

# Careers Newsletter



BLUE MOUNTAINS  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**Tuesday, 24 October 2023**

Jump to:

[What's On in the Next Few Weeks](#)

[Important Future Events](#)

[Scholarships](#)

[Apprenticeships and Traineeships](#)

[Getting Ready for Work](#)

[Competitions](#)

[Resources](#)

[Workplace Spotlight](#)

[Job Spotlight](#)

## What's On in the Next Few Weeks

### [SCCE | Exchange Webinar](#)

**October 24, 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](#)

### [University of Sydney | Designing your future with a Bachelor of Arts](#)

**October 25, 2023**

Discover the Bachelor of Arts and the combined four-year Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Advanced Studies degrees that will provide you with an outstanding liberal arts education.

Find out how studying arts and social sciences at Sydney will prepare you to meet the challenges of the modern workforce, where expertise, inventiveness, logic and critical thinking come to the fore.

[Find out more](#)



## [University of Sydney | Studying Design at Sydney](#)

**October 25, 2023**

Learn about how our new Bachelor of Design (Interaction Design) will provide you with the innovative technical and social design skills to become a leading edge designer in today's fast-paced job market. Find out how your passion for creativity and problem solving can be harnessed for a career in digital and visual design.

[Find out more](#)

## [WEP | Returned Student Q&A](#)

**October 25, 2023**

Returned Student Q&As are a great opportunity to ask some returned WEP students your questions about exchange! They will be around to tell you stories of their exchange and what it was like. Have your questions ready to make the most of this opportunity!

[Find out more](#)

## [Aviation Job Skills Workshop – Auburn](#)

**October 26, 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](#)

## [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](#)



## [The GiST | Make maths matter for girls](#)

**October 26, 2023**

How do you engage and sustain girls' interest in secondary Maths and associated subjects? This practical webinar will focus on the experiences of two teachers with some practical strategies that focus on motivating, engaging and sustaining interest. Come for ideas about:

- Teaching practices that work with girls
- Creating a growth mindset in this area
- Extra-curricular activities that contribute to engagement.

[Find out more](#)

## [AIT | MasterTalks - Meet the Graphic Artist for Elvis](#)

**October 26, 2023**

Join us for an AIT MasterTalk with Bowen Ellames, award-winning Concept Artist and Graphic Designer for Marvel and the biopic, Elvis!

Learn about the career journey of concept artist and graphic design artist, Bowen Ellames, and get a glimpse into some of the main projects throughout his career.

[Find out more](#)

## [Sydney Design School | Open Day](#)

**October 28, 2023**

Be open to creativity! We're opening our studios for a day of exploration. Meet our passionate Educators, view our exhibition space and get hands on building an interiors mood board or 3D model.

[Find out more](#)

## [The GiST | Making a difference - Working in the clean energy sector](#)

**October 30, 2023**

A third of Australia's electricity already is generated by renewables. Over the next 30 years, new wind and solar farms, batteries, rooftop solar installations, and hydro projects will need to be built.

This webinar will explore the working lives, school and career pathways of two young women who have opted to work in the clean energy sector. It is designed to give secondary students insights into careers in this sector and the opportunity to ask questions.

[Find out more](#)



## [University of Sydney | Your career in early education](#)

**November 1, 2023**

Interested in making a difference in the lives of young children? Join our webinar to hear about the important work early childhood teachers do. Learn how our accredited Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) will give you the strong theoretical and practical foundation to teach young children and provide them with a strong start in life.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Pathways to studying law](#)

**November 1, 2023**

Are you interested in pursuing a career in law? Join us to find out about the University of Sydney's Bachelor of Laws and how it will provide you with the skills, knowledge, and connections to become an internationally focused lawyer.

[Find out more](#)

## [InspirationED | November Kickstart Seminars](#)

**From: November 5, 2023 to November 18, 2023**

We know this is an incredibly stressful period for both parents and students. So we've gathered all the best tools and tips to help you focus on achieving your best this year. Designed for both parents and students, in each 45 minute session we cut straight to the chase, leaving you equipped for the year ahead.

What you'll learn:

- How to manage stress during the year
- Secrets to HSC success
- Understanding the ATAR
- English tips and tricks
- Strategies for parents: communication & emotional support

Our seminars are presented by senior HSC Markers and qualified counsellors. The key to the success of this program is tapping into the knowledge and insight of the most passionate and experienced individuals in the business!

[Find out more](#)



## Important Future Events

### [Aviation Careers Forum – Parramatta](#)

**November 9, 2023**

Join us for a fun, interactive day to meet and engage with leading female Aviation role models. Listen to key female speakers and interact in our Airport & Aviation career seminars and panel discussions. Enjoy the fully catered breaks throughout the day to chat and engage with women in industry in a relaxed environment. Not sure there is a career for you? There are a huge variety of amazing careers available in the aviation industry, and many of these careers provide on the job training with no prior qualifications necessary. Come and be inspired!

[Find out more](#)

### [Clusters PD – The Clusters for math teachers](#)

**November 9, 2023**

Join Lucy from Study Work Grow to learn how to use the Career Clusters in your mathematics classroom. This Professional Learning session will give you the skills you need to feel confident talking about a range of jobs in maths, statistics, and related fields. We'll also cover some tips for having positive career conversations, and identify where you might already be having career conversations without realising it. This session is designed for Mathematics teachers and the career educators who support them.

