



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>

University of Newcastle | Campus Tours

August 11 to December 8, 2023

Join us on one of our beautiful campuses for a personalised walking tour.

Let our Student Ambassadors show you some of our must-see teaching and learning spaces, their favourite study spots, and of course – where to get the best coffee on campus. Not only will you get a personalised tour, but an opportunity to ask as many questions as you have about what uni life is really like!

Tours are offered across five of our campus locations in Newcastle and the Central Coast.

[Find out more](#)

Dr Karl Fire-Ed Up Q and A

August 14, 2023

Dr Karl is teaming up with the Chief Scientist & Engineer's 'Fire-Ed Up' program for this enlightening webinar, casting a spotlight on the role of Science and Technology in bolstering our defences against bushfires amidst the escalating risks posed by climate change.

Expect to delve deep into the nature of fire, its profound impact on the Australian terrain, and the groundbreaking use of Artificial Intelligence in enhancing bushfire predictions, future fire-related industries, among other intriguing topics.

Get ready for a treasure trove of scientific knowledge, delivered by none other than Australia's favourite scientist, Dr Karl. He's prepared and eager to satisfy your scientific curiosities.

[Find out more](#)

SciFest 2023

August 14 to August 18, 2023

SciFest 2023 is the biggest virtual excursions festival in Australia promoting science and technology. SciFest links up with National Science week and is on between 14 – 18 August. This year we have 15 events from some of Australia's best education providers.

The theme for National Science Week in 2023 is *Innovation: Powering Future Industries*. The theme incorporates the advancement in technology in all industries, especially using artificial intelligence (AI).

[Find out more](#)



University of Sydney | Deadly Entertainment

August 14, 2023

In the 1930's being a film projectionist in a cinema was a hazardous job. In the USA it was estimated that every 18 days a projectionist died – and this was partly attributed to working with cellulose nitrate film. Cellulose nitrate transparent plastic film was used by photographers and movie filmmakers from its release in the 1880s to the 1950s.

The storage of this material is a challenge for cultural institutions because of its instability and hazardous nature, as nitrate is highly flammable and deteriorates over time. Historically, cellulose acetate gradually began to replace cellulose nitrate as it is not flammable. Despite its non-flammable properties, leading to cellulose acetate being called 'safety' film, over time it became clear that it also deteriorates in hazardous ways.

This floor talk will discuss how a team of conservators, chemists and statisticians worked together to develop a protocol that is now used internationally by cultural heritage institutions to identify cellulose nitrate and cellulose acetate film bases.

[Find out more](#)

WEP | Student Exchange Info Session

August 14, 2023

Imagine making friends from all over the world, learning about yourself and the world around you and seeing sights you could only dream of! Find out more about your student exchange opportunities at WEP's online info session.

[Find out more](#)

Basair | Pilot Career Seminar, Sydney

August 14, 2023

Learn about career paths, salaries, entry level jobs, qualifications, pilot courses and everything you need to know about becoming a Commercial Pilot in less than a year at Basair.

[Find out more](#)

WSU | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Information Evening

August 15 to August 16, 2023

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Future Students Information Evenings at Western Sydney University is an opportunity to hear about what programs are on offer and how Western can help you during your studies. Learn about the different pathways to study, the support services available, scholarships on offer and life on campus.

[Find out more](#)

UOW | Early Admission Audition Webinar

August 15, 2023

As a part of your Early Admission application to the Bachelor of Performance and Theatre (Acting) you are required to submit an audition. This webinar will provide you with all the information you need to ace your audition, including:

- Timeline & key dates
- Audition performance pieces



- Audition tips and advice
- The audition assessment process

[Find out more](#)

UNSW | Meganne Christian: An Evening with a Future Astronaut

August 15, 2023

Embark on a captivating journey into the realm of space exploration as we unravel the remarkable story of Meganne Christian, a trailblazer whose unconventional path has led her to the stars. With a degree in Engineering from UNSW Sydney, Meganne's path took her to the ends of the Earth as a scientist in Antarctica. From there she soared even higher, earning a coveted spot as an astronaut in reserve, with dreams of venturing into the cosmos. Discover the fascinating role of a reservist astronaut, as Meganne unveils the rigorous selection process and both the physical and mental training required to be part of this elite group, as well as the importance of space research and its impact on our everyday lives. Join us for an evening of inspiration with Meganne Christian in conversation with Audes Vignelle as they unveil the secrets of her extraordinary journey and invites us to imagine a future where the stars are within our reach.

[Find out more](#)

UNSW | Earth Conservation x Space Exploration

August 15, 2023

What's more important: Earth's conservation or space exploration?

It's a tough question, and in this interactive event, you choose whether you explore the physics of life and energy on Earth or in space, or both!

