

# Careers Newsletter



BLUE MOUNTAINS  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## Tuesday, 21 November 2023

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## What's On in the Next Few Weeks

[WSU | Green Minds, Bright Futures](#)

**November 20 to December 8, 2023**

Western's School of Science is inviting year 10-12 students to delve into the fascinating world of science and sustainability through a unique blend of online and on-campus experiences. Dive into Environment, Agriculture and Zoology on our 1100-hectare Hawkesbury campus, exploring cutting edge glasshouse technology and endangered woodlands and wetlands. Alternatively, explore cutting-edge plant-based food technology in Food Sciences or immerse yourself in forensic science at our top-ranked Crime Scene House.

Additionally, our Physics program at the Western Sydney Observatory offers a cosmic perspective in "The Cosmos in Perspective: Information and Life". Join our Medical Science Team and explore the "Science behind Medicine" at our Campbelltown campus.

[Find out more](#)

[The GiST | Pathways to careers in space](#)

**November 20, 2023**

This webinar focuses on the experiences of two women who have studied and worked in the space industry. Careers in space are vast, varied and the Australian space sector is thriving. Find out more about what a job in this sector might look like.

**Dr Vienna Tran**, a medical doctor, has a dream to pursue a road less travelled: space medicine. She is a Designated Aviation Medical Examiner and has worked for the Australian Space Agency. She has published research on the use artificial gravity to maintain the muscle health of astronauts.



**Tully Mahr** aspired to be an astronaut right through her secondary schooling; her recent acceptance into an internship at NASA has brought her closer to her goals than ever before. Tully is a Gundungurra woman interested in bridging Indigenous knowledge with advanced engineering concepts.

[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](#)

## **[ACU | Discover Sport and Exercise Science at Blacktown Campus](#)**

**November 21, 2023**

Join our free Discover Sport and Exercise Science activities. These sessions will give you an insight into life as an ACU student.

In our newly built Blacktown Exercise Sports and Technology Hub (BEST), you'll hear about the importance of pre-screening and learn how to conduct and score various tests with clients, including how to manually check a pulse.

You'll see the range of cutting-edge equipment you will use during your studies, including an aquatics recovery pool, for the very best in training and rehabilitation.

[Find out more](#)

## **[University of Sydney | Mechanical and mechatronic engineering at Sydney](#)**

**November 22, 2023**

If it excites you to know how things work, a degree in mechanical or mechatronic engineering could be for you. Mechanical engineers use a knowledge of movement to design and improve mechanical components and systems. This is a diverse area in high demand, particularly as we try to find solutions for problems like climate change and supply chain issues. Similarly, mechatronic engineers have a vital role to play in the age of advancing technologies. They combine mechanical, electronic, and software engineering to create computer-controlled machines (yep, that includes robots).

Our degrees emphasise practical learning, industry experience, and ensure that you graduate ready for the work force with full accreditation. Join our webinar to find out more about mechanical and mechatronic engineering at Sydney.

[Find out more](#)



## [ACU | Discover Teaching at Strathfield Campus](#)

**November 22, 2023**

Discover why ACU is ranked in the top 50 universities in the world for education.

Explore the different types of learning styles and consider how to use different techniques in your lesson planning.

Visit our visual arts and design studios, metal and timber workshops, and textiles and food technology laboratories to learn how you can study those subjects to become an expert in your chosen field.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Scholarship Opportunities at ACU Webinar](#)

**November 22, 2023**

ACU has more than 700 scholarships to help you get where you want to go. And these awards aren't just for the academically gifted – we offer a wide range of scholarships for students with different backgrounds and abilities.

Join this webinar to discover what scholarships you may be eligible for, hear from current scholarship recipients and learn about the application process.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Discover Nursing and Midwifery at Blacktown Campus](#)

**November 23, 2023**

Join our free Discover Nursing and Midwifery activities. These sessions will give you an insight into life as an ACU student.

Learn how nurses and midwives work at the forefront of patient care and experience how nurses save lives by taking part in a real-world emergency scenario.

Visit our interactive, fully functional nursing and midwifery simulation wards. Discover how our students engage in highly realistic interactions with high tech manikins and actors to develop and practise interpersonal and decision-making skills which make ACU students in high demand when they graduate.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Blacktown Parent Information Evening](#)

**November 23, 2023**

Studying at university is a life-changing experience, and at ACU we enable our students to achieve their full potential to make a positive impact in today's world.

Discover why ACU Blacktown is the ideal choice for your teen's future and have all your questions answered. Hear from our current students as they share their personal experiences and learn about our course offerings, early offer and pathways programs, scholarships and support services designed to help your teen transition into university.



Find out everything you need to know about ACU and break down the myths of a Catholic education at this informative evening.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Discover Physiotherapy at North Sydney Campus](#)

**November 28, 2023**

Want to know how physiotherapists help people improve their health and live well? In this hands-on activity, you'll learn the techniques they use to quantitatively measure strength and determine injury in patients.

