



## Igniting the spark in our schools to celebrate VET and VET Pathways

Below are just some of the activities and Ideas that schools have undertaken during National Skills Week. We are mindful of individual States and Territories Covid 19 restrictions and directives may impact on the types of activities in your regions. The majority of these activities can be adapted to an online delivery- live panels, Zoom/ Teams /other meeting software.

### How can your students get involved in National Skills Week?

Have all student connect to National Skills Week Social media to obtain insights and ideas as to Vocational Education opportunities and to be part of the celebration. Encourage student to share their thoughts and photos on our social media streams during the week. See last page for our social media platforms

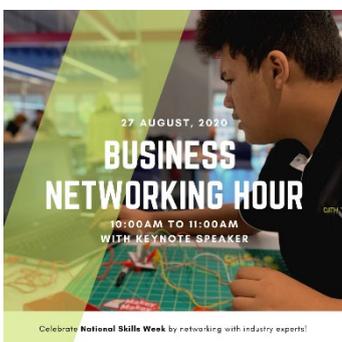
Have your students' film or record a day in the life of a VET student in the class. This could be done in pairs or small groups and students can edit it to put up on their social media – Instagram, Facebook, Tok-tok, - during the week. Short 60 second videos are very popular on social media.

Students can do “60 seconds with...” – interviewing to extract positive aspects of VET in Secondary school training. Examples include: best thing about/ why did they choose?/ career thoughts?/ etc.

As part of the [#bestjobsever program](#), Host or arrange for one of your industry contacts to host a webinar for parents or employers on the positive career paths of VET and the diversity of opportunities. This could include parents of SBAT students (current or past), industry organisations that employ VET graduates and SBATS. Include a Q and A segment.

Work with a local employer to have live streaming of some of the skills in action at their organisation.

Have a look at some of the events held in the past few years: [www.nationalskillsweek.com.au/events](http://www.nationalskillsweek.com.au/events)



VET skills challenge – As a class, students' workshop and plan a particular VET skills challenge.

- o Kitchen Operations - MasterChef style comp for Executive meeting (Exec as judges)
- o Food and Beverage – Coffee making speed challenge
- o IT – Design new front page for school website
- o Sport Coaching – Run a fitness challenge for other students
- o Construction – Simple project WorldSkills style competition.
- o Retail/Business Services – Charity fundraising challenge (each group chooses a charity, works together to market and sell a fundraising campaign)

VET Skills Fairs and Mini VET Careers Expo – Students work in groups to research an industry and prepare a career expo stall with pictures, video and research regarding the industry. Students set up their expo stalls in a large space for younger students, parents or industry visitors to attend. Industry visitors may be invited to assist students in their stall presentation. Encourage students to

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AUGUST 22 - AUGUST 28

2022

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get creative by what they offer at their stall to engage attendees' interest, in particular, showcase aligned VET skills. Industry representatives may also award prizes for the stalls e.g., most informative stall, most 'unusual industry' stall, best VET skills showcase or most creative stall. This could be during the day or in the evening to showcase and celebrate the diversity of VET Skills you offer in your schools or in conjunction with your local VET provider.

**Dream it, be it!** – Students prepare a short individual presentation on a career that interests them which includes pictures, videos, interesting research and links to skills and VET pathways. They present their findings to peers, younger classes and/or parents in the work attire of the industry.

**Skills Community Challenge:** invite a number of schools and local VET providers to complete a series of skills- where they may have to work together. It could be constructing a temporary build or series of work spaces and then students use hospitality/ retail/ horticulture/ woodworking / customer service skills (from Business Admin courses)/ entertainment students etc. to deliver a product or service. Parents/ employers/ members of the community can get involved in judging/ sponsoring etc.



Newstead College  
The Newstead College hair and makeup competition was held this week to celebrate National Skills Week 2020. VET in schools increases the likelihood of an earl... See more

**Work placement/work experience coffee table book** – Students each contribute a 1-page report of their work placement/work experience detailing information about the organisations, what they did in the workplace, skills demonstrated and reflections on the potential career pathways (including VET options). All reports are collated into a coffee table book to be used as a resource for future work placement/work experience students. It may also be a resource kept in reception for visitors to your school to review. VET Business Services students may assist in the design and formatting of the coffee table book.

**Spotlight on SBATs** – School based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATs) are an opportunity to gain a VET qualification and undertake paid employment as part of the Higher School Certificate. Facilitate current and previous school-based apprentices and trainees to talk about the program and their experiences. It's also an opportunity to invite the local SBAT representative to discuss how to get started.

