround Sound is a band competition for students from secondary schools in rural and remote areas.

Bands must have between 3 and 16 members and may perform covers or originals in any style of contemporary music.

All performers must be students currently enrolled at a NSW public school in Years 7 to 12. No teachers or tutors can perform as part of the band.

Round 1 will be held by video submission.

Round 2 will see schools chosen as finalists visited by an industry mentor for a workshop at a time to be negotiated.

Round 3 finalists will prepare a 15-minute set for a performance at a live event in Sydney in Term 4. Song choice will be subject to copyright advice. Bands will be supported to travel to Sydney and accommodated for their performance at the final.

Applications close Friday 26 May 2023.

Find out more: <https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/local-arts-programs/rural-north-rural-south-and-west/surround-sound>

Exploring Vocational Education

Are you thinking about your options for when you leave school? In this blog, we'll delve into the world of vocational education and why it might be the perfect choice for you. While university is often seen as the traditional route to employment after school, vocational education offers a unique and equally promising pathway to success. So, let's dive in and



discover why vocational education might just be the right fit for you.

Embracing Your Passions and Strengths

Are you someone who loves getting hands-on, thrives in practical environments, or has a strong inclination towards a specific trade or skill? Vocational education allows you to explore and develop your passions and strengths. Whether it's automotive mechanics, culinary arts, graphic design, healthcare, or information technology, vocational programs provide specialised training that directly aligns with your interests, giving you a head start in pursuing a career you truly enjoy.

Real-World Experience

One of the unique aspects of vocational education is the emphasis on real-world experience. While theoretical knowledge has its place, vocational programs offer practical, industry-specific training that allows you to gain valuable hands-on experience. By working with professionals in your chosen field, you'll develop the skills employers are seeking, making you more marketable and ready to hit the ground running after graduation.

Career Readiness

Vocational education equips you with the skills and expertise required for immediate entry into the workforce. These programs are designed to meet industry demands, ensuring you have the knowledge and practical abilities necessary to excel in your chosen career. Additionally, many vocational institutions have strong connections with local businesses and industries, providing opportunities for traineeships, apprenticeships, and job placement assistance. This bridge between education and employment enhances your prospects right from the get-go.

Flexibility and Affordability

University education often comes with a significant time commitment and financial investment. In contrast, vocational education offers flexibility in terms of program length and structure. Whether you're looking for a short-term course or a longer program, vocational education allows you to choose what works best for you. Moreover, vocational programs are often more cost-effective (and sometimes even [completely free](#)), saving you from the burden of extensive student loans and enabling you to enter the workforce sooner.

Meeting Industry Demands

As the workforce evolves, industries have an increasing demand for skilled professionals in various sectors. Vocational education addresses this need by focusing on specific industries, offering specialised training that directly aligns with emerging job opportunities. By pursuing vocational education, you position yourself as a valuable asset to employers seeking individuals with practical skills and industry-specific knowledge.

As you contemplate your future options, remember that vocational education is a pathway worth considering. It offers you a chance to embrace your passions, gain practical experience, and enter the workforce equipped with the skills and knowledge employers seek. So take a moment to explore the vast array of vocational programs available. Contact local TAFE and VET providers and gather information to make an informed decision. Remember, your journey is about finding the right path for you.

You can also learn more about vocational education and training on our website [here](#).



5 Essential Budgeting Tips for Teenagers

As a teenager, learning how to manage your money effectively is an essential life skill that can set you on the path to financial success. Budgeting not only helps you make the most of your earnings but also builds discipline and responsible financial habits. In this blog, we'll explore five budgeting tips specifically tailored for teenagers, empowering you to take control of your finances and pave the way for a secure future.

Set Clear Financial Goals

Having clear financial goals is the first step toward successful budgeting. Take some time to identify your short-term and long-term objectives. Are you saving for a specific item, like a new smartphone or a trip? Or do you have more long-term goals, such as saving for university or starting a small business? By defining your goals, you can allocate your money accordingly and stay motivated to stick to your budget.

Track Your Expenses

Keeping track of your expenses is crucial to understanding where your money goes and identifying areas where you can cut back or save. Make a habit of recording your spending – this can be through a budgeting app (such as [Mint](#) or [PocketGuard](#)) or even just in a simple notebook. Categorise your expenses, such as entertainment, transportation, or eating out, to get a clear picture of your spending patterns. This practice will help you make informed decisions and make adjustments as needed.

Differentiate Between Needs and Wants

It's easy to get carried away with impulsive purchases, especially when you're bombarded with ads constantly. Learning to differentiate between needs and wants is vital for maintaining a balanced budget. Before making a purchase, ask yourself if it's a necessity or a desire. By focusing on what you need first, you can prioritise your spending and allocate any remaining funds toward your wants without jeopardising your financial stability.

Be Realistic

A budget acts as a roadmap for your finances, guiding you toward your goals. To create a realistic budget, start by calculating your income, including allowances, part-time job earnings, or any other sources. Next, list your regular expenses, such as school supplies, transportation costs, and personal items. Allocate a portion of your income toward savings and emergencies. Ensure your expenses don't exceed your income, and leave room for unexpected expenses. Regularly review and adjust your budget to stay on track.