Visit our interactive, fully functional physiotherapist simulation wards. Discover how our students engage in highly realistic interactions with high tech manikins to develop and practise interpersonal and decision-making skills which make ACU physiotherapist students in high demand when they graduate.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Life in the field: chemistry in action](#)

**November 29, 2023**

Have you ever wondered how Professor Marie Curie discovered polonium and radium, forever transforming the use of radiation in medicine and healthcare? Perhaps, you spend your days pondering how the first molecules formed in the universe and led to the beginning of life on Earth. Or maybe, you are simply in awe of the periodic table of elements.

Join this session to discover what studying chemistry really involves, what an average day of a chemical scientist or materials scientist is like, how you can pursue studies towards becoming one as well as the diverse career paths open to you in this field.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Discover Psychology at Strathfield Campus](#)

**November 29, 2023**

Learn about the importance of empathy and being empathetic – a fundamental tool in psychology.

You will learn about the big five personality traits and complete a personality test to better understand yourself and others. Using case studies, you'll discuss psychological disorders and how to go through diagnostic criteria to provide possible treatment options. You'll also visit the Mary Aikenhead Health Clinic – our teaching facility staffed by ACU postgraduate psychology students.

[Find out more](#)



## [The GiST | Leverage the E in STEM in primary schools](#)

**November 29, 2023**

“Young children are natural engineers. They’re very creative, they can follow directions, they naturally want to learn about their environment, they are very curious. They’ll explore, they’ll build, they’ll construct and that’s all part of engineering.”

Professor Lyn English will explore some of the learning affordances of early engineering experiences and how they integrate meaningfully and naturally within early STEM and STEAM curricula in primary schools in Australia including within Maths and in the innovative design-based problem-solving featured within the Design and Technologies Curriculum.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Discover the journey to university](#)

**November 29, 2023**

Join us for an engaging webinar, where we will take you on the journey of a high school student’s path to higher education. Dive into the world of university offerings, follow their steps, and explore the moments that shape crucial decisions.

Get an inside look at what drives your aspirations, discover the support available along the way, and gather the practical insights you need to confidently navigate the road to university. This webinar offers:

- A personal insight into the transition from high school to university.
- Realistic guidance to navigate through various university options.
- Valuable resources and networks to support your journey.

[Find out more](#)

## [ACU | Discover Nursing at North Sydney Campus](#)

**November 30, 2023**

Learn how nurses work at the forefront of patient care and experience how they save lives by taking part in a real-world emergency scenario.

Visit our interactive, fully functional nursing simulation wards. Discover how our students engage in highly realistic interactions with high-tech manikins to develop and practise interpersonal and decision-making skills which make ACU nursing students in high demand when they graduate.

[Find out more](#)

## [UNSW | #CareersUnlocked: Trends, Threats, and the Future of Cyber Security](#)

**November 30, 2023**

In today’s digital age, cyber-crime is skyrocketing at an unprecedented rate. The cyber security industry is set to nearly triple in size over the next three years, making it a field of unparalleled growth and opportunity.



Here's a staggering fact: the industry demands more than 16,000 cyber security professionals. That's right, this field is not just growing; it's booming! In fact, Australia is estimated to increase its computing capacity by around 250% over the next two years. But how can you seize these exciting career opportunities?

Join a distinguished panel of academic and industry experts as they unravel the complex landscape of cyber security. You'll gain invaluable insights into the rising trends and imminent threats, and understand why hacking is on the rise, directly impacting businesses and personal lives.

Our expert panel includes luminaries such as Professor Richard Buckland and Dr. Eila Erfani, both from UNSW, as well as UNSW alumni Priyal Dalal, a Cyber Security Consultant at KPMG. They will delve into the impacts and opportunities this dynamic field presents.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to unlock your career in one of the most exciting and rapidly evolving industries of our time. Join us for this engaging and informative event.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Sydney | Alumni Festival](#)

**December 2, 2023**

Finishing school and curious about what university life might be like? Join us at the University of Sydney for the Alumni Festival. With the campus open to everyone, this is your chance to explore behind the scenes of some of our state of the art facilities, discover the colleges and get hands on with our exciting research.

We're excited to give our future students opportunity to connect with some of our incredible alumni – including big names like Dr Karl, Jordon Raskopolous and Adam Liaw – and show off our incredible campus.

Free entry. We hope to see you there!

[Find out more](#)

## Important Future Events

### [Young Space Explorers](#)

**December 6, 2023**

At the Young Space Explorers event, students in Years 9, 10 & 11 have the opportunity to dive into a wide range of activities, from crafting lunar tools to unravelling meteorite mysteries, assembling mini rovers, and embarking on virtual space journeys. Through immersive workshops and sessions, participants tackle tangible space scenarios while deepening their understanding of advanced STEM principles. Each workshop lasts 60 minutes, and students can choose up to four distinct sessions.

[Find out more](#)



## [UNSW | Info Week](#)

**December 13 to December 15, 2023**

Join us at our Info Week events to get personalised advice and all the information you need to finalise your UAC preferences.

