KSC Career News - September 2026

Welcome

Welcome to the September 2026 Careers Newsletter!

It has been a busy term for our students, particularly our Year 12 students, who have been working hard to submit their applications for 2027 programs. This term, our Year 10 students have also been busy in their Pathways class participating in incursions and excursion.

Year 12 News

Applications for university and some TAFE courses are now open, and students can create a VTAC account and begin entering their course preferences. It has been a pleasure meeting with our Yr 12 students, hearing about their plans for 2027 and supporting them in their study and career options.

Just a reminder for students applying for tertiary studies in 2027, their Timely applications close on **Monday 28 September 2026 at 5.00 pm** but we are encouraging students to please try to complete your applications before the end of term.

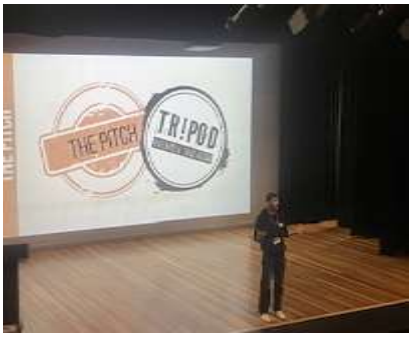
Year 11 News

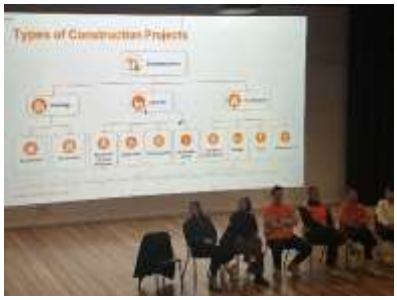
This term, we have had the opportunity to meet with many of our Year 11 students to discuss their plans for VCE and beyond. It has been wonderful to hear about their goals and aspirations.

Students are welcome to book an appointment with the Careers Team using this link. Where possible, we ask that appointments be scheduled outside of class time to minimise disruption to learning.https://koonungcareers.com.au/for-students/appointment-booking

Year 10 News

During Pathways, Year 10 visited Deakin Burwood for a tour of their facilities. They also attended an Interview Skills providing insight in how present themselves positively during a job interview. Students also heard from representatives from the Eastern Tram and Bourke Alliance and Women in Trade, who shared insights into the diverse range of career opportunities available across the construction and STEM industries.





Included in this newsletter:

- Information Sessions
- Open Days
- Job Spotlight - Power Systems Engineer

Upcoming Information Sessions

Women in Defence Virtual Information Session

Organisation: Australian Defence Force
Location: Online
Date: September 22, 2026
Find out more

La Trobe Bundoora Campus Talk & Tours for Future Students

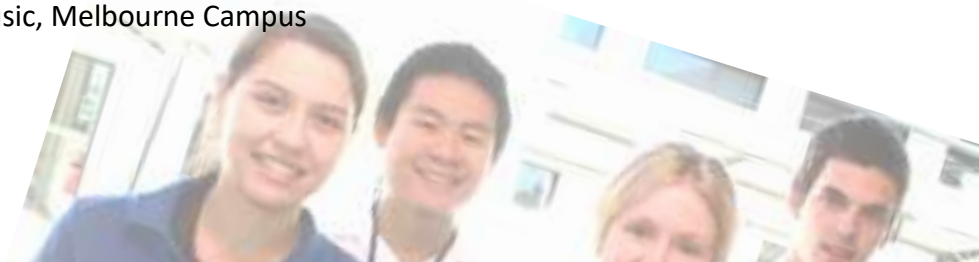
Organisation: La Trobe University
Location: La Trobe University, Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus
Date: September 22 to September 23, 2026
Find out more

Swinburne Fashion Portfolio Workshop

Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology
Location: TB225 Hawthorn campus, Swinburne University
Date: September 22, 2026
Find out more

AIM Music Theatre Audition Workshop, Melbourne

Organisation: Australian Institute of Music
Location: Australian Institute of Music, Melbourne Campus



Date: September 29 to September 30, 2026
Find out more

RMIT University Student for a Day Experience for Year 10-12 Students
Organisation: RMIT University
Location: RMIT City Campus
Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

RMIT University Student for a Day Experience for Year 10-12 Students
Organisation: RMIT University
Location: RMIT City Campus
Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

Swinburne Innovation in Action for Year 10-12 Students
Organisation: Swinburne University of Technology
Location: Swinburne University of Technology, Hawthorn Campus
Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

AIE Games & Animation Workshop Day for Years 10, 11 and 12
Organisation: Academy of Interactive Entertainment
Location: Various campuses
Date: September 30, 2026
Find out more

Discover Melbourne Webinar Series – October Sessions
Organisation: University of Melbourne
Location: Online
Date: October 13 to October 16, 2026
Find out more

Discover Engineering at Monash
Organisation: Monash University
Location: Online
Date: October 15, 2026
Find out more

Monash University Webinar – What Does My First Year in Science Look Like?
Organisation: Monash University
Location: Online
Date: October 22, 2026
Find out more

Workplace Spotlight

Job Spotlights
How to become a Power Systems Engineer
Power systems engineers design and manage the electrical networks that deliver energy to homes, businesses, and the infrastructure that modern life depends on. They work across the full lifecycle of electrical systems, from initial network design through to fault analysis, performance monitoring, and long-term asset management.

