**Video transcript: VET prepares students for the future**

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VET studies are a critically important part of senior secondary qualifications in Victoria, both the VCE and VCAL. VET studies have been part of the VCE for more than 20 years, and have always been a part of VCAL.

VET studies provide students with access to specific knowledge and skills, and this is really important because it can be that subject, that study, that area of learning that excites students’ passion or interest and sets them on a path to future employment, future work, future life that they might not otherwise have had. But the other reason that VET studies are so important is that they provide an opportunity in a way that is different from all other VCE studies and from the other VCAL strands for students to develop the capabilities that employers say they’re most looking for. And these are things like self-reliance, self-organisation, but also working in groups, working in teams and problem solving. It’s a critical part of what VET is and it’s why VET is unique.

**Rowena Archer (VET Community Services Teacher, VET Coordinator, Braybrook College):** VCE VET, prepares our students really well for the future because we want to see them employed, and we want to see them in training, and all of our students that are undertaking VET get a lot of skills, they get a certificate from doing that time with an employer, and they get to learn what actually goes on in the workforce.

**Kait Kelly (VET Health Teacher, Student Engagement Coordinator, Bendigo Senior Secondary College):** One of the biggest benefits of VET is it really engages students who have an industry pathway, so students who are really looking at going into a particular field, and there is a VET program that aligns with that, it gives them almost like a head start.

**Simon Cameron (VET Sport and Recreation Teacher, Director of Student Management & Engagement, Frankston High School):** And I think they also like to get that nationally recognised qualification as well.

**Raffaela Galati Brown (Principal, Northern College of the Arts & Technology):** But it actually really informs them about the industry, and they get to meet industry people.

**Sonya Seehusen (VET Hair and Beauty Teacher, Stawell Secondary College):** A lot of the students come out a lot more mature at the end of the course.

**Malcolm Beasley (VET Creative & Digital Media and VET Business Teacher, Learning Specialist, Wonthaggi Secondary College):** And it’s very important that the kids get that entrepreneurial bent. They’re actual active producers.

**Elizabeth Gubbins (VET Business Teacher, VET Coordinator, Methodist Ladies’ College):** What they love about the subjects is the vocational intent. I mean, they really like the added bonus of gaining a certificate II or III in that particular qualification, but they really enjoy that hands-on or vocational curriculum.

**Norm Lawler (VET Electrical Industry Teacher, GOTAFE):** And they can see when they do the practical work, how it ties into, what’s required in a job.

**Simon:** So it really connects what they’re learning in the class into a real life setting.

**Raffaela:** It engages students.

**Kait:** I think they really enjoy learning skills and knowledge that’s going to set them in good stead for those first couple of years of their post-secondary training.

**Malcolm:** When community and schools interface, when reality and clear instruction and real outcomes occur, that’s when kids are the most successful. So that’s why I think they enjoy it. They see the real.

**Rowena:** So in terms of success stories, we’ve had quite of lot of students who have used VCE VET as part of their ATAR. But we also have a lot of students who use their VET to help them to get employment, and to get apprenticeships, and we see this as really valuable.

**Simon:** We had one student last year who completed Sport and Rec, she’s now gone on to do a Diploma in Sport Management and Sport Business, she does some swim teaching on the side and she’s got a guaranteed pathway into university next year so she’s absolutely loving it.

**Norm:** The majority of the students that come through with us go on to become electrical apprentices.

**Elizabeth:** Every year over 50 percent, quite genuinely, of our Premier’s Award recipients are VCE VET subjects.

**Simon:** We had five students who got study scores in the forties last year, placed them in the top nine percent in the state. Ah, one of those students received an ATAR of 97. So she had also Business Management, Outdoor Ed, Further Maths as part of her program, so they’re you’re typically scaled down subjects, so she debunked that myth.

**Malcolm:** There are direct, absolute direct pathways for this VET program, for all VET programs.

**Kait:** And have developed skills that they themselves never thought that they could develop so the confidence to talk to people, um, the ability to work with people from a wide range of backgrounds, and to really just develop and blossom not only as a person but a professional as well.

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