Your ATAR doesn't have to be a make or break. Info Week is your opportunity to learn more about your transition to uni – tour our campus, attend lectures, and chat with current students and academics to explore how your UNSW journey could look.

[Find out more](#)

## [University of Newcastle | ATAR Info Day 2023](#)

**December 14, 2023**

Join us on campus at our ATAR Info Day to get all your questions answered to kick start your uni journey!

If you have questions about studying in 2024 or didn't quite get the marks you need, our ATAR Info Day is a chance to chat with our admissions and pathways teams to help you understand your adjusted ATAR and entry options.

Bring your mates and grab a free bite to eat, relax with some live music and talk to our team about degrees, changing preferences and alternative entry options.

You'll also have the chance to take a tour of our beautiful campuses and chat with current students to find out what uni is really like.

Our info sessions are held on the day that ATARs are released and prior to the close of change of preferences for consideration in the December Round 2 (14 December), so it's perfect timing to get the advice you need to finalise your UAC application.

[Find out more](#)

## [CSU | ATAR Advice Days](#)

**December 14 to December 15, 2023**

We know you might have some questions when your ATAR drops.

That's why we're running in-person ATAR Advice Days on campus so you can get your questions answered to help make some big decisions easier.

What you can expect:

- Get advice on how to preference courses to receive the best offer for you.
- Learn about admission pathway options if your ATAR isn't what you'd hoped.
- Chat with an adviser about a personalised plan for getting into your #1 course.
- Find out how to accept your offer and how offer rounds work.
- Get tips on preparing for uni to give yourself the best start!

We can also walk you through scholarship information, accommodation options and provide extra info about the courses you're interested in. Best of all, you can chat with a current student and explore the campus with a personalised tour.

[Find out more](#)



## [ACU | Change of Preference Tours](#)

**North Sydney:** December 14 to December 16, 2023

**Strathfield:** December 14 to December 16, 2023

**Blacktown:** December 14 to December 16, 2023

Explore ACU's campuses and discuss your study options by booking a guided campus tour with our friendly staff. Tours are available at 10am, 1pm and 3pm AEDT.

[Register for North Sydney](#)

[Register for Strathfield](#)

[Register for Blacktown](#)

## [UOW | ATAR Live Chat](#)

**December 14, 2023**

Is your ATAR higher or lower than you expected? Is it enough to get into your dream course? What about your other options and pathways? Join us online as we answer your questions live – giving you the answers you need so you can make the right decisions.

[Find out more](#)

## Scholarships

### [Preparing for a scholarship interview](#)

Sometimes as part of the scholarship application process, you'll need to attend an interview. While the prospect can be nerve-wracking, with proper preparation, you can feel more confident going in. In this blog, we'll walk you through valuable tips on preparing for scholarship interviews, addressing common questions, and strategies to make a lasting impression.

### **Research the scholarship**

Before stepping into the interview room, familiarise yourself with the scholarship and the organisation offering it. Understand their mission, values, and the specific criteria they are looking for in a candidate. This way, you can tailor your responses to align with the scholarship's goals, demonstrating your genuine interest.

### **Know your achievements**

Prepare a list of your achievements, both academically and extracurricularly – this could be times where you showed leadership, resilience, or your commitment to community service. Use real life examples to illustrate your skills and experiences so it's easier for the interviewers to see your potential.





## **Anticipate common questions**

While every scholarship interview is unique, there are certain questions that tend to pop up commonly. Here are some things you should be ready to discuss:

- Your educational goals
- Your career aspirations
- How the scholarship aligns with your ambitions
- Your strengths and weaknesses
- How you've overcome challenges

Practice your responses to these questions so you're confident by the time the interview rolls around.

## **Present yourself confidently**

Confidence is key during a any interview. Practice maintaining eye contact, offering a firm handshake, and sitting up straight. These non-verbal cues help convey self-assurance and professionalism. And don't forget to smile!

## **Develop your elevator pitch**

Craft a concise and compelling pitch that highlights your key achievements, goals, and why you are the ideal candidate for the scholarship. Try to keep it under two minutes, ensuring that it captivates the interviewers' attention and leaves a lasting impression.

## **Prepare your own questions**

A great way to show your interest in the scholarship is by preparing your own thoughtful questions for the interviewers. Ask about the impact of the scholarship on previous recipients, or seek advice on how to make the most of the opportunities it provides. This demonstrates your proactive approach and eagerness to learn.

## **Find out more**

Remember, the interview is your opportunity to showcase your potential – and it's totally OK if you're feeling nervous! Developing good interview skills will help you later down the track when applying for other opportunities, such as internships and jobs.

You can read more blogs about scholarships and search for opportunities on our website [here](#).



## Apprenticeships and Traineeships

### [The impact of technology on apprenticeships](#)

Technology has changed so many parts of our lives – including the way we work. And this also includes apprenticeships. We're going to take a look at the impact of technology on apprenticeships today, and how you can adapt and be prepared with future-proof skills.

### **The evolution of apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships have been around for a [long, long time](#). Traditionally, they involved hands-on experience in traditional trade areas, such as building, craftsmanship, and cooking. Trade areas have grown over time to include things like engineering, plumbing, electrical, healthcare, and more.