**Employers breakfast** – Use National Skills Week as an opportunity to invite industry to the school to develop schools/industry partnerships. Target organisations that students are interested in finding out more about or where they might like to work in the future.

An event such as an Employers Breakfast is also an opportunity for the VET Hospitality class to showcase their VET skills by providing catering

**Bring in the experts** - Invite industry guests to the school to discuss their career experience.

- Examples include:
  - [an Australian Apprenticeships Ambassador](#)
  - a local apprentice who has completed their apprenticeship



Woodridge State High School  
For National Skills Week celebrations, we visited the ITD Department where real-world skills based experience in the construction and engineering trades occur i... See more





- a representative from a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or Group Training Organisation (GTO)
- employers who represent different industries
- representatives from industry associations
- Inspiring the Future <https://www.inspiringthefuture.org.au/page/homepage>
- Work with the class to scaffold a series of questions to the guests and encourage them to ask their questions in front of peers.
- o If the experts can't be their face to face, look at how Skype or Videoconferencing technologies can be used to bring industry experts to school.

**Inspiring women** -Organise a parent/daughter event where they are addressed by empowering women representing non-traditional trades. Organisations such as SALT (Supporting and Linking Tradeswomen) are a great source of inspiring speakers. SALT also offers skills workshops in schools specifically for girls. <https://saltaustralia.org.au/>

**Out and about** –Workshop with the class a school excursion to visit industry/employers to inspire students career pathways. Encourage exploration of opportunities not thought of before and for students to make contact and drive the agenda of the excursion.

**Family career maps:** Ask students to map a selection of family members' career pathways to present to peers. For example, Dad/Mum: Completed a glazier apprenticeship after 4 years, worked with Johnson's building supplies as a glazier for 7 years, opened his/her own business and is now his/her own boss. Students may illustrate their presentation with photos, videos, artefacts from different industries.

**Contact your local Rotary/ Lions Club / local business Chamber or a similar organisation.** Many of its members are small employers and local business people. Rotarians are always willing to help, provide some ideas and support. Contact your local club for information on speakers, support and awards.

**Don't forget your local community newspaper,** let them know what your students are doing, get some positive publicity for your school, your students and your event.



**Local industry representatives** to talk with students. Combined with a network of schools. This could be done via an online or face to face forum.

**Target ex- students** who have had a successful vocational pathway to showcase their career path- through group discussion, panel, social media, Q and A session online

**Panel review** targeting year nine students before subject selection

**VET Skills Roadshow** to local primary school: promote VET career paths and future jobs by taking your VET students to the primary schools in your area to showcase what your school and other schools can offer. Invite media to come or send them information and images afterwards!

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National Skills Week

Great example of SBAT programs and starting on career pathways whilst at school.

#nationalskillsweek #stfrancisesalesmountbarker #VET #SBAT



St Francis de Sales College Mount Barker

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This week Catholic schools around the state celebrated National Skills Week. Josh, our Year 12 student, is a great example of jobs obtained in the VET system as... See more

involve students from neighbouring schools to participate in practical activities

Simulated environment including Try a trade, retail, business. Get local businesses in to assist – construction, horticulture, agriculture, aged care etc., entertainment, hospitality. Leading to Local focus – lead to work experience, invest in local industry and business. Students could travel to the individual businesses

Snap shot of someone who has recently graduated from a VET course – media release, Facebook etc. - Student voice – past students and SBATs

Power point of VET activities and successes at School front office, subject selection night etc.

VET celebration assembly – guest speakers' past students, alumni

Students/ Parents – hosted by year 12 students' "complete VET in schools" such as family try a trade for year six and year eight; transition program a day in school during skills week

National Skills Week

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"I had a fantastic high school teacher who really inspired me, I followed her footsteps and wanted to be one of those teachers that make a difference in students lives."

Watch this great video from the NSW Department of Education where we hear from VET Teachers and how they enjoy staying up to date with the latest skills, trends and applications in their industry.

<https://www.nationalskillsweek.com.au/vet-in-schools-immersion-program/>

#nationalskillsweek #realskillsforrealcareers #NSWDepartmentofEducation



Provide hands on practical industry related activities- Day and night activities so parents can be included.

Promote good news stories via newsletter and social media

Work with GTO's to promote and engage students, parents and industry

Organise to video or photograph work experience programs

School taster days using current school hubs to access trade training centres: e.g., a school with a commercial kitchen could invite an industry chef to

nationalskillsweek



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Liked by h.cazar and others

nationalskillsweek Scott Drury, 15, from Bella Vista, is learning "a whole new skill set in things that I didn't even know existed" at CathWest Innovation College, a new school in Sydney's western suburbs.