[Find out more](#)

### [University of Sydney | Camden Open Day 2023](#)

**November 10, 2023**

Register your Year 10-11 classes for an interactive visit to the University of Sydney's Camden Campus to explore study and career pathways in real and applied agricultural sciences. The day will include a visit out to the active cattle and mixed enterprise facilities of John Bruce Pye Farm where all students will experience cutting-edge precision agriculture, animal handling practices and visit some resident cows on the farm. The other half of the day will include three interactive workshops chosen by the school from a variety of topics. The workshop descriptions will be finalised and sent to registered schools in Term 4, and include sessions on:

- Soil health
- Fish farming
- Veterinary practice
- Poultry nutrition
- Plant productivity
- Animal welfare
- And more!

[Find out more](#)



## [AMPA | Experience Days](#)

**November 13 to November 16, 2023**

The Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA) invites aspiring students (16 and over) to join us for a day in our music or dance programs. Attendees will have the chance to sit in on performance classes, workshops, Q&A sessions and meet faculty and students.

Whether you're passionate about dance, contemporary music, classical music, music theatre, music production, songwriting or composition, RSVP now to discover how you can take the lead with AMPA.

[Find out more](#)

## [UNSW | ADA Portfolio Entry Early Conditional Offer Workshop](#)

**In person: November 14, 2023**

**Online: November 15, 2023**

Here at UNSW, we want to reward your passion, creativity and potential to succeed in your degree area. That's why from Term 1 2024, we'll be evolving our UNSW Portfolio Entry Scheme to offer early conditional offers, giving you the opportunity to demonstrate your passion and talent alongside your ATAR.

Join us on the UNSW Art & Design Paddington Campus & Online to hear from UNSW staff and academics about submitting an outstanding portfolio for a range of degrees across our Arts, Design & Architecture and Engineering Faculties for 2024.

[Register for in person](#)

[Register for online](#)

## [University of Sydney | Grand Challenges - Igniting the Future of Renewable Fuel](#)

**November 16, 2023**

Year 9-10 students will spend a day learning about a real-life global problem, i.e. the Grand Challenge, and brainstorm, develop and pitch their own solutions to their peers and STEM experts for a chance to win cash prizes.

"As an entrepreneur, pitch an innovative idea that uses, or amplifies the use of, renewable energy."

In a world facing pressing environmental challenges, the need for renewable fuel solutions has never been more critical. Could green hydrogen fuel be the answer to decarbonise global industries and local energy users alike?

Our guest speaker, Professor Kondo-Francois Aguey-Zinsou, is one of the world's leading hydrogen fuel and storage experts and is passionate about using hydrogen as a global energy solution.

Students will need to be supervised by a teacher. Available for school bookings only. This is a collaboration between [Future Anything](#) and the [Faculty of Science, University of Sydney](#).

[Find out more](#)



## [AIE | Open Day](#)

**November 18, 2023**

Discover the courses designed to get you started in game development, 3D animation, film and visual effects at the AIE Open Day on Sat 18 November 2023. This event will be held at AIE Campuses in Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra and Adelaide from 10am to 3pm.

AIE's Open Day is a great opportunity to meet our teachers, staff and students. The day will cover everything you need to know about the:

- careers in games and VFX that we train students for;
- studios and industries that we work with;
- courses we offer – from beginners to professional mastery, and;
- the software, skills and knowledge we teach.

AIE's Open Day will also include presentations on entry requirements and how to apply. Find out how AIE can get you into a creative career.

[Find out more](#)

## [Enter the World of Le Cordon Bleu – Careers Residential, Sydney](#)

**November 21 to November 22, 2023**

We're opening our doors to high school students in Years 11 & 12, to experience a 'day in the life' at one of the world's leading culinary and hospitality institutions to provide a taste of what a future career in global hospitality will be like.

Meet lecturers and Le Cordon Bleu professionals, hear from industry experts, discover what Le Cordon Bleu hospitality management degree programmes involve and experience hands-on culinary arts with our chefs.

[Find out more](#)

## Scholarships

### [Scholarships for students with disabilities: success stories](#)

Scholarships hold the power to transform dreams into reality. They not only provide financial support, but also recognise the unique strengths and potential within each individual. In this guide, we'll explore various types of scholarships tailored for students with disabilities and share some real life success stories.

### **Types of scholarships available**

There are lots of different types of scholarships out there, so there's almost certainly one to fit your unique circumstances and needs.



## Disability-specific scholarships

Some scholarships are designed with specific disabilities in mind. For example, [Vision Australia](#) offers scholarships dedicated to students who are blind or have low vision, providing them with resources to support their studies.

## General disability scholarships

Other scholarships are open to students with any type of disability. Organisations like the [Australian Disability and Indigenous Peoples' Education Fund](#) offer opportunities for a wide range of disabilities.

## Other scholarships

Even if disability isn't mentioned specifically in the eligibility criteria, this doesn't mean you shouldn't still apply. If you've excelled academically, come from a rural area, or have overcome financial hardship (just to name a few examples), there's bound to be a scholarship out there for you.