But the emergence of digital tools and automation has changed skills that are essential in the workforce; and therefore changed what we need to learn through apprenticeships in order to be ready for work. While technical knowledge and experience is still valuable, workers need to have a much broader set of skills to succeed today.

### **Digital literacy is key**

While apprenticeships previously focused on mastering manual skills, there is a growing demand for [digital literacy](#). No matter what your job is, you're probably going to need to use a variety of different technologies in your day-to-day work.

This means apprentices also need to be able to use a variety of software and hardware, understand basic tech concepts, and be able to adapt to evolving technologies. A solid foundation in digital literacy is now considered a fundamental skill for any apprentice.

### **Remote apprenticeships?**

Advancements in technology have also paved the way for [remote apprenticeships](#); this means anyone can learn and collaborate from almost anywhere in the world. But to access these opportunities, apprentices need to be able to use virtual collaboration tools (like Zoom), and have a variety of basic digital literacy skills.

Most notably, this shift brings flexibility and accessibility to the forefront, allowing apprentices to connect with mentors and peers regardless of their location.

### **Embracing automation and AI**

The integration of automation and artificial intelligence (AI) has not only changed the way we work, but has also influenced the skills apprentices need to thrive. Apprenticeships are more commonly including [exposure to automated processes and AI-driven tools](#), meaning apprentices to adapt and understand these technologies.



## Soft skills for success

While technical skills are undoubtedly important, [soft skills](#) are becoming increasingly valuable too. Effective communication, adaptability, and critical thinking are skills that employers value no matter what job you're applying for.

Apprentices are encouraged to hone these skills as they navigate the complexities of the modern workplace, collaborating with diverse teams and adapting to the ever-changing demands of the digital economy.

## Find out more

Because of the impact of technology on apprenticeships, learners should embrace digital literacy, remote collaboration, and an understanding of automation and AI. Learning both technical and soft skills will allow you to not only thrive in your current role, but also prepare you for the future – no matter where it might take you.

Read more about apprenticeships and traineeships on our website [here](#).

## Getting Ready for Work

### [Jobs in disaster relief: Careers that make a difference](#)

Over the past few years, the need for disaster relief professionals has become increasingly evident. From hurricanes and earthquakes to global health crises and wars, people with a passion for helping others during tough times can find meaningful and impactful careers in the field of disaster relief. If you're ready to roll up your sleeves and make an impact on people's lives, we have some jobs in disaster relief that might interest you.

### Emergency response teams

If you picture yourself being the first on the scene, helping out right after a disaster hits, this might be your calling. You could be providing emergency care to those in need, battling blazes, saving lives, and keeping calm under pressure. And even if being in the midst of the action isn't for you, there's roles in logistics too – coordinating resources, managing teams, and making sure everyone has what they need. Teamwork, resilience, adaptability, and the ability to think quickly are key in any of these roles.

### Humanitarian aid and development

If you're committed to making long-term change, humanitarian aid and development could be more for you. Organisations like the United Nations and various non-profits work towards rebuilding communities affected by disasters. You could be rebuilding communities, leading organisation efforts, allocating supplies, and helping people get back on their feet.



If you're organised, creative, and passionate about making a difference, this might be the job for you.

## **Public health and medical professionals**

In the midst of pandemics and health crises, we need healthcare workers more than ever. Nurses, doctors, aged carers, and public health workers are all vital in disasters, providing care and keeping everyone safe. You could be planning and implementing health interventions, providing medical care to affected populations, or working in the field with international organisations.

If you've got a heart for helping people and a knack for thinking on your feet, this is a field where you can truly shine.

## **Engineering and infrastructure**

While dealing with the direct impacts of disaster is important, long-term recovery is key too. Engineers, architects, and construction workers are all essential in this space. You could be helping to design and rebuild homes, hospitals, roads, water supplies, and everything in between.

If you're hands-on, innovative, and have great attention to detail, this is your chance to build a better future.

## **Communication and media specialists**

If you're more of a storyteller or a social media guru, there's a role for you too.

Communication and media specialists help to spread the word about events, keep the public in the loop, and let people know how they can pitch in and help. Your knack for words can be a powerful force for good.

Communication, storytelling, and social media management are all valuable in these positions.

## **Volunteer opportunities**

If you're not quite ready to make disaster relief your full-time gig, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities that can still make a significant impact. Local and international organisations often welcome volunteers for various roles, from assisting with emergency shelters to providing support in fundraising efforts.

Volunteering not only allows you to contribute your time and skills, but also gives you a taste of the field, helping you decide if a career in disaster relief is the right fit for you.

## **Help make a difference**

There are lots of jobs in disaster relief where you have the chance to make a positive impact on the lives of others – whether you're on the front lines or contributing to long-term development and recovery.

You can read more about careers and work on our website [here](#).



## Work Experience

### [Work experience for students who love dance](#)

Job opportunities in the arts extend beyond just the stage – you can be involved through teaching, event planning, design, outreach, and much more. So if you love to dance, we have some work experience ideas that can help you explore your passion and turn it into a career.