Promotional video by students in a competition to promote that programs in the school could be leading into school's week, possibly a prize for best video. Link up to local media to promote the event

Two day in-school program for kids to try a VET subject around subject selection time– Can invite parents to do a hands-on task

Mother/daughter engaged in non-traditional trade with local industry and TAFE– auto mechanic electrical carpentry

Industry week at school every two years – kids spend a day in each industry participating

Primary school day using the local state services such as ambulance police SES St John's





- Invite past VET students and their parents to talk to students' parents and teachers
- Activities schools showcases hands-on – industry/local employers, invite parents, Training providers – TAFE private RTO's



- VET Honour roll – a board established in the school and launched/open during National Skills Week

- Celebrate VET teachers – opportunity to highlight the skills and experience and expertise

- Transitions program year 6 to 7 and is 10 to 11/12 Tour of the training facilities, demonstration of skills to be programmed near National Skills Week

- Subject selection night – industry comes in from local community, past and present SBATS, training organisations, students showcase skills- hospitality bracket food, retail bracket displays

- School Newsletter articles – employer and past students such as a monthly profile or for the August School Newsletter



- Expo for VET including activities for parents and students interactive, elevator PITCHES, past and present SBATS

- Doghouse competition. One-day competition where teams of 3 to 4 students' construction from each school build a dog house (or anything). Judge by local carpenter



- Pop-up restaurants with Council utilising hospitality and entertainment students-To engage parents

- Parents successful in VET oriented careers to present to other parents

- Head office-/school office-All screens promoting national skills week

- As part of subject selection or careers information studies Show how VET can contribute to traditional subjects

- Showcasing school facilities/resources with industry delivery/school delivery and combined parent/career student classes.

- Invite Former students to discuss their experiences/challenges/success with year 7-10.

- VET to UNI pathways and Show me the money! VET vs UNI income

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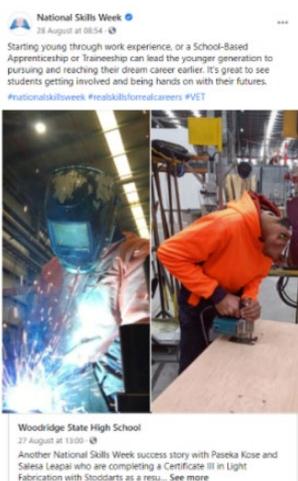
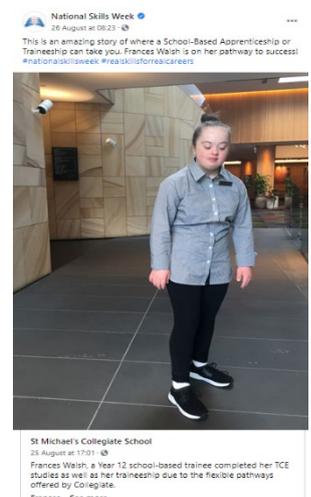
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- 123 Anywhere Tradies - An event that provides the public, students in the VET industry and officials in the VET industry a chance to find out more information about trades, the career paths and host a Q&A.
- An Open Day - Perhaps held at a TAFE, Private Training Provider, Registered Training Organisation's etc. This can give people the opportunity to check out campuses/facilities and to find out more information. It gives Organisation's a chance to show off and National Skills Week helps to promote the events.
- The Modern Tradie Workshop - An event where tradies learn new techniques to help them grow their business. Could be demonstration of new equipment such as Ai welding or computer software.
- A High Tea- A chance for people to indulge in pasties, classic sandwiches and beverages, whilst talking about what VET has to offer.
- Tour of Skills- This event revolves around various vocationally skilled/trained individuals from the community collaborating in weird and wonderful pairs. It is a vibrant and fun event to engage the attendees in a different way from the average career expo or presentation while displaying the opportunities through vocational training.
- Cocktail Party - An evening where guests are able to meet established professionals in the VET industry, dress up at the same time and celebrate VET.
- Networking Function - An event where guests talk on the importance of education and skills no matter what time of the life you are living. A great opportunity for guests to meet other professionals within the industry.
- Social Media Showcase- A social media showcase of 'real life' skills and training shown through social media channels for updates, photos and action throughout National Skills Week.
- Opening Launch - A daytime or evening launch party where guests are invited to attend and listen to speakers, VET officials, meet others within the VET industry and hear about the ways VET is growing.



Check out our [useful links](#) websites for organisations that could provide some information, students can use for research and for your inspiration.

For more information: Please contact Anne Cazar 0438 808 848.

National Skills Week is an initiative of SkillsOne Televisión.





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