If you're drawn to technical problem solving at a large scale and want to work on the systems that hold up everything else, this career sits at the heart of modern infrastructure.

What skills do I need as a Power Systems Engineer?

- Systems thinking
- Analytical & methodical
- Technical problem solver
- Strong mathematical ability
- Clear communicator
- Attention to detail
- Collaborative mindset
- Comfortable with complexity

What do Power Systems Engineers do?

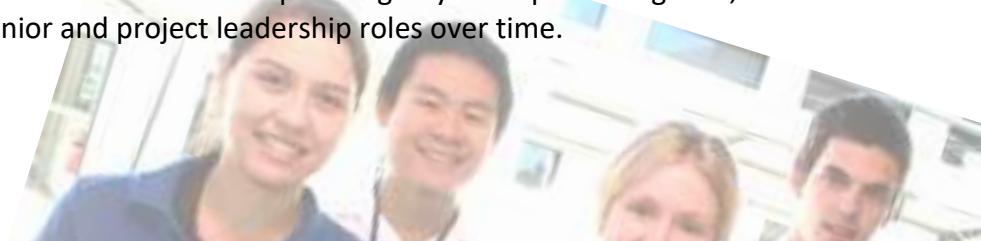
Before a new network element goes live, you've already spent considerable time modelling it. You'll use specialist software to design electrical systems, simulate how they'll perform under different conditions, and identify potential failure points before they become real problems. This planning work is detailed and technical, drawing on your understanding of how electricity behaves across transmission and distribution networks, and how changes in one part of a system ripple through to others.

Day to day, you'll analyse network performance, investigate faults, and prepare technical reports that inform decisions about how systems are maintained, upgraded, or expanded. You'll work alongside other engineers, planners, and asset managers, translating complex technical findings into recommendations that non-specialists can act on. When something goes wrong in a network, you're one of the people called on to diagnose the cause and identify a solution, often under time pressure.

Periodically you'll work on larger projects involving network upgrades or the integration of new energy sources, including renewables, into existing infrastructure. These projects require you to coordinate with multiple stakeholders and think carefully about how changes affect the broader system. Some Power Systems Engineers develop areas of specialisation in particular network types, asset classes, or emerging technologies. Others move across sectors, applying their skills to different kinds of infrastructure over the course of their career.

How to become a Power Systems Engineer

- **Complete an engineering degree:** A bachelor's degree in electrical engineering or a closely related field is the standard entry point. This gives you the technical foundation in power systems, circuit analysis, and network design that the role requires. Some graduates go on to complete honours or postgraduate study to deepen their expertise.
- **Enter through a graduate program or related role:** Many Power Systems Engineers begin their careers through graduate programs offered by network operators, utilities, or engineering consultancies. Others enter from related engineering disciplines, bringing transferable technical skills and building power systems knowledge on the job. Both are legitimate starting points.
- **Build practical technical skills:** Early in your career you'll develop hands-on experience in network modelling, fault analysis, and technical reporting. Seek out projects that expose you to different parts of the network, from generation and transmission through to distribution, to build a broad understanding of how systems connect.
- **Develop your professional standing:** Engineers who pursue registration or accreditation through their professional body demonstrate a commitment to standards and ongoing development that employers value. This is worth pursuing as your experience grows, and opens doors to more senior and project leadership roles over time.



From here, you could move into senior engineering roles leading complex network projects, take on project management responsibilities across major infrastructure programs, move into energy consulting, or develop expertise in emerging areas such as grid modernisation and energy storage systems.

What can I do right now?

If you're in high school and interested in working as a Power Systems Engineer, here are some practical steps:

- Focus on maths and physics, as these are the foundation of electrical engineering study and the concepts you'll use throughout your career in network design and analysis
- Look for work experience with engineering consultancies, energy companies, or network operators to get a practical sense of how electrical infrastructure is designed and managed
- Explore engineering pathways at university open days, paying particular attention to electrical engineering programs that include power systems or energy networks as a focus area