## How to find and apply for scholarships

Finding and applying for a scholarship doesn't have to be hard. There are lots of resources out there to help.

## Online resources

Going straight to the website of the institution you want to study at is an excellent place to start your scholarship search. Here you can view a whole range of scholarship opportunities, including those tailored for students with disabilities.

Check out the websites of relevant organisations too, such as disability organisations and charities. Even if they don't have any formal scholarship opportunities, you could contact them and discuss other potential support options.

You can also search scholarship databases, which feature scholarships from a wide variety of institutions and organisations (such as our [very own](#)).

## Application tips

Crafting a [compelling application](#) is key to securing a scholarship. Be sure to highlight your strengths, experiences, and aspirations. Don't forget to gather necessary documents such as medical records or recommendation letters to strengthen your case. Keep track of application deadlines to ensure you don't miss out.

## Real life success stories

If you're still looking for reasons to apply for a scholarship, here are some real life examples of students who have gone on to thrive after receiving a scholarship.





## Jarred

Jarred Austin has always known he would one day go to university, but was worried that his disability would affect him both physically and financially. Thanks to the Movement Disorder Foundation, he is now studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts and a Bachelor of Computer Science at the University of Wollongong.

“Both my degrees are dependent on technology and the scholarship helps me ensure that I have working technology,” he said. “But it also helps me in other areas, like my day-to-day living expenses.”

The scholarship has meant Jarred doesn't have to compromise either his study or his health and is able to focus on his ambitions to one day write a novel.

“I'd like to write something about my own experience as a person with a physical disability to try and change people's perception about what it's like,” he said.

You can read Jarred's story [here](#).

## Courtney

Not long after starting her first degree at Griffith University, Courtney McCreery was diagnosed with an uncommon neurological sleep disorder. Since receiving the Brighter Futures Scholarship, she can subsidise her rent and drop back her working hours, easing the financial pressure on her and giving her space to live up to her potential.

“Donors may not feel like they are giving a lot, but every dollar has an impact on students like me juggling a chronic health condition and following their dreams,” she said.

You can read Courtney's story [here](#).

## Benefits beyond financial support

While money is undoubtedly a huge part of scholarships, they often have many other benefits too, including:

- Networking opportunities
- Skill building opportunities
- Access to exclusive events
- Travel and exchange opportunities
- Access to study assistance and mentors
- Opportunities to connect with peers
- And much more

## Empowering futures

Scholarships are more than just financial aid; they are a testament to your potential and success. By seeking out and applying for scholarships, you're taking a huge step towards realising your study dreams.

You can read more about scholarships and search our database [here](#).



## Apprenticeships and Traineeships

### Aligning apprenticeships with evolving job roles

In today's rapidly changing job market, where new industries and roles are emerging, it's essential to adapt and stay ahead of the curve. Traditional educational paths are valuable, but apprenticeships offer a unique and hands-on approach to learning that aligns perfectly with the evolving job roles of the future.

### Understanding the changing job landscape

You've probably already heard this a few times, but the world of work is evolving fast. Automation, artificial intelligence, and other technological advancements are reshaping industries and creating new job opportunities. This means that the skills needed to succeed are also changing, and we all need to be ready to adapt.

### Why apprenticeships matter

Apprenticeships are a fantastic way to bridge the gap between traditional education and real-world experience. They offer you a chance to learn by doing, which can be particularly valuable in industries that are still evolving. Here are some key reasons why apprenticeships matter in the context of the changing job landscape:

1. **Practical learning:** Apprenticeships provide hands-on experience, allowing you to develop practical skills that are directly relevant to your chosen field. This practical knowledge is often more valuable than theoretical concepts when dealing with rapidly changing job roles.
2. **Industry-relevant skills:** The skills and knowledge you'll gain during an apprenticeship are often aligned with the specific needs of your industry. This means you're more likely to be job-ready and well-equipped to handle the demands of a rapidly evolving sector.
3. **Adaptability:** Apprenticeships encourage adaptability. You'll learn to be flexible and open to new techniques and technologies as you work alongside experienced professionals. This ability to adapt is a crucial skill in a changing job landscape.
4. **Networking opportunities:** During an apprenticeship, you'll have the chance to network with professionals in your field. These connections can open doors and provide insights into how your industry is evolving.
5. **Earning while learning:** Apprenticeships are paid positions – this can ease the financial burden of education while allowing you to gain valuable work experience.



## Embracing emerging job roles and industries

As the job landscape evolves, emerging job roles and industries may not have established educational paths. Apprenticeships are particularly well-suited for these situations. They allow you to enter fields that are still in the process of defining themselves, giving you a chance to shape your career as the industry develops.

## Choosing the right apprenticeship

To benefit from the future of work through apprenticeships, you need to choose the right one. Here's how:

1. **Research:** Look for apprenticeship programs that align with your interests and goals. Research industries that are on the rise and consider where your passion lies.
2. **Mentorship:** Seek out apprenticeships with strong mentorship programs. Learning from experienced professionals can accelerate your growth.
3. **Networking:** Consider the networking opportunities the apprenticeship offers. The connections you make can be invaluable in a rapidly evolving job market.
4. **Flexibility:** Ensure the apprenticeship allows for adaptability and exposure to various aspects of your chosen field. This will make you more versatile and ready for change.