#### **Dance studios and academies**

Reach out to local dance studios or academies in your community. Many of them welcome high school students for short-term work experiences. You can assist with dance classes, observe instructors, and get a behind-the-scenes look at how these spaces operate.

#### **Event planning and coordination**

If you're drawn to the idea of organising dance events or performances, consider seeking work experience with event planning companies. From coordinating dance recitals to managing logistics, you'll gain insight into the planning that goes into creating dance events and experiences.

#### **Costume and set design**

Unleash your creativity by exploring work experience opportunities in costume and set design. Connect with local theatres or dance companies that might need assistance in bringing their performances to life through imaginative costumes and sets.

#### **Fitness and wellness centres**

Dance isn't just an art form; it's also a fantastic way to stay fit. Explore work experience options at fitness and wellness centres that offer dance-based fitness classes. You might get the chance to assist instructors, participate in class setup, or even contribute to marketing efforts.

#### **Community outreach programs**

Many community outreach programs use dance as a tool for empowerment and engagement. Look for organisations that focus on using dance to connect with various communities. Your could be assisting in outreach initiatives or participating in dance workshops with diverse groups. Work experience is a chance to explore your passions, build skills, and make connections. Don't be afraid to reach out to local businesses and organisations, express your love for dance, and ask about potential opportunities. Read more about work experience and search for opportunities on our website [here](#).



## Competitions

### [Enter the Very Short Film Festival](#)

Inspire creativity at this year's Very Short Film Festival, where budding filmmakers and storytellers discover their unique voices. With a dedicated junior category, we invite high school and primary students to delve into the art of filmmaking and share captivating stories. Films must run between 2 to 5 minutes and feature the 2024 signature 'Spark'. The signature is a creative touch that every filmmaker will incorporate in any way – it may be visual, metaphorical or dialogue.

Anyone is welcome to enter and we embrace all genres. All genres are welcome and we champion bold stories that challenge, enlighten, and inspire.

**Entries close Sunday 7 April 2024.**

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

### [She Did What? Student Video Competition](#)

Women are under-represented in STEM success stories. Let's change that!

Create a 3-minute video about the STEM achievements of an Australian woman and share your video for the chance to win \$500 for you and \$500 for your school.

Students in Years 5 to 10 can enter, either as individuals or as a collaborative team or class.

You don't need any fancy equipment, just a creative vision and a great story. The competition is open to all students, from all Australian schools. Entries need to be submitted by a teacher, parent or carer.

**Entries close 11 December.**

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

## Resources

### [Finding accurate information – for study and life](#)

While at school or university, you'll probably find yourself doing a lot of searching for information, whether it's to write an assignment, answer a quiz, or just learn more about a subject you're interested in. And the internet has undoubtedly made access to all this information so much easier – but at the same time, how can you know what you're reading is accurate?

It's important to use accurate and reliable information during your studies, and it's also important to keep a critical mind when reading news and watching videos online too. In this blog, we'll go through some tips to help you find accurate information, not just for your studies, but for everyday life too.



## Evaluating information – academic sources

So, you've found a great book, website, or video – how do you know if it's OK to use in your assignment? One way you can evaluate your source is by using the **CRAP** (**C**urrency, **R**eliability, **A**uthority, **P**urpose) test.

### Currency

The first thing to consider is how recent the information is. Think about:

- When was it published, or for a website, when was it last updated?
- Do I need to use up-to-date information for my assignment?
- Have views on my topic changed since this information was published?

If you're doing an assignment on Ancient Egypt, for example, using historical sources and information is going to be totally OK. But if you're writing about how businesses can use social media, you'll probably want more recent information.

### Reliability

Next, think about whether or not the information is reliable. Ask yourself:

- Who published this information, and where?
- Does the information include references I can check?
- Are there lots of spelling and grammatical errors?

Using the example above, if you're looking for information on Ancient Egypt, a textbook from your school's library is likely to have reliable information; a random website you've found on the internet may not.

### Authority

If you know the author of the information, how can you be sure they know what they're talking about? Consider:

- What are the author's qualifications or experience?
- Is this person considered an expert in their field?
- Does the author have affiliations with any groups or institutions?

So if you find an article on the internet about Ancient Egypt, and can see that it has been written by a university professor who specialises in Egyptian history, this information is likely to be accurate.

### Purpose

Finally, think about the reason *why* this information exists, and how this can affect its accuracy. Think about:

- Who is the intended audience for this information?
- Was this made to inform, sell, persuade, or entertain?
- Is there obvious bias, or is this heavily opinion-based?



Using our original example, a dramatised documentary about life in Ancient Egypt is probably not going to be entirely accurate – it's mostly made for entertainment.

## **Evaluating information – informal sources**

You've just stumbled across a video on TikTok revealing some shocking information! Before you panic and share it with all your friends, take a second to stop and think first. How can you tell whether or not this information is true? The best way is to use the **SIFT** method. This requires a bit more active searching and thinking, but it's definitely worth it.