If exploring the Earth, you can learn about renewable energy and the physics that connects us to the cosmos, or, if space is more your thing, you can learn about cool (literally) space technology and imagine a future where the stars are within your reach. There will also be telescopes and a planetarium for those wanting to immerse themselves deeper into the Universe.

Meet some of our brightest stars (up-and-coming teaching and research academics) as they guide you through this 'choose your own adventure' experience!

[Find out more](#)

myfuture Insights: The role of emotion in career education

August 16, 2023

Emotions, both positive and negative, play a vital role in learning and personal development. In education and employment, emotions can either stimulate or constrain thought processes, reflection and proactive behaviours.

The latest myfuture Insights paper will present a framework for understanding how emotions may affect students' career and employability learning. Join the webinar to learn how you can recognise and respond to this in career education programs and services.

[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney | The Bachelor of Advanced Studies Webinar

August 16, 2023

Learn about the Bachelor of Advanced Studies and find out how this degree can give you the flexibility to pursue multiple areas of interest and graduate with specialisation in two specific fields of study.



[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney | Infinity Mathematics Workshop

August 16, 2023

National Science Week after-school workshop for high school students at the University of Sydney.

In this workshop, we will have a deeper look into counting to infinity and try to figure out if all infinities are equal or one thing can be more infinite than another one. We will explore the mathematics of infinity through discussion and solving problems.

This event will be presented by University of Sydney mathematician, Milena Radnovic.

[Find out more](#)

Monash | Information Evening – Apply from Interstate – NSW & ACT

August 16, 2023

We know that choosing a university is a big decision, especially if you don't live in Melbourne. Monash Information Evenings are the perfect opportunity to have your questions answered on everything you wanted to know about undergraduate study at Monash.

You'll hear about:

- our 10 diverse study and discipline areas
- undergraduate course types, such as our comprehensive and specialist courses, double degrees and pathway programs
- international opportunities including study abroad and overseas tours
- how to apply – everything you need to know about VTAC, key dates and deadlines
- scholarships and fees
- Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) and the Monash Guarantee
- accommodation options, both on and off campus.

At the conclusion of the information seminar, you'll have the opportunity to join a breakout room and chat with staff from your area of interest.

[Find out more](#)

Aviation Job Skills Workshop – Blacktown

August 17, 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](#)

University of Sydney | Twist and Turn: The Arithmetic of Ropes

August 17, 2023

National Science Week after-school workshop for high school students at the University of Sydney.

In this activity, we take a mathematical spin on tangling and untangling! We will consider a situation where we have two ropes and apply two possible operations: a twist and a turn. In



this simple setup, we can create deceptively complex tangles, but can we untangle them using the same two operations? We will answer this question by exploring the mathematics behind these tangles in a combination of hands-on activities and discussions.

This event will be presented by University of Sydney mathematician, Andy Tran.

[Find out more](#)

Powerhouse Late: Science

August 17, 2023

A celebration of science bringing together Sydney's leading scientists. Featuring 'The Drag Experiment' with Dr. Naomi Koh Belic, DNA sonification with Dr Mark Temple and the ABC's Ockham's Razor. Join us for another iteration of Drawing Club, a free workshop embracing the practice of drawing, facilitated by Lucas Ihlein.

[Find out more](#)

University of Sydney | Meet Sydney, Coffs Harbour

August 17, 2023

Join us for an information evening to find out all you need to know about the University of Sydney!

Learn about our new [Regional and Remote Entry Scheme](#) and [MySydney Scheme](#).

The session will also cover information about courses, admission requirements, entry schemes/pathways, fees, and scholarships, as well as the type of support available on campus. Uni students and alumni from Regional NSW will share stories, tips on moving away from home and advice about their journey to university and beyond.

You'll also get the chance to speak with staff and students and have all your questions about the University of Sydney answered.

[Find out more](#)

ACAP | Information Session, Sydney

August 17, 2023

Join us at the Sydney ACAP Campus for this in-person information session!

By joining us on campus you can:

- Enjoy a tour of the campus, with refreshments and nibbles.
- Attend discipline-specific interactive sessions to find out all about the courses you are interested in.
- Meet Student Ambassadors and hear about their first-hand experiences and opportunities.
- Chat with educators and Course Advisors about courses and potential careers you are interested in.
- Connect with Student Learning Support Advisors and other ACAP staff about services on offer.
- Have your questions answered and receive assistance with the admissions process.

[Find out more](#)

Dr Karl and Friends: Innovation and Beyond

August 17, 2023

Take a ride with Dr Karl through the past 100 years of the greatest scientific discoveries and innovations that changed our lives forever.