## Preparing for the future

The future of work is dynamic, and apprenticeships are an excellent way to prepare for it. They offer practical experience, industry-relevant skills, and the adaptability needed to thrive in an ever-changing job landscape. So, if you're a high school student or an adult looking to build a successful career, consider the many benefits of apprenticeships.

You can read more about apprenticeships on our website [here](#).

## Getting Ready for Work

### Workplace communication – what it is and why we need it

Communication is the exchange of information and ideas. It's going on every day, all around us. It's also an essential element of nearly any aspect of businesses and other organisations. When communication happens between staff, managers, suppliers, and clients, it's called workplace communication. Great communication at work can help to:

- Avoid confusion
- Provide purpose
- Build a positive work environment
- Facilitate teamwork
- Boost productivity
- Create accountability



## **There are lots of types of workplace communication**

It's easy to gloss over exactly what counts as workplace communication, but when you think about it, we're communicating for a massive proportion of our time spent at work. In fact, some people spend [up to 80% of their workday communicating](#).

Here are some of the different types of workplace communication you might use.

### **Verbal communication**

When you think of communication, the most obvious form is probably talking. Every conversation you have, from your interview to phone calls, meetings, and presentations are all based on verbal communication.

You'll need to focus on using the right words and terminology in the right context. Try not to over complicate things or use jargon; that just means that some people won't understand what you're talking about.

### **Non-verbal communication**

You may not always be aware of when you are using non-verbal communication, but we often send cues using actions instead of words. This can be things like the tone of your voice, facial expressions, posture, hand gestures, eye contact, body language, and even appearance; in fact, [non-verbal communication](#) can actually be one of the clearest forms of communication between co-workers.

### **Written communication**

Of course, you can't forget about the value of written communication at work either. Emails, letters, memos, reports, minutes, proposals, and contracts are just a few of the forms of written communication you might think of off the top of your head.

Then there's the information you read on websites, adverts and other promotional material – even the messages you might get left on your desk.

Written words and numbers account for a large chunk of the information that we take in and send on.

### **Visual communication**

If you haven't considered the importance of visual communication in workplaces yet, that's understandable. Actually, it's a commonly used way of communicating important and relevant information quickly.

To improve workplace safety, for example, you might see or use wall signs, equipment labels, chemical labels, floor signs, or industrial floor tapes to warn or remind people about their surroundings.

Using images, charts, and infographics can all help to share information in less time and with a greater rate of comprehension. Photographs, videos, film, and social media are all other ways [visual communication](#) is used in workplaces.



## Workplace communication needs to be effective

If you're at work and have a phone call, conversation, meeting, receive an email, letter, or message, and you don't understand what it means or what action you need to take, then it hasn't been effective. If you're trying to send information and the receiver doesn't understand what you're communicating or they interpret it the wrong way, then there's been a communication failure or break down. Not only can that be frustrating for everyone concerned, ineffective communications could even prevent you from doing your job properly. This ultimately costs organisations time, productivity, customers, and profit.

## Tips for effective workplace communication

Here are a few things to think about to ensure that your workplace communications are effective:

1. Speak to people face-to-face. That way you can understand tone, read body language, and ask questions directly.
2. Work on and use your [active listening skills](#).
3. Be mindful of the language you use.
4. Tailor your communications to specific audiences.
5. Ask questions.
6. Make sure that your non-verbal communication is in tune with your verbal communication.
7. Remain diplomatic and professional.
8. Timing is important, so be strategic about when you ask for meetings or plan presentations.
9. Be positive and offer positive feedback (if you have to say something negative, try to balance it). This builds trust, openness and encourages better communication
10. Stick to the point.
11. Proofread written communications before sending them.
12. Take a breath and think before responding.

You can find heaps more resources about the world of work on the our website [here](#).

## Work Experience

### [Setting goals for your work experience](#)

Whether you're a high school student gearing up for a work experience placement or an adult looking to gain valuable skills in a new field, having clear goals is crucial. It provides you direction, motivation, and a sense of purpose throughout your placement. Let's go through some tips to help you set purposeful and achievable goals for your work experience.



## **Reflect on your interests and strengths**

Before diving in, take a moment to reflect on what truly interests you and where your strengths lie. Consider what activities make you feel engaged and fulfilled. This self-awareness will help you align your objectives with your passions, making your work experience more enjoyable and rewarding.

## **Define SMART goals**

Vague goals can be difficult to track and achieve. Instead, aim for [specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timely](#) objectives. For example, rather than saying "I want to improve my communication skills," you could set a goal like "I want to deliver a presentation to a team of colleagues by the end of the week."

## **Work out your priorities**

It's important to recognise that you might not be able to achieve everything you want to during your work experience. Prioritise your goals based on their importance and feasibility. Focus on the objectives that align most closely with your learning objectives and the goals of the placement.

## **Break down long-term goals**

Long-term goals can seem overwhelming at first, so it can help to break them down into smaller, more manageable tasks. This not only makes them more achievable but also gives you a clear roadmap to follow. For instance, if your long-term goal is to learn a new software program, set weekly milestones to track your progress.

## **Seek feedback and adjust accordingly**

During your work experience, don't hesitate to seek feedback from your supervisors and colleagues. Their input is invaluable in understanding where you excel and where you can improve. Use their feedback to adjust your goals if needed.