### **Stop**

Don't immediately rush out and tell everyone you know all about what you heard or saw, or launch into a tirade in the comments. Take a breath first and think – what do I know about the person telling me this information? Do I know anything about the source of this information? If it seems a bit suspicious, then chances are it probably is.

### **Investigate the source**

If you can, do a bit of research into the person or organisation that published or presented the information. Who are they, and what are their qualifications? Are they knowledgeable on this topic? Do they seem to have any obvious bias or strong opinions?

### **Find trusted coverage**

Look for multiple different articles, videos, or points of view on the topic – preferably from official or reliable sources. Are there other people out there saying conflicting things? What does the consensus seem to be on the subject? Even if you can't find one definitive answer, reading different opinions and perspectives (regardless of whether you agree with them) can provide context.

### **Trace it back to the source**

It turns out the TikTok you saw is based on a Tweet, which was responding to a Facebook post, which was cross-posted from a news website. Go back to the original source (the news article) and read it in full. Does what you saw in the TikTok actually appear in the original article? Or has it just been taken so far out of context it's not even close?

### **Finding accurate information**

Good research and critical thinking skills won't just serve you well during your studies – they're important for everyday life too. Being able to find accurate information can help you avoid fake news and misinformation.

You might also like to check sources and information through sites such as [AAP FactCheck](#) or [Snopes](#).

Find heaps more study tips on our website [here](#).





## [Plan an alternative Schoolies](#)

If the idea of a traditional Schoolies week doesn't appeal to you, that's OK. There are lots of other things you can do to have fun and mark the occasion. Here are some of our top alternative Schoolies ideas to celebrate the end of your schooling life.

### **Relax**

Staying at home, organising catch ups with friends, heading to the beach, or spending some time getting reacquainted with the couch and snoozing is a perfectly acceptable (and quite frankly appealing) way to kick off your holidays.

### **Book a beach house or AirBnb**

If you're looking for something a little more special, how about planning a trip with a few of your best friends? You can lounge around all day by the pool, do some sightseeing, take day trips, and party with a smaller crowd.

### **Be cruisey**

Is a cruise more your style? Why not check out what options are available or book a house boat for a few days? You could even score yourself some great last minute deals if you haven't already booked, and lots of cruises are all inclusive so you won't have to worry about food or entertainment once you've paid.

### **Branch out**

How about treating yourself to an overseas trip? There are some Schoolies trips that go overseas, but if that's too much, why not check your budget and see what's on special at the travel agent this week?

### **Plan a road trip**

A classic road trip could be the ultimate in fun and adventure. Either by yourself or with a couple of friends, just choose a destination and work out how you're going to get there and where you can stay along the way.

### **Go camping**

A good old [camping](#) option shouldn't be overlooked either. A few nights away with no plans, no responsibilities, a fridge full of food, your mates, campfires, and sleeping under the stars – doesn't get much better. Or cheaper.



## **Work it**

It might not sound like much of a celebration to everyone, but if you're keen to start earning money and being independent, now is your chance. Plus if you start applying while everyone else is planning their Schoolies week, you could get ahead of the crowd and land yourself the best job.

## **Volunteering**

Volunteering can be a great opportunity to [explore the world](#), feel better about yourself, learn new skills, help others, and add something valuable to your resume.

## **Achieve a goal**

If there's something else you've always dreamed of doing, now is your time! Whether you've always wanted to take the plunge and go [bungee jumping](#) or [sky diving](#), explore your passion and join a [drama](#) or [dance](#) company, or pick up a new hobby or skill, there's bound to be something that piques your interest.

## **Have fun**

Whatever you decide to do, make sure you're doing it for yourself. You don't have to go along with the crowd if you don't want to – just make sure that you have fun and get some well deserved rest.

You can read more wellbeing and lifestyle tips on our website [here](#).

## **Apply for Uni Step Up Online with ACU in 2024**

Current Year 10 (soon to be Year 11) students in regional / remote areas are invited to apply for ACU's 2024 Uni Step Up Online program, with applications open now.

Uni Step-Up Online is a free online program that gives student the opportunity to study first-year units outside of regular school hours and if successful, gain two university credits (applicable to other universities) and an unconditional offer to a relevant ACU course.

This program is ideal for students interested in Health, Business or Exercise Science fields and would like to take a first step towards achieving their career goals. Uni Step-Up students are supported throughout the program, upskilled in Academic literacy, and given access to all ACU resources.

If you have questions, feel free to contact ACU at [usu@acu.edu.au](mailto:usu@acu.edu.au). Apply to the program [here](#).



## Schoolies tips for parents

Schoolies celebrations became huge back in the 1980s and have become a traditional end-of-school celebration for lots of high school leavers. It's a great way to mark a huge milestone in their lives, but of course when a bunch of young, excitable people get together, parents often can't help worrying about what could go wrong. We've put together a few schoolies tips for parents to pass on to your teen so they can stay safe while having fun – and hopefully help alleviate any of your concerns too.

