



The following is a brief outline of the focus for the Highlands LLEN in 2017 and beyond as we remain committed to creating learning opportunities for young people through genuine partnerships.

Education Engagement

Key Contact | Asha Buckmaster

The Highlands LLEN focus is on developing place-based strategies and community partnerships to pursue learning practice and build community capacity to deliver improved engagement, inclusion and learning outcomes for young people. The Highlands LLEN returned to a focus on Year 12 or equivalent attainment for young people in 2016. Our objectives are early identification of disengagement and strategies to re-engage young people or find alternative education or training settings.

Specifically, we will broker sustainable partnerships that support schools and the broader community to:

- | identify young people that have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from education prior to completing Year 12 or a vocational equivalent
- | identify and provide the support, education options and pathways to enable those young people to remain in education

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL)

Key Contact | Amanda Menabue

Genuine workplace experiences are a key factor in supporting young people to make informed decisions about career pathways. The Highlands LLEN SWL Program makes it possible for young people aged 15 to 19 to undertake hands-on learning, meet local employers and gain beneficial SWL opportunities and/or School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs) to practice their knowledge and skills. We publish SWL and SBAT opportunities on the SWL Portal, providing teachers, students and parents with a user friendly referral point to source diverse workplace learning opportunities.

Specifically, we support schools, industry, and the community to:

- | facilitate access to appropriate SWL placements for students undertaking VET as part of their Senior Secondary education
- | facilitate engagement between schools and employers supporting schools to work directly with employers to place students into SWL placements
- | liaise with employers and maintain information on the SWL Portal to ensure it is current and meaningful
- | identify local needs and industry priorities for appropriate SWL placements
- | source local SWL placements for a range of students
- | collaborate with schools and other service providers to provide young people with holistic, integrated support assisting them to engage, and re-engage, in education and training

VET Cluster

Key Contact | Leah Davis

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) Cluster is a partnership between the Highlands LLEN and 17 Secondary Education providers within Ballarat and surrounding areas.

Our program offers students an opportunity to undertake national or state vocational certificates which are recognised as part of a student's Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) as endorsed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

There are 18 VET program options available in 2017 that students can pursue while studying Year 10, 11 or 12, supporting their pathway to further education, training and/or employment.



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Our main activities will be supporting disengaging or disengaged young people to continue their education and assisting young people in gaining Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) placements or School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships (SBATs).

The Highlands LLEN will play a significant role in achieving the aims identified in the Victorian Government's Education State initiative across the Ballarat, Hepburn, Moorabool, Pyrenees, and Golden Plains local government areas.

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