## **Stay flexible**

While having clear objectives is crucial, it's also important to remain flexible. Sometimes, unexpected opportunities or challenges arise, and being adaptable allows you to make the most out of your work experience. Embrace change and adjust your goals accordingly.

## **Celebrate your achievements**

As you make progress towards your goals, take the time to celebrate your achievements, no matter how small they may seem. Celebrating your successes can boost your confidence and motivation, and it just feels good too. If you follow these steps, you'll be well on your way to setting clear goals and making the most out of your work experience placement.

Find out more about work experience and search for placements [here](#).



## Competitions

### First Pitch Competition

First Pitch calls on budding young entrepreneurs aged up to 18 to enter their best business pitch for the chance to win great prizes.

You can submit a 3-minute pitch on a business innovation or idea that can make a difference in your community and Australia wide. Your pitch will be judged by a local panel of entrepreneurs and business professionals, and the state winners get to participate in the national championship.

**Entries are open until Friday 10 November.**

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

### Westpac Youth Impact Challenge

The Westpac Youth Impact Challenge is a nationwide initiative open to all young people around Australia aged 7 to 21 years. The Challenge aims to help young Australians solve problems in their local communities.

To take part in the Challenge, participants must identify a local problem and brainstorm an innovative business or social change idea to solve it. Participants can choose to work individually, or in a group of up to 3.

All participants who complete the Challenge will receive a Certificate of Completion. Winners will receive an Exclusive Prize Pack which will include a Microsoft Surface laptop from our partner Microsoft, The Academy Membership, a Spill the Beans Pitch Opportunity, financial education mentoring support for your business idea from Westpac's Davidson Institute and a pitch opportunity at the final Challenge event.

**This year's challenge launches Monday 13 November.**

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

## Resources

### Financial literacy for high schoolers: a parent's role

Navigating the world of finances is a crucial skill that every high schooler should learn. As a parent, you play a vital role in shaping your child's financial future. In this blog, we'll discuss practical advice on how to teach budgeting, saving, and understanding basic financial concepts to your teen.

#### **Start early**

It's never too early to introduce your child to the world of finances. Begin with simple conversations about money and gradually introduce more complex concepts as they grow. Encourage questions and provide clear, age-appropriate explanations.



## **Set a budgeting example**

Children often learn by observing. Show them how you budget for household expenses, save for goals, and make informed financial decisions. This practical demonstration lays a strong foundation for their own budgeting skills.

## **Teach the importance of saving**

Saving is a cornerstone of financial stability. Help your high schooler set up a savings account and discuss the benefits of saving for short-term goals (like a new phone) and long-term goals (like education or a car).

## **Introduce basic financial concepts**

Explain fundamental financial terms like income, expenses, interest, and investments. Use relatable examples and visuals to make these concepts easier to understand. Encourage them to research and ask questions.

## **Involve them in financial decisions**

As your child gets older, involve them in family financial discussions. This could include planning a vacation budget, comparing prices while shopping, or discussing the pros and cons of certain financial decisions.

## **Encourage part-time work or side hustles**

If possible, encourage your high schooler to take on part-time work or explore small business ventures. This not only provides them with their own source of income but also instills a strong work ethic and financial responsibility.

## **Discuss debt and credit responsibly**

Teach your child about the responsible use of credit and the potential pitfalls of accumulating debt. Emphasise the importance of paying bills on time and the impact it has on credit scores.

## **Encourage goal setting**

Help your high schooler set specific financial goals. Whether it's saving for a car, university, or a future business endeavour, having clear objectives will motivate them to manage their money wisely.

## **Reinforce patience and discipline**

Financial success often requires patience and discipline. Encourage delayed gratification and help your teen understand that building financial stability can take time.

Empowering your high schooler with financial literacy will benefit them throughout their entire life.





By taking an active role in their financial education, you're setting them on a path towards a secure and prosperous future. Remember, open communication and leading by example are key to building strong financial habits.

Find more money tips and resources on our website [here](#).

## **[Navigating the transition from high school to university](#)**

Heading off to university next year? Making the transition from high school is a significant milestone, and it's totally normal to feel both excited and nervous. If you need some help navigating the transition from high school to university, we have some tips that can set you on the right path.

### **Get organised**

Starting university can be a whirlwind of new experiences and responsibilities. It might seem like you have lots of time to get ready before your first semester, but that time goes by quickly. Stay organised by investing in a planner or using digital tools to keep track of assignments, classes, and important deadlines.

### **Establish a study routine**

University brings a greater level of independence, which means you'll need to be proactive about your studies. Set aside dedicated time for reading, assignments, and revisions. Consistency in your study routine will both help your learning and make life easier for you.

### **Seek support and resources**

Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it! Universities offer a wealth of resources, including tutors, academic advisors, and study workshops. Seek out these resources early on to build a strong academic foundation.

### **Take care of your wellbeing**

University life can be demanding, but you still need to look after your physical and mental health. Ensure you get enough rest, eat balanced meals, and try to get some exercise. If you ever feel overwhelmed, don't hesitate to reach out to friends, family, or your university's counselling services.