### **Make time for a chat**

Communication is always the best way for you to make sure your teen is fully prepared. It also gives you an opportunity to offer your support and address any worries or concerns they have. Just make sure it's not a lecture or negative, otherwise they're likely to switch off or get defensive.

Talk about all the fun stuff they have planned, where they'll be staying, and who they're going with. You can also bring up the hard topics like being responsible if alcohol and drugs are involved, safe sex, and generally taking care of themselves and their mates.

Remind them to be true to themselves, stick with their choices, to do what's right for them (you could discuss boundaries in advance too), and not to bow to peer pressure.

### **Have their back**

Ask them to provide you with all the information you'll need to help them in case anything goes wrong.

- Address of where they're staying (have a quick check of the accommodation agreement too)
- Travel details
- Agreed times/days when they'll check in to let you know they're OK
- Contact details of friends they'll be with
- Their bank card details, just in case it gets lost
- Add an ICE (in case of emergency) contact to their phone as well as the [Red Frogs](#) Hotline 1300 557 123

Make sure they have everything they need. You could even send them with some essential supplies, or organise a delivery of:

- Slabs of bottled water
- Pre-cooked or microwave meals
- Non-perishable snacks
- A small first aid kit
- Some cash to keep as an emergency stash



## Keeping the peace

We know that your worries come from a place of love and concern but your teen is feeling independent and getting their first taste of adulting. So here are some things we recommend that you *don't* do:

- Do not call or SMS your teen constantly – stick to the agreed check in times. Especially try to avoid contacting them while they are driving.
- [Don't provide them with alcohol even if they are over 18](#) – research has shown that providing them with alcohol could lead to more risky behaviour.
- Don't post about them or their friends on social media without their permission.

And here are some other things you *can* do:

- Join the [Red Frogs Schoolies Advice for Parents](#) group for updates and tips so you can feel informed.
- Check out the [Safer Schoolies](#) page.
- Download a [checklist](#) to give to your teen before they head off.

## Not all teens are the same

If your school leaver is keen to celebrate but the chaos of schoolies is stressing them out, you could always help them to [find other ways to celebrate](#) instead.

## Send them off with a positive mindset

Make sure your teen knows that they can call you at any time of the day or night and that you'll be there to help them, no matter what.

You can find more blogs for parents on our website [here](#).

## Workplace Spotlight

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

Museums are cultural institutions designed to collect, preserve, and exhibit artifacts and artworks of historical, scientific, or artistic significance. They play a crucial role in the dissemination of knowledge, offering a space for reflection, learning, and appreciation of human achievement throughout history.

Additionally, museums also contribute to the preservation of cultural identity, acting as repositories of our shared past, and often serve as platforms for dialogue and critical thinking.



Every museum is different, but they do have some things in common:

1. A focus on conservation – you'll be protecting important pieces of heritage for future generations.
2. You'll need strong communication skills – to enhance public engagement and to interact with co-workers.
3. A passion for culture – not only sharing it, but also respecting and preserving it.

## **Preserve and exhibit cultural heritage**

Their primary purpose is to educate and inspire the public by providing a tangible connection to our collective heritage and fostering a deeper understanding of diverse subjects. Museums are usually found in the arts and recreation industry. There are lots of different kinds of museums, including art, science, history, and specialty-focused institutions.

## **Key tasks**

- Select, research, and arrange artifacts for display
- Preserve and restore cultural and historical items
- Develop and implement public learning initiatives
- Organise and maintain museum collections
- Interact with and guide visitors
- Conduct studies to enhance understanding
- Create visually compelling and informative displays
- Promote museum programs and events
- Secure financial support through grants or donations
- Organise and oversee special events
- Safeguard museum collections

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

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

The typical working hours for employees in a museum usually align with regular business hours. However, there might be exceptions, particularly during special events or exhibition openings, where staff may need to work outside these hours. Professionals involved in research, conservation, or other specialised roles may have flexible schedules to accommodate their specific responsibilities.

On-site work is more common in museums due to the nature of their activities, which often involve hands-on tasks such as curating exhibits, managing collections, and engaging with visitors.

Museums are more commonly found in metropolitan areas due to the increased population density and cultural diversity that cities offer. While some rural areas may have museums, there are usually more in large cities where there is a greater capacity for public engagement and support.



## The Career Clusters you'll find in a museum

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

### What do Makers do in a museum?

Whether it's ensuring exhibit displays are flawlessly presented, technical systems are operating efficiently, bringing curatorial visions to life, or the museum environment is well-maintained, Makers use a variety of tools and specialised knowledge to keep everything in top-notch condition. They also help to clean, restore, and preserve artifacts for display or storage.

- Maintenance [Technicians](#)
- Exhibit Fabricators
- Conservators
- Audiovisual [Technicians](#)

### The role of a Linker in a museum

Linkers facilitate the visitor experience in museums, helping individuals navigate the exhibits, providing information about ongoing exhibitions, and assisting with membership inquiries. Some Linkers engage with local communities, ensure collections and exhibits respect local cultures, and promote traditional perspectives. Other Linkers promote the museum to the public via web, radio, print, and television.