Today's thinkers will do the same, but how? Dr Karl will talk to four future-focused researchers poised to blast our futures into the stratosphere.



- [Professor Anita Ho-Baillie](#) is it possible to double the efficiency of a solar panel on your roof from 20% to 40%?
- [Professor Emma Johnston](#) whose marine ecology research covers everything from bushfires and invasive species, to marine pollution (macro and micro plastics).
- [Associate Professor Michael Bowen](#) whose neuroscience research aims to treat opioid addiction and help tackle the devastating opioid crisis.
- [Professor Geordie Williamson](#) whose research is harnessing the power of AI to attack problems in mathematics, shedding light along the way on what current AI can and cannot do.

Hosted by [Associate Professor Alice Motion](#).

Feed your curiosity, expand your mind and dive into the future with this evening of possibilities.

Bring your questions for our live Q&A, and receive prizes for audience member/s wearing the funkiest and loudest shirt, judged by Dr Karl!

[Find out more](#)

Indigenous Science Experience at Redfern

August 19, 2023

This free, community open event is a celebration of Indigenous and Western science and highlights the relevance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to our everyday lives. NISEP – Indigenous Science Experience @ Redfern

Come along to get hands-on with a diverse range of interactive science activities accessible to all ages. Activities will include: Yarning with Elders on bush foods and medicines, Indigenous astronomy, maths puzzles, making Aboriginal tools, physics and chemistry activities, and much more! You will also meet Indigenous Elders and student leaders from the National Indigenous Science Education Program who will be assisting in demonstrating the activities.

The event will begin with a traditional smoking ceremony and official welcome (10 am). There will also be the opportunity to purchase food and Aboriginal arts and crafts.

[Find out more](#)

AFTRS | Open Day 2023

August 19, 2023

Each year, we hold our annual Open Day on campus at AFTRS, focusing on the Bachelor of Arts Screen: Production, Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting, Master of Arts Screen and Master of Arts Screen: Business programs.

Prospective students get to know our lecturers, students, and alumni, attend live chats and panel discussions, participate in exciting hands-on exercises, take an access-all-areas campus tour, settle into a screening of work produced at the School, and get some tips on applications for the upcoming intake.

[Find out more](#)

Pico Coding Club (9-14 year olds)

August 19 to August 20, 2023

Ready for an adventure into the exciting world of coding? Join the Pico Coding Club! We teach coding through building and sharing bite-sized games in our 60-minute workshop.



At Pico Coding Club, we believe in playful and interactive learning. We foster curiosity and encourage experimentation. Kids will follow the instructor's examples and unleash their creativity by experimenting with their own code. They'll also have the chance to share their creations with fellow students.

We will be teaching JavaScript, the world's most popular programming language. With JavaScript, kids can unlock a world of possibilities and create some seriously cool things. No prior coding experience is required. We warmly welcome learners of all experience levels to join us on this coding adventure.

[Find out more](#)

ACU | Year 12 Revision Webinars

August 21 to September 7, 2023

Worried about your Year 12 exams? You're not alone. We know this can be a stressful time, which is why we've teamed up with InspirED to help you do your very best and get ready for what's to come.

Join us for a series of free online webinars run by experienced Year 12 exam markers and assessors. They'll guide you through how to respond to possible exam questions, help you get your head around the class content to deepen your understanding, and offer plenty of tips and strategies along the way.

[Find out more](#)

WSU | Discover Western: Applying for University & Receiving an Early Offer

August 22, 2023

Hear from Western staff and current students about our HSC True Reward Early Offer program, how to accept your early offer and change preferences, other alternate entry programs and more.

[Find out more](#)

CAA | Webinar: What's Changing for VET in Schools?

August 23, 2023

Find out about upcoming changes and what it means for your school and students.

[Find out more](#)

TAFE NSW | Virtual Open Day 2023

August 24, 2023

Discover all that TAFE NSW has to offer while connecting with experts who can help you make decisions around your future studies. Join us for webinars, browse the exhibition hall and view our on-demand content to learn more about studying with TAFE NSW.

[Find out more](#)

UTS | Open Day 2023

August 26, 2023

We're excited to announce that registrations for UTS Open Day are now open! Join us on-campus to explore your course and career options available at UTS.

With 100+ info sessions, campus tours, 1-1 chats and workshops on offer, Open Day is the place to get your questions answered.

[Find out more](#)

AIM | Open Day 2023, Sydney



August 26, 2023

Join us for Open Day at our Sydney Campus, and experience everything AIM has to offer! Explore our campus, get course advice, experience live performances, meet our teachers and students, and take part in activities that will give you a taste of student life here at AIM. Whether you're ready to study now, or in five years' time, Open Day is open to all and a fantastic opportunity to discover how the Australian Institute of Music can help turn your passion for music into a career.