### **Engage with your professors**

Professors are there to guide you and share their expertise. When in class, make sure to ask questions and participate in class discussions. Building a rapport with your professors can lead to valuable insights and potential opportunities.



## **Explore extracurricular activities**

University isn't just about study; it's a chance for you to grow socially and emotionally too. Join clubs, student organisations, or sports teams that interest you. These experiences can give you new skills, help you make friends, and make your time at university more fun.

## **Set realistic goals**

It's essential to set both short-term and long-term goals for your academic journey. These goals will serve as a roadmap, helping you stay focused and motivated. Be realistic and adaptable in your expectations, and celebrate your achievements along the way.

## **Stay curious and open-minded**

University is a place of exploration and discovery. Keep an open mind to new ideas, subjects, and experiences. Curiosity fuels learning and personal growth, so be proactive in seeking out new knowledge. Navigating the transition from high school to university can be tricky, and it's normal to face challenges along the way. Stay resilient, seek support when needed, and believe in your abilities. With determination and a positive mindset, you're well-equipped to thrive in this new chapter of your academic life.

If you want to learn more, you can find study and wellbeing tips on our website [here](#).

## **[How to find a place to live at university](#)**

Leaving home to go to university? Even if you're not sure where you'll be studying next year, it's a good idea to research your accommodation options as soon as possible. In this blog, we'll run through some of the most popular student accommodation options

## **Check with the universities first**

Usually, the best place to start your search will be on the websites of the universities that you've applied to. Most will have a dedicated accommodation section packed with everything you need to know, from types of rooms available to costs, FAQs, and more. Even if they don't have dedicated student accommodation, they can usually give you information about other living options close by.

If you have any questions, make sure you give them a call before submitting an application. Universities often charge a fee for accommodation applications, so it's best to get it right before you have to pay.

## **Accommodation options to explore**

Accommodation usually isn't a "one size fits all" situation. There are a few different types of options you can choose from depending on your individual circumstances, including:

- On campus accommodation (sometimes known as halls of residence)
- Private student accommodation
- Private rentals



## **On campus accommodation**

Lots of universities offer accommodation options located right on campus. Sometimes they're run by the uni, and sometimes they're affiliated with or owned by separate institutions. Sizes and included facilities differ from place to place, with everything from private single bedroom suites through to six person share houses.

Utilities like gas, water, and electricity are usually included in your fees, and most places will provide free internet access. Other perks you might find include:

- All utilities, including internet
- Furnished rooms
- Meal plans
- Cleaning service
- 24-hour security and on-site staff support
- Social events and activities
- Study areas
- Recreation areas, e.g. cinema rooms, gyms, BBQs, etc.

You can find out about what options are on offer at each university on their individual websites, or give them a call and ask.

## **Private student accommodation**

Universities aren't the only ones who offer student accommodation – there are also lots of private providers who manage purpose-built student accommodation, meaning the only people you'll be living with are other students. The main difference is these places tend to be a bit further away from campus (but are usually still pretty close). Just like on campus accommodation, there are different options to explore to suit all budgets and preferences. Private student accommodation usually offers a lot of the same perks as other on campus options, like fully furnished rooms and all inclusive utilities.

To find private student accommodation, the best place to look is usually online. Your chosen university may also be able to help you with nearby private options.

## **Private rentals**

If neither of those options appeal to you, renting your own place might be more your style. The main perk of this option is the total freedom to choose where you live and who you live with. Private rentals can also be cheaper compared to dedicated student accommodation, but the rent usually doesn't include any additional bills, like electricity, gas, and internet, so you'll need to pay for these separately.

Sometimes you can find furnished rentals, but most places usually come unfurnished. You may also need to pay a deposit or security payment (also known as [bond](#)).

You can search for private rentals online, or go over your options with a real estate agent.



## **Save money and live at home**

If you aren't keen on moving away from family, friends, or your part-time job, there's always the option of studying online or enrolling at a university near you. That way you can continue to live at home while getting the qualifications you need for your future career (just make sure you help out with the cooking and cleaning every now and then).

## **Organise your finances**

First things first, you'll need to work out how much your accommodation is going to cost. Then, budget for essential living – any bills, food, transport, medical costs, study costs, etc. Anything leftover you can use for whatever you'd like – going out, Netflix, new clothes, etc. If you have (or want) a job, think about how you might be able to fit part-time or casual work around your studies. Or you can research other financial support options, such as [scholarships](#) or government assistance.

## **A couple of other things to keep in mind**

Money is important, but it's not the only thing you should consider when choosing a place to live. Here are some other things to keep in mind when browsing accommodation options.

### **Keep connected**

Make sure wherever you go that you'll have that all-important internet connection, or you could struggle staying up to date with course work. Plus, it makes it hard staying in touch with friends and family. If possible, check if the phone signal is strong enough too.

### **Location is important**

When you're searching for the best possible deal, it's easy to go for the cheapest option. But you also need to consider your travel times and costs as well – so do a bit of research on public transport options or how much time and fuel it'll take you to drive to campus and back. Other things to consider include how close you are to local shops and other important facilities (including social options like restaurants and bars).

### **Security**

It's really important that you feel safe where you're living – this will help to ease your parents' worries too. Ask about on-site security systems and staffing, and check their hours of operation (24/7 is best).