Save and Invest Wisely

Saving money is not only about setting it aside; it's also about making it grow. Explore different savings options available to teenagers, such as opening a savings account or investing in low-risk ventures. We recommend you seek guidance from a trusted adult or financial advisor to understand the various investment opportunities suitable for your age and financial goals before setting out on your own. By starting early and developing good saving and investing habits, you'll set yourself up for a prosperous future.

Mastering budgeting as a teenager can have a profound impact on your financial wellbeing



throughout your life. Remember, the earlier you start, the better off you'll be in the long run. Embrace these budgeting tips, and enjoy the journey toward financial independence and success.

You can find lots more info and advice on all things financial on the government's [Money Smart website](#), or check out some more budgeting tips for teenagers on our website [here](#).

University Spotlight – Curtin University

Find out what it's like to study at Curtin University in our latest university spotlight.

Campuses & Access

Curtin University's main campus is located in Bentley in Perth, around 15 minutes south-east of the CBD. The campus is easily accessible by both bus and train and has plenty of parking spaces for students travelling by car.

There are also other small campuses in the CBD, mainly focused on graduate courses, and a campus in Kalgoorlie focused on engineering and mining courses. Curtin also has an international presence in Malaysia, Singapore, Dubai, and Mauritius.

Most of the paths and buildings across the main campus are accessible by wheelchair, with major buildings containing lifts for access to upper floors.

Online Learning

Curtin offer a wide variety of courses to study fully online, mainly in arts, business, health, STEM, and education. Online students have full access to Curtin's online library system, as well as access to specialised support services for remote students.

Find out more about studying online at Curtin [here](#).

Study Options

Curtin offer undergraduate courses in all standard study areas, including one of Western Australia's only undergraduate-entry [medicine courses](#).

Curtin also offer [double degrees](#) in business, law, health sciences, humanities, and STEM disciplines.

The academic year is split across two semesters, running from late-February to early-November, with a month-long break between each semester. Curtin also offer study in shorter trimesters and optional study periods. Classes are not scheduled over the Christmas and New Year period. You can view the full academic calendar for the year [here](#).

The structure of most courses at Curtin is quite rigid, with subjects only offered in certain semesters and must be taken in a set order. You can find out more about specific courses and subjects [here](#).

Accommodation & Living

Curtin offer a variety of on-campus accommodation options at the Bentley campus, including both individual and shared options. They also offer one option at the Kalgoorlie campus.

2023 prices vary between \$210 to \$515 per week per person, depending on size and location. The fees for all accommodation options include all utility bills – electricity, water, and internet (Wi-Fi). Some options also include meal plans. Students staying at the Bentley campus also receive a free gym membership at Curtin Stadium.

Contracts are offered on a single semester or yearly basis. Students must reapply for accommodation at the end of their contract.

You can see all accommodation options and application processes [here](#).

Living off campus in Perth can get quite expensive (the [current median rental price](#) for an



apartment in Bentley is \$430 per week), and rental options are generally highly competitive. More affordable options further away can mean a very long travel time to and from campus.

Campus & Teaching Facilities

There are several facilities located at Curtin's Bentley campus, including cafés and eateries, sporting and exercise facilities, shops, a bank, and more. Students can join a variety of clubs and participate in on-campus activities happening throughout the year. There is also an art gallery, theatre, and several gardens to enjoy.

Each campus has a dedicated library, and the Bentley campus has several study spaces, including a 24/7 computer lab. The campus also has lots of specialist teaching and learning facilities, including labs, clinics, simulated environments, and access to the latest technologies and equipment.

You can find out more about Curtin's on-campus facilities [here](#).

Student Support

Curtin offer a wide variety of dedicated student support services, including academic and study support, disability and inclusion support, support for LGBTQIA+ students, support for Indigenous students, health and wellbeing services, and childcare facilities and support on campus.

Information about support services can be accessed on their website [here](#).

Career Development & Industry Partnerships

Curtin offers a [career advice service](#) for all students, helping you to develop valuable skills and connecting you with employers.

[Industry learning](#) is also embedded into many of their courses, with options including internships, work integrated learning, and practical learning meaning you can gain professional work experience while you study.

Curtin also has strong [industry links](#), particularly in mining and agriculture, and networks and programs to support budding [entrepreneurs](#).

Information Accessibility

Curtin's university is modern and easy to navigate, with functionality that works across all major browsers. It has a handy search function and essential information about courses, scholarships, and support options are easy to find.

Tours & Information Sessions

You can take a virtual tour of the Bentley campus [here](#).

Curtin run both online and on campus information events for future students regularly throughout the year. You can view the upcoming calendar of events [here](#).

Next Steps

If you're interested in study at Curtin and want to find out more information, the best way to do this is to contact them, either by phone on 1300 222 888, or by submitting an [enquiry online](#).

Curtin also runs one Open Day a year, usually around March.