[Find out more](#)

[Notre Dame | Sydney Open Day 2023](#)

August 26, 2023

Chat to our academics, alumni and current students about your study options and university life. Register now for our 2023 Open Day and explore everything that Notre Dame has to offer!

[Find out more](#)

[NAS | Open Day 2023](#)

September 2, 2023

The National Art School is Australia's leading fine art school, with an unrivalled studio-based teaching model that has delivered a rich tradition of artistic practice and generations of world-renowned alumni for the past 100 years. Leading into the 21st Century, NAS provides a progressive and holistic art education, and invites you to join us on Open Day to share our creative community.

Everyone is welcome at Open Day, from those considering art as a career to anyone simply curious about what happens behind the school's historic sandstone walls.

There will still be plenty of opportunity to see what life is like for students at NAS, with demonstrations in the studios, the chance to drop in on classes, and to enjoy shows in our exhibition spaces.

[Find out more](#)

[YES \(Young Entrepreneur Summit\) Primary, Sydney](#)

September 7, 2023

Run by young people, for young people, YES (Young Entrepreneur Summit) is a one-day, interactive summit designed to inspire and empower a generation of brave, creative and entrepreneurial young leaders.

YES is a super high energy, action-packed, one day event that features keynote presentations, panel discussions and interactive group workshops on a whole range of 'adulting skills' such as public speaking, financial literacy, ideation and collaboration + team work.

This event is designed for students in Grade 3 to Grade 6.

[Find out more](#)

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

September 7, 2023

Join Lucy from Study Work Grow to learn how to use the Career Clusters in your English classroom.

This Professional Learning session will give you the skills you need to feel confident talking



about a range of jobs in English, communication, 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 English teachers and the career educators who support them.

[Find out more](#)

Sydney Careers & Employment Expo 2023

September 8 to September 9, 2023

Sydney's New Careers & Employment Event will open on September 8 & 9, 2023, at the Hordern Pavilion, Moore Park. The Expo will showcase over 100 organisations and employers with career opportunities for all ages. Entry is free.

The event is for school students, parents, teachers, graduates, job seekers, people looking for courses and workers seeking new training options.

[Find out more](#)

YES (Young Entrepreneur Summit) Secondary, Sydney

September 8, 2023

Run by young people, for young people, YES (Young Entrepreneur Summit) is a one-day, interactive summit designed to inspire and empower a generation of brave, creative and entrepreneurial young leaders.

YES is a super high energy, action-packed, one day event that features keynote presentations, panel discussions and interactive group workshops on a whole range of 'adulting skills' such as public speaking, financial literacy, ideation and collaboration + team work.

This event is designed for secondary school students (Grade 7 to 12) and young adults (17 to 21 years).

[Find out more](#)

Macquarie | [EX]plore Science Extension Conference

September 11, 2023

Year 12 Science Extension students, Year 10 and 11 Students and teachers, join us to celebrate the research of Year 12 students undertaking HSC Science Extension in a research conference setting. Meet like-minded school students, undergraduates and PhD researchers to share your passion for science.

The full-day conference will include talks and posters presented by Year 12 Science Extension students, opportunities to network and meet undergraduate and PhD researchers, and lab tours throughout the Faculty of Science to get a taste for how your research journey can continue at university.

[Find out more](#)

Scholarships for regional and rural students

If you live far away from the nearest university, it might seem like the costs of moving town are too much. Thankfully, universities and other institutions recognise this, and provide scholarship opportunities tailored to people living in regional and rural areas. So if you think it's too expensive to move away for university, think again.

Am I eligible for a regional or rural scholarship?

Regional and rural scholarships are, as the name suggests, available to people who live in regional and rural areas. Each scholarship provider will give details of what they consider



'regional' or 'rural' in their eligibility criteria. You will usually need to have lived or studied in an area classed as regional or remote for a certain period of time.

Not only do these scholarships support you to move away from home, but some also assist with staying in regional and remote areas – providing more incentive for people to study and work where jobs are needed most.

Why should I apply for a regional or rural scholarship?

There are lots of reasons you might want to apply for a regional or remote scholarship:

1. **Financial assistance:** This is generally the main reason you'll apply for a scholarship. The money can go towards things like tuition and study expenses, moving costs, accommodation, or other expenses.
2. **Accommodation assistance:** Sometimes regional and remote scholarships come with bonus perks, such as priority access to accommodation or discounted rates.
3. **Development opportunities:** Some scholarships are designed to encourage students to study and work in regional and remote areas, and come with bonuses including exclusive events, development workshops, and career counselling.