- Visitor Services Specialists
- Outreach & Community Liaisons
- [PR](#) & Marketing Specialists

### Where you'll find Coordinators in a museum

Coordinators in museums are responsible for a variety of administrative and managerial tasks. They handle budgetary considerations, oversee resource allocation, organise new acquisitions, coordinate educational programs, manage staff evaluations, and ensure compliance with regulations. They help ensure the smooth functioning of the museum's events, systems, and overall economic landscape.

- [Curators](#)
- Operations Managers
- [Administrative Assistants](#)
- [Event Coordinators](#)



## What do Informers do in a museum?

Informers use their extensive knowledge to enrich the experiences of both staff and visitors. Some engage in educational outreach, holding presentations or workshops to enhance visitors' understanding of exhibits. Other Informers contribute their expertise to the development and curation of exhibitions, conducting in-depth research into the history behind exhibits.

- Exhibit Developers
- Educational Guides
- [Curators](#)
- Researchers

## The role of Innovators in a museum

Innovators in museums use their creativity and forward-thinking to design unique gallery layouts, integrate new technologies into exhibits (such as augmented and virtual reality), and shape the overall aesthetic and ambiance of museum spaces. Their role is characterised by engineering, designing, and developing the places and things that make the museum a vibrant and engaging space for visitors.

- Exhibit Designers
- Technology Integration Specialists
- [Interior Designers](#) & [Architects](#)

## How do Guardians work in a museum?

Guardians help to ensure the health, safety, and overall wellbeing of both visitors and the museum's collections. Some may oversee security measures, ensuring that valuable artifacts and exhibits are protected. Other Guardians implement and oversee health and safety protocols, or make sure spaces and thoroughfares are accessible to everyone.

- Security Officers
- [Workplace Health & Safety Officers](#)
- Accessibility Officers

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

The future of working in museums is set to be shaped by evolving technological, societal, and cultural trends. Museums are already embracing digital technologies to enhance the visitor experience. Virtual exhibits, augmented reality, and interactive displays are becoming more common – this also means there will be a higher demand for professionals with expertise in digital curation, technology integration, and multimedia development.

With a growing global emphasis on sustainability, museums may adopt more eco-friendly practices. Jobs related to implementing sustainable practices, managing environmental impact, and creating exhibits centred around environmental themes could see increased prominence.



In response to global calls for decolonisation and a heightened awareness of the importance of respecting diverse cultures, museums are undergoing significant transformations in their approaches to collections and exhibitions. A crucial aspect of this evolution involves addressing historical injustices, including the return of stolen artifacts to their places of origin. They are also actively working to reinterpret narratives, challenging colonial perspectives, and embracing a more inclusive and nuanced portrayal of history and culture.

## Job Spotlight

### How to become an Interpreter

Interpreters understand and translate speech into a different language. Often they work in real time, providing instantaneous translation between parties. They can work in a huge variety of settings such as business, government, the arts, legal, and in the community. The difference between an Interpreter and a Translator is that Interpreters work with spoken language, while Translators decipher written text.

If you have great communication skills, speak another language fluently, and have a passion for helping people, this could be the perfect job for you.

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

- Excellent language skills
- Great communicator
- Friendly and approachable
- Emotionally intelligent
- Resilient and adaptable
- Strong cultural awareness
- Good understanding of body language

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

- Work with clients to determine their needs
- Provide verbal translations between parties
- Determine appropriate language for each setting
- Remain professional and impartial throughout communications
- Ensure that clients are satisfied with the outcomes

### **Where do Interpreters work?**

Depending on the kind of work you're doing, you might work both indoors and outdoors. You might be working in an office environment, researching in museums or galleries, travelling with diplomats and government, or following camera crews to provide live translations on television and radio.





## What kind of lifestyle can I expect as an Interpreter?

You will likely need work flexible hours as an Interpreter, as your services may be needed any time, including on weekends and holidays. Depending on your role, you might even have the opportunity for travel.

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

An important part of this job is getting along with people from all walks of life – which also means sometimes facilitating difficult conversations while remaining impartial and unemotional. But you'll also help people's voices be heard and make a positive difference too.

## How to become an Interpreter

Even if you are already fluent in a foreign language, completing a qualification is often preferred by employers and clients.

Step 1 – Finish high school, focusing on English and your language of interest.

Step 2 – Obtain a relevant university or vocational qualification in interpreting, languages, or arts.

Step 3 – Immerse yourself in the culture of your chosen language, either through work experience or by travel, to deepen your understanding of the language and culture.

Step 4 – Become certified through an accreditation organisation or authority.

Step 5 – Upskill with short courses and continued professional development.

Find out more here:

- [National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters](#) (Australia & NZ)
- [Institute of Translation and Interpreting](#) (UK)
- [American Translators Association](#) (US)
- [Canadian Translators, Terminologists and Interpreters Council](#)

## Similar careers to Interpreter

- [Sign Language Interpreter](#)
- Translator
- Languages Teacher
- Linguist
- Speech Pathologist
- Anthropologist
- Historian

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)

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