What is it Like to Work in a Bank?

Banks exist to help people and businesses with money. They keep our money safe, provide loans when we need money, help us pay for things, and offer advice on managing our finances. They also work closely with governments and other countries to ensure our economy stays stable.

Here are some common things you might find when working at a bank:

1. High customer interaction – you'll interact with clients regularly, assisting them with transactions, answering their questions, and providing necessary advice.
2. Technology is everywhere – banks rely a lot on technology for various tasks, such as processing transactions, managing customer data, and providing online banking services.
3. Security is key – you'll need to ensure that money, documentation, and customer information are handled carefully and safely.

Key Outcome

Provide financial services

The primary purpose of a bank is to provide financial services and facilitate the flow of funds in the economy.

Key Tasks

- Assist customers with account transactions and inquiries
- Evaluate loan applications
- Provide financial advice and guidance
- Develop and maintain customer relationships
- Conduct market research and analysis
- Implement and manage digital banking solutions

Industry

You can find banks in the financial and insurance services industry

Banks are generally found in the financial and insurance services industry. There are a few different kinds of banks, including retail banks, commercial banks, investment banks, and central banks.

Work Environment

You can expect regular hours and flexible work

Regular hours | Work on-site and from home | Jobs more common in metro areas | Moderate job growth

Bank opening hours generally align with regular business hours, typically Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. However, some positions may require longer hours, especially in investment banking or specific customer service roles that need to offer 24/7 service.

With advances in technology, some of the work at a bank can be done remotely, particularly customer service, digital banking support, and certain administrative tasks. However, certain positions that require a physical presence, such as cash handling, in-person customer interactions, or specific operational tasks, may still require on-site work. In some roles, you might even find yourself travelling to and from clients' homes and businesses.

Banks are generally found in all locations, but metropolitan areas tend to have a much higher concentration of banks than regional and remote areas.



The Career Clusters you'll find in a bank

People from all Clusters are needed for a bank to run effectively, but the most common Clusters you'll find are Informers and Linkers. As in any role, you might find yourself performing tasks across multiple Clusters.

What do Makers do in a bank?

Makers aren't as common in banks as other Clusters, but they are still needed for some important roles. This includes things like performing maintenance on vital systems and equipment (such as security systems and ATMs), helping with upkeep of a bank's physical facilities, or maintaining huge IT systems and databases.

- Maintenance Technicians
- IT Support Specialists

The role of a Linker in a bank

Linkers in banks are responsible for helping people find and use the bank's various services and answering any questions and complaints they might have. They are also responsible for creating and maintaining strong relationships with customers and businesses. Other Linkers are in charge of promoting a bank's services to the public and creating marketing materials to procure more clients.

- Customer Service Officers
- Customer Relationship Managers
- Marketing Managers

Where you'll find Coordinators in a bank

Coordinators in a bank are responsible for planning and managing the day-to-day operations. They may manage workflow, monitor performance metrics, identify areas for improvement, and implement strategies to enhance operational effectiveness. Other Coordinators are responsible for handling administrative tasks, including scheduling meetings and events and maintaining records. Some Coordinators might assist with financial planning, budgeting, and reporting within the bank.

- Operations Coordinators
- Administration Officers
- Finance Managers

How do Informers work in a bank?

Informers in banks provide financial advice to a wide variety of clients, from people looking for a home loan to clients interested in investing and shares. Some Informers might perform market analysis, identifying financial trends and patterns. Other Informers might find themselves running educational programs to teach customers and the public about money management and finances.

- Financial Advisors
- Investment Bankers
- Market Analysts
- Financial Education Specialists

What types of Innovators work in a bank?



Innovators are the people who design and develop online banking processes and applications, making banking more accessible from anywhere in the world. Innovators can also be involved in designing and developing new banking products and services. They are also responsible for ensuring both physical and digital security is strong, and money and data are protected against attacks and fraud.

- Software Developers
- Product Developers
- Cyber Security Specialists

Where you'll find Guardians in a bank

Guardians are needed in banks to keep the premises safe and secure, particularly in cases where large amounts of money are stored on-site. Other Guardians ensure that banks are complying with any important financial laws and regulations to protect customers. In larger banks or banking organisations, there may be roles focused on employee health and wellness.

- Security Officers
- Compliance Officers
- Occupational Health and Wellness Coordinator

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

The banking industry is increasingly relying on technology to improve efficiency, enhance customer experiences, and reduce costs. In the future, banks will likely invest more in digital transformation, automation, and artificial intelligence. In the past few decades, we have already seen a shift in the type of skills required in the industry, with a greater demand for employees with technology expertise – a trend that will likely continue.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of remote work in the banking industry. Many banks are beginning to offer more flexible working arrangements and remote work options.

The banking industry is subject to regulatory requirements and standards that can change over time. Banks will need to adapt to new challenges and regulations related to data privacy, cybersecurity, and anti-money laundering. This could result in changes to bank processes, policies, and systems, with a need for employees to stay up to date with regulatory changes.

Mr Madani