While some scholarship applications can be competitive, there are often hundreds of scholarships that go unawarded each year because nobody applies – there's no harm in giving it a go.

5 regional and rural scholarships to check out

Here are some regional and rural scholarships we've found that you might like to take a look at:

- [Rural and Regional Enterprise Scholarships](#) – supports people from regional and remote areas in Australia studying from Certificate IV through to PhD level.
- [Destination Australia Scholarship Program](#) – funds eligible tertiary education providers to offer scholarships to domestic and international students to study and live in regional Australia.
- [FRS Scholarships](#) – awards scholarships to an exceptional group of rural students in the US for their first year of college or vocational school.
- [Hagan Scholarship](#) – a nationwide need-based merit scholarship, designed to provide recipients with the opportunity to graduate college debt-free.
- [RMA Scholarship Program](#) – designed to encourage young rural Albertans to pursue further education.

You can also search our [Scholarships Database](#) for tons more scholarships, or contact the university of your choice and ask about scholarships.

When can I start work?

A big part of growing up is starting work. It can be great to have some extra money for yourself, feel more independent, as well as learning the skills you'll need in the workforce for the rest of your life.

But before you get too keen, there are some things you need to know before you rush out and start applying.

What age can I start working?

The minimum age for starting work is different depending on the state or territory you live in.



Take a look at the information we've gathered below.

Australian Capital Territory

In the [ACT](#), you can start work from any age you like. However, young people under the age of 15 may only be employed in what is considered "light work". Your employer will also need written parental consent if you are under 15.

New South Wales

There are no minimum age restrictions to start work in [New South Wales](#). However, if you are under 15 there may be some restrictions on the type of work you can do and how many hours you can work.

What other restrictions are there?

There are also restrictions other than age to consider when starting work. These include how many hours per day or week you are allowed to work, when you are allowed to work, and if you are allowed to leave school to work.

New South Wales

In New South Wales, under the age of 15 you aren't allowed to work during school hours. You can't work more than one shift a day, and for more than 5 days in a row. You can't work for more than 4 hours total on a school day. You can't work later than 9.00pm if you have school the next day. You must not work and attend school for more than 50 hours a week combined.

You must [remain in school](#) until you finish Year 10. You can then choose to either stay at school, find an apprenticeship or traineeship, engage in higher education or VET, or start working full-time.

Other restrictions

Keep in mind that as well as all of the above, individual employers might also have their own separate policies about employing young people. For example, [McDonald's](#) has a minimum age policy of 14, regardless of whether legislation in your state or territory allows you to work earlier than this.

If there's a place you'd really like to work, make sure you get in contact with them first and ask whether or not they have a minimum age policy.

Where can I find more information?

If you want to know more about starting work, there are plenty of handy resources out there you can check out. You can find them all on the Fair Work Ombudsman's website [here](#).

Keen to learn more about careers? Check out our [Careers page](#) for information about your dream career area, tips to get your first job, and more.

Getting ready for work experience

Work experience is your chance to learn, explore, and build valuable skills that will serve you well in the future. To make the most of your work experience placement, we have some tips to help you get ready.

Research the company

Before you start your work experience, take some time to research the company or



organisation you'll be working with. Learn about their mission, values, and the industry they're in. This will not only impress your supervisors but also give you a better understanding of what to expect.

Dress appropriately

Dressing appropriately is crucial. Find out if there's a dress code at the workplace and make sure to follow it. If in doubt, it's always better to be slightly overdressed than underdressed.

Ask questions

Don't be afraid to ask questions. It's expected that you'll have a lot to learn, so don't hesitate to seek clarification if something isn't clear. This shows that you're eager to learn and engaged in the experience.

Practice basic etiquette

Good manners go a long way. Practice basic etiquette, such as greeting people with a smile, using proper language, and showing respect to your colleagues and supervisors.

Show initiative

Take the initiative to learn and contribute. If you finish a task, ask for more work or inquire about other projects you can assist with. This shows your enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra mile.

Be punctual

Arriving on time is a sign of reliability. Always be punctual and ready to start your day. It's better to arrive a little early than to keep others waiting.

Take notes

If you can, bring a notebook and jot down important information. This will help you remember details, instructions, and any insights you gain during your work experience.

Listen and learn

Pay attention to what's happening around you. Listen to conversations, observe workflows, and try to understand how different tasks contribute to the overall goals of the company.

Be open to feedback

Accept feedback with an open mind. Constructive criticism is meant to help you improve, so don't take it personally. Use feedback as an opportunity to grow and develop your skills.

Network and connect

Use your time to connect with professionals in the field. Networking can open doors for future opportunities. Don't hesitate to ask about their career paths and seek advice.