Find out from some online searching, discussion groups, or the university themselves what the area you're thinking of living in is like for safety.



## Find testimonials

If you're going for a private rental, it might be hard to get testimonials about the landlord, safety, and the area, etc. For any other situation, check websites for reviews, ask in discussion groups, or try to find past students who can share their experience.

## Do some checks

If you're not staying at the university itself, then check the background records of the company that you'll be using. Make sure you only deal with established and reputable businesses and agents.

## Available facilities

When you're new to uni, it might be easier to settle in if there are communal areas where you can hang out and meet other students, such as common rooms, movie rooms, or gyms. You'll also want to check out what the kitchen, laundry, and bathroom arrangements are to see if they'll suit you.

## Get your applications in ASAP

Accommodation options are usually always in high demand, no matter where you're thinking of living. You might have a lot on your mind already, but perhaps you can enlist a parent, carer, or sibling to help you do some groundwork, then get your applications in ASAP.

The sooner you apply, the more chances you'll have of getting one your top preferences – and it's one more think you can check off your list and stop stressing about.

If you want to know more about your accommodation and study options, check out our website [here](#).

## Workplace Spotlight

### [What is it like to work in an aquarium?](#)

Aquariums serve as controlled environments designed to house and display a diverse array of aquatic organisms, including fish, plants, and invertebrates. Their primary purpose is to provide a platform for educational outreach, offering a unique opportunity to observe and learn about marine life in a controlled setting.

Beyond education, aquariums also play a crucial role in conservation efforts, functioning as hubs for research, breeding programs, and the preservation of endangered species. They also serve as recreational spaces for the public to enjoy.



While every aquarium is different, they do have some things in common:

1. A passion for marine life – most roles are centred around the care and management of aquatic life.
2. You'll need strong communication skills – for interacting with colleagues and engaging with the public.
3. Conservation efforts – many aquariums have a strong focus on preserving and protecting marine life.

## **Preserve and learn about marine life**

Aquariums serve as vital educational and conservation hubs, offering a unique opportunity for the public to connect with and learn about marine life, fostering a deeper appreciation for our oceans and promoting environmental stewardship in society.

## **Key tasks**

- Monitoring water quality
- Feeding and observing animal health
- Designing and maintaining habitats
- Running educational activities
- Participating in conservation efforts
- Conducting record-keeping and data analysis
- Presenting public presentations
- Researching marine life behaviour and biology
- Rehabilitate injured or distressed animals
- Implementing safety protocols and procedures

## **You can find aquariums in the arts and recreation services and agriculture, forestry, and fishing industries**

There are lots of different types of aquariums, including public aquariums, research-focused aquariums, and private hobbyist aquariums, each serving distinct purposes in showcasing, studying, or enjoying aquatic life.

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

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

Employees in an aquarium typically work a combination of regular and flexible hours, including weekends and holidays, due to the need for continuous care of aquatic life and to accommodate visitor demand.

On-site work is more common in aquariums as it requires hands-on care, maintenance of aquatic environments, and direct interaction with marine life. There may be some limited opportunities for remote work in certain administrative or research roles that involve tasks such as data analysis, planning, or educational program development.



Aquariums are more commonly found in metropolitan areas due to the higher population density and greater accessibility to a diverse audience.

## **The Career Clusters you'll find in an aquarium**

People from all Clusters are needed for an aquarium to run successfully, and there are a variety of jobs for people in all Clusters. In many roles, you might find yourself performing tasks across multiple Clusters.

### ***What do Makers do in an aquarium?***

Makers are the hands-on experts responsible for the maintenance, repair, and operation of various technical and physical aspects within the facility. They are responsible for monitoring and regulating water quality parameters and overseeing filtration systems. Other Makers help with the installation of new exhibits and clean and maintain habitats.

- Aquarium [Technicians](#)
- Exhibit Builders
- [Plumbers](#)
- [Cleaners](#)

### ***The role of a Linker in an aquarium***

In aquariums, Linkers assist visitors in navigating the array of exhibits and programs available and facilitate ticketing and membership services. They might also organise workshops, tours, and interactive sessions for visitors or special groups, and promote these events and other initiatives to the public.

- Guest Services Officers
- Marketing/[Social Media Managers](#)
- Community Outreach Specialists

### ***Where you'll find Coordinators in an aquarium***

Coordinators oversee a range of administrative and managerial tasks, such as organising schedules, allocating resources efficiently, and providing guidance to team members. They might also plan and organise educational workshops, public presentations, and special exhibits.

- Program Managers
- Operations Coordinators
- [Administrative Assistants](#)



## ***What do Informers do in an aquarium?***

Informers in aquariums help with education and outreach, leading educational programs, giving presentations, and engaging with visitors. They use their specialist knowledge to conduct research on marine life behaviour and biology, contributing to conservation efforts and assisting in the development of exhibits.

- Educational Guides
- [Marine Biologists](#)
- Exhibit [Curators](#)

## ***The role of Innovators in an aquarium***

One of the primary tasks of an Innovator in an aquarium is the design and engineering of exhibits and habitats, incorporating specialised equipment and features to support the needs of the aquatic inhabitants. Other Informers might plan the physical layout and infrastructure of the aquarium, making it both aesthetically pleasing and functional.

