

Gisborne Secondary College acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of the country upon which we learn and work. We recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.



**GSC Newsletter**  
**17 September 2021**



## FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL—Sarah Rose

As the term draws to a close, I'd like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all members of the school community for your efforts over the last several months. This term has challenged us all in many ways, and I've no doubt that everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved break over the next fortnight.

We have no details at this stage about what our return to school will look like, but I am hopeful that as the State Government releases their road map out of lockdown, we will get more information regarding the proposed arrangements for students and staff next term.

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Eligibility**

As part of the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out, from Monday 13 September, all Victorians aged 12 and older are eligible to book and receive a COVID-19 vaccine at a state vaccination centre, a Commonwealth vaccination centre, or through a GP clinic, pharmacy or community health service. Vaccination bookings for students should be made by following the instructions under the heading 'How to book an appointment' below.

Vaccination is not mandatory but is strongly encouraged. Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect our school community from further outbreaks and the spread of COVID-19.

The Victorian Government's aim is to provide an opportunity for all children aged 12 years and older to receive at least one vaccine dose by the end of the school year.

### **Final year school student vaccination blitz**

A reminder that final year students (all Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Units 3/4 students, final year Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) their teachers and exam supervisors and assessors have access to priority timeslots to attend their vaccination appointment at a state vaccination centre until Sunday 19 September.

The vaccination blitz for final year school students has been extended until Sunday 19 September, following a very strong and positive response from the community in the first week of the blitz.

The priority