Reflect on your experience

After your work experience is over, [take some time to reflect](#). What did you learn? What skills did you acquire? How did this experience shape your career aspirations? Reflecting on these



questions will help you gain insights into your future goals.

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

The Letter Review Prizes

Letter Review is an online Literary Journal dedicated to publishing new work, and assisting writers with help to get published, performed, and produced. They feature interviews with professional writers, publish helpful information, run competitions with cash prizes, and remain open to unsolicited submissions of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

They are currently running writing competitions in four areas:

- Poetry
- Short Fiction
- Non-fiction
- Manuscripts

Letter Review is offering up to \$1,000 USD total prize pool in each competition. No subject or style restrictions. Open to writers who live anywhere in the world.

Entries close 1 September.

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

National Science Week 2023

This year, National Science Week will take place from Saturday 12 to Sunday 20 August.

All around Australia there will be a huge variety of live online events, virtual tours, competitions and fun activities to participate in and grow your STEM knowledge.

Take a look at what's on and find a whole bunch of resources [here](#).



Alternative pathways to university and beyond

Lots of people assume that once you finish high school, your next move will be to head off to university. And while this is a great goal to aim for, sometimes it just doesn't seem possible.

There are lots of reasons for this, including:

- You didn't get the results you needed
- You missed a prerequisite subject
- You need to move a long way to follow your dream and you're not ready for that yet
- You've had enough of study for now and want a break

And whether you're concerned your grades won't get you into your preferred course or you don't even want to go to uni, there are plenty of options out there to suit you.

Alternative pathways into university

Universities *want* you to attend (they're a business at the end of the day, and more students means more income). So if you've chosen a course you really like – or a uni you really want to go to – check their website for alternative pathways they might offer. These often include things like:

- Bridging courses
- Enabling courses
- Portfolio entry
- Preparation programs
- Special admissions tests

Most universities offer lots of different alternative pathway options, and you could be studying towards your preferred degree in no time at all. Most pathways involve a bit of extra work, but it'll be worth it in the end.

I don't want to go to uni – what now?

Alternative pathways aren't just limited to university. You could apply for a job straight out of school, get lots of experience, and work your way up the career ladder. It's not an easy route by any means, but if it's an option for the career of your choice, you'll start earning straight away and be pursuing the job you wanted.

There are still lots of different jobs out there where tertiary education isn't a requirement. As long as you meet the job requirements and nail your interview, you could be embarking on a career within months of leaving school.

Plus, many universities offer what are known as “experience based” pathways – so if you ever change your mind, you can use your work experience to study down the track.

Vocational qualifications

There are literally thousands of vocational qualifications available, delivering workplace-specific knowledge and skills across lots of careers and industries. You can study anything from trades, business, design, retail, or hospitality, to tourism, arts, engineering, or technology. Like universities, many institutions offer both in-class and online study options.

The great thing about vocational qualifications is that most of them have very low (or even no) entry requirements, so you don't need to stress about your grades. And once you've finished your course, you could even use your qualification as a pathway to further study at uni. Or you might find a vocational qualification is all you need to start your dream job.



Narrow down your options by deciding an area you'd like to study. Search for courses that meet your requirements and then refine by location. It's always worth checking if you're eligible for any scholarships, grants, or additional funding that can cover some or all of your costs too.

Apprenticeships, traineeships, and cadetships

These are all a great way to kick off a career. Open to nearly everyone with very few barriers, apprentices and trainees are employed directly through an employer and you start earning while you learn.

Once you've completed your apprenticeship, you'll have both a qualification and lots of work experience. A lot of the time employers choose to keep apprentices and trainees on in full-time roles after their studies are finished.

Cadetships are similar to apprenticeships – employers offer a combination of industry-specific training and work experience. They're most commonly offered by government departments and private companies. Just bear in mind that many cadetships have higher entry requirements and can be competitive.

It's your choice

Finding out more about all the alternative pathways into a career that you want can open lots of doors. You might find the perfect pathway that you didn't even know existed.

If you're indecisive and still aren't sure what you'd like to do, then finding out what alternative options are available could help you decide which step to take. It could also inspire you to explore careers you've never considered before.

And don't worry about being "too old" or "too late" – people of all ages study and change careers at multiple points in their lives, from 18 to 80.

You can learn more about alternative pathways [here](#).

5 things you should know about superannuation

Superannuation might sound like a big, confusing word, but it's actually an important part of your financial future. Think of it as a way to save money for when you're older and ready to retire. Here are some basic concepts you should know before we dive into the tips.

What is superannuation?

Superannuation, often called "super", is a type of savings specifically designed for your retirement. It's money that gets put away over time, and you can't touch it until you reach a certain age, usually around 60-65. It's like a long-term savings plan that helps you enjoy life when you're no longer working.