- Exhibit Designers
- Technical [Engineers](#)
- [Architects](#) and [Interior Designers](#)

## ***How do Guardians work in an aquarium?***

Guardians in an aquarium help to ensure the safety of visitors and workers. They implement and oversee safety protocols, conduct regular inspections, and respond to any emergencies or potential hazards. Other Guardians might monitor the premises during closing hours, protecting the aquatic life and equipment inside.

- [Health and Safety Officers](#)
- Security Officers

## ***How do we expect working in an aquarium to change in the future?***

Working in an aquarium in the future will involve a blend of technological marvels, environmental stewardship, and inclusive education.

Technology is set to play a more prominent role. This might include sophisticated monitoring systems that keep tabs on the wellbeing of marine life in real time, and interactive displays that transport visitors even deeper into the heart of the aquatic world.

Sustainability is also becoming more important, from energy-efficient systems to eco-conscious exhibit designs. Aquariums are also going to be placing more emphasis on conservation efforts.

Aquariums will also strive to create environments that welcome and educate people from all walks of life, fostering a sense of unity and shared responsibility for the wellbeing of our planet.





## Job Spotlight

### How to become a Conservationist

Conservationists work to protect the environment, from protecting specific places and animals to changing behaviours and systems contributing to environmental damage. Employed in a wide range of roles and industries, Conservationists focus on preserving and saving life for future generations, benefitting the ecology and health of our planet. If you are passionate, dedicated, and want to help make the world a better place, then working as a Conservationist could be ideal for you.

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

- Focused on finding solutions to problems and thinking outside of the box
- Practical, realistic, and down to earth
- Willing to get your hands dirty
- Committed to making a difference and creating change
- Can communicate effectively
- Able to commit to a cause or project long-term
- Positive and resilient

### **What tasks can I expect to do?**

Conservationists can work in a number of diverse areas, so your job duties will depend on your specific role. Broadly speaking, there are four main areas of conservation:

- **Environmental Conservation** – In this field you could be preserving ecosystems, creating and maintaining national parks, researching sustainable solutions (such as alternative power and recycling schemes), or working to combat the effects of climate change and pollution.
- **Animal Conservation** – In this role you could be more focused on the protection of endangered species and their habitats. You could be researching and observing animal behaviour, working to combat the effects of humans and their activities, educating communities, identifying new threats, or working in wildlife rehabilitation.
- **Marine Conservation** – In this area you'd be helping to study, research, and protect the life within our oceans, seas, and the connecting waterways and coastal ecosystems. You could be working to protect marine life, reduce fishing impacts, combat water pollution, or study the effects of rising sea temperatures.
- **Human Conservation** – Working in this field you might be educating others, implementing sustainable and low environmental impact solutions and lifestyles, protecting cultures, customs and traditions, improving living standards, advocating for local communities, and more.



## **Where do Conservationists work?**

You could be working in national parks, forests, fisheries, out in the ocean, in a lab, at museums and universities, for the government, in an office, or working directly in communities. Depending on your role, you might be able to work remotely. There is also a high chance that you'll get to travel and work in a variety of different locations.

## **What kind of lifestyle can I expect as a Conservationist?**

You may have to work outside of normal business hours and commit to long periods away from home. If you're passionate and highly invested in your work, this might impact more on your lifestyle.

Most Conservationists can expect to earn an average salary throughout their career. You don't have to be a scientist in order to work as a conservationist; artists, managers, engineers, agriculturalists, journalists, or anyone else who makes a contribution to conservation can be called a Conservationist.

## **How to become a Conservationist**

Conservation can be a highly competitive career to get into. For most jobs, you'll usually need to have a qualification in a relevant field – but you might find work through other pathways too, such as volunteering and networking.

Step 1 – Finish high school. Subjects to focus on can include English, Maths, Sciences, Geography, or even Law. If you already know which area of Conservation you'd like to work in, you can tailor your subjects to suit.

Step 2 – Identify which area of conservation you're most passionate about, then think about whether you'd like to work out in the field, in a lab, or in an office. This can help you select the best study pathway.

Step 3 – Complete relevant tertiary qualifications. You'll learn specific knowledge and skills, and it can make you more competitive in the job market.

Step 4 – Volunteer work is a great way to gain understanding, meet people working in the field, and add experience to your resume. Find opportunities in your local community or consider travelling overseas as part of a larger project.

Step 5 – Apply for lots of jobs, be enthusiastic, and stay motivated.



Find out more here:

- [Australian Conservation Foundation](#)
- [New Zealand Nature Fund](#)
- [The Conservation Foundation](#) (UK)
- [The Conservation Fund](#) (US)
- [International Conservation Fund of Canada](#)
- [Conservation International](#)

### Similar careers to Conservationist

- Park Ranger
- [Zookeeper](#)
- Field Guide
- [Veterinarian](#)
- Anthropologist
- Archaeologist
- [Writer](#)

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

### The Study Work Grow Research Team

Unit 6/149 English St, Manunda, QLD 4870

Phone: 07 4039 3862

Email: [info@studyworkgrow.com.au](mailto:info@studyworkgrow.com.au)

Find us online: [www.studyworkgrow.com.au](http://www.studyworkgrow.com.au)

Copyright © 2023, Study Work Grow | All rights reserved