How does it work?

Every time you earn money from a job, a portion of that goes into your superannuation fund. Your employer contributes a percentage of your salary to this fund on your behalf. Over time, this money grows through investments, like stocks and bonds. The idea is that by the time you retire, you'll have a good amount saved up.

Now that you have a basic understanding, let's move on to 5 tips you should know about superannuation.

Tip 1: start early

The earlier you start contributing to your super, the more time your money has to grow. Even if



it's a small amount to begin with, it can make a big difference over the years.

Tip 2: contribute extra if you can

You're not limited to only the money your employer puts in. You can add more money to your super fund if you want to. This is called making extra contributions. Think of it like giving your future self a little financial boost.

Tip 3: choose the right investment option

Super funds offer different investment options, like conservative (low risk) or aggressive (higher risk). Depending on how comfortable you are with risk, you can choose the option that suits you best. Learn more about different investment options [here](#).

Tip 4: keep track of your super

It's important to know where your super is and how it's performing. Sometimes people have multiple super accounts, which can mean unnecessary fees. You can usually consolidate them into one account to save money.

Tip 5: be patient and plan

Superannuation is a long-term game. The money you put in today won't magically turn into a fortune tomorrow. It takes time, so be patient. And as you grow older, make sure to adjust your plans based on your changing needs.

Even though superannuation might seem a bit daunting at first, it's worth learning about. These tips will give you a head start on managing your money for a more comfortable retirement. If you have more questions, don't hesitate to ask someone knowledgeable or do some more research. Your future self will thank you for it.

You can find more money tips and tricks on our website [here](#).

What is it like to work in a nursery?

Nurseries serve as specialised facilities dedicated to the propagation, cultivation, and early growth stages of various plant species. They produce a wide range of plants, including ornamental flowers, trees, shrubs, fruits, vegetables, crops, and even rare or endangered species.

Nurseries are valuable to many different people and industries, including home gardeners, landscapers, farmers, foresters, conservationists, scientists, and commercial growers.

No two nurseries are the same, but they do tend to have some things in common:

1. Patience is key – growing plants is a long process, but also highly rewarding.
2. You'll be doing some work outdoors – many roles in nurseries require you to work outside or in greenhouses.
3. They're more common in rural areas – but demand for greener city spaces means you'll find nurseries in metro areas too.

Cultivate and supply healthy plants for various needs

The primary purpose of a nursery is to provide an optimal environment for young plants to develop strong root systems, healthy stems, and robust foliage before they are transplanted into their permanent outdoor locations or larger containers.



Key tasks

- Propagate seeds and cuttings
- Water, fertilise, and monitor growth
- Manage pests and diseases
- Maintain appropriate growing conditions
- Assist customers with plant selection
- Organise inventory and label plants
- Prepare plants for sale or transport
- Research new cultivation techniques

You can find nurseries in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry

Nurseries are generally found in the agriculture, forestry, and fishing industry. Different types of nurseries can include plant propagators, ornamental growers, and conservation facilities.

You can expect regular hours and on-site work

Regular hours | Work on-site | Jobs in all areas | Moderate job growth

The operating hours of a nursery can vary based on location and season. They are typically open to the public during normal business hours, but some work may be required outside these times.

On-site work is more common in nurseries due to the hands-on nature of many of the tasks involved. However, some administrative or planning tasks can be handled remotely.

Nurseries can be found in both rural and metropolitan areas, but they are often more common in rural or regional locations. This is because these areas typically have more available land for outdoor growing and lower land costs, making them suitable for larger-scale nursery operations.

The Career Clusters you'll find in a nursery

People from all Clusters are needed for a nursery to run successfully, but Makers are typically the most common Cluster. In many roles, you might find yourself performing tasks across multiple Clusters.

What do Makers do in a nursery?

Makers in nurseries are responsible for the hands-on care and cultivation of plants – they perform tasks like potting, watering, trimming, fertilising, and controlling pests. They also help to maintain the facilities and systems that encourage healthy plant growth.

- Horticulturalists
- Nurserypersons
- [Maintenance Technicians](#)
- Pest Controllers

The role of a Linker in a nursery

Linkers help to answer customer queries, listening to their needs and helping them identify the right plants for their garden or business. They also create strategies to attract customers, promote seasonal offerings, and communicate the value of the nursery's products to the public.

- [Salespersons](#)
- Marketing Managers
- [Social Media Managers](#)



Where you'll find Coordinators in a nursery

Coordinators oversee various nursery operations, from budgeting and inventory management to scheduling and logistics. They are also responsible for managing other nursery workers, including their rosters and pay.

- Operations Managers
- [Logistics Coordinators](#)
- Accounts Managers

What do Informers do in a nursery?

Informers conduct in-depth research into different plant species to provide specialised advice and care, as well as look into ideal growing conditions and techniques to maximise the nursery's output. Some nurseries may also run workshops, where Informers share their expertise on plant propagation and care.

- Plant Scientists
- [Agronomists](#)
- [Conservationists](#)
- Workshop Facilitators

The role of Innovators in a nursery

Innovators in a nursery introduce new technologies and ideas to increase efficiency and plant health. They might reimagine irrigation and plant housing systems, develop eco-friendly planting methods, or design new ways to incorporate plants into urban spaces.

- Landscape Designers
- Sustainability Developers
- Green Engineers

How do Guardians work in a nursery?

Guardians aren't super common in nurseries, but are still needed to ensure that they are safe places for both workers and visitors. Other Guardians might be tasked with keeping nursery facilities, equipment, and plants secure.

- Security Officers
- Workplace Health and Safety Officers

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

Nurseries are set to see changes in the future shaped by technology, environmental concerns, and evolving customer preferences.

Many nurseries are adopting smart tools and data analysis to make things easier and more efficient. They might use sensors to water plants and keep a close watch on plant health with digital tools. This not only makes operations smoother but also saves resources and improves the quality of plants.

Online platforms for plant sales and virtual consultations are gaining traction, offering convenience and accessibility to a wider audience. Nurseries are also becoming hubs of knowledge, providing digital resources and advice on plant care and gardening. The transition to online spaces ensures that nurseries remain relevant and accessible in an increasingly interconnected world.

Sustainability is another big focus for the future. Nurseries are going greener by using organic



methods, using fewer chemicals, and saving water with smarter watering systems. Due to climate change, nurseries are also tasked with growing species that can handle different weather conditions. Some nurseries are even using genetic engineering to improve plants, including making them disease-resistant or high-yield. This brings new possibilities for nurseries to lead in sustainability and conservation.

How to become a Writer

Writers use their knowledge of language to craft original content based on either facts or fiction. They produce text in many formats, from blogs, articles, and reports, to manuscripts, novels, and poems.

If you have a good grasp of language and a creative streak, and you are persistent and love reading, then a career as a Writer could be worth exploring.

If you have these skills, you could make a great Writer

- Disciplined and self-motivated, with top notch attention to detail
- Excellent written communication skills (particularly with respect to grammar and extensive vocabulary), and able to convey complex ideas with clarity
- Open minded with a thick skin (especially in relation to accepting changes and edits)

What tasks can I expect to do?

- Conceptualise ideas, research them accurately and in depth
- Write documents or other forms of text using your original ideas and research
- Proofread, edit, and polish your writing before publishing

Where do Writers work?

Writers can work anywhere. Access to computers and the internet is often desirable, but isn't always essential. Of course, this depends on the type of writing and constraints from your employers or publishers.

What kind of lifestyle can I expect as a Writer?

Part-time and casual work is common for Writers, giving you lots of flexibility in how you structure your working week. In fact, it's possible for you to work at nearly any hour of the day or night. There are also lots of options for either self-employment, contract work, or in-house work.

Most Writers can expect to earn an average salary throughout their career.

It might take a bit for your first big 'breakthrough' as a Writer, so persistence is key. Many Writers often work in other jobs on the side to supplement their income.

How to become a Writer

You can become a writer without any formal qualifications, but they could be useful by improving your skills and making you more appealing to potential employers and publishers.

Step 1 – Finish high school, doing well in English, literature, and language classes. Also see if your school offers any technical or creative writing classes.

Step 2 – Attend writing workshops and do courses (online ones are often available). Work hard to develop your verbal, written communication, and persuasive skills. Try being creative with your works and keep experimenting with new angles and styles of writing.

Step 3 – Enter writing competitions as often as possible. You'll challenge yourself and may



become a published author as a result (plus it looks great on your resume). You can find some competitions on our [page](#).

Step 4 – Apply for work experience positions within the industry, or volunteer in organisations where you'll be able to gain some knowledge and skills. You might like to try your local library, a publisher's office, local newspapers and magazines, and social media or marketing companies.

Step 5 – Research and complete tertiary qualifications that could help you build on your skills and appeal to potential employers. There are plenty of options to consider at both a vocational and university level.

Step 6 – Take on an internship, find a mentor, and keep writing.

Find out more here:

- [Australian Society of Authors](#)
- [SEEK](#)
- [Writers.com](#)

Similar Careers to Writer

- Journalist
- Editor
- Publisher
- Technical Writer
- Copywriter
- Blogger
- Screenwriter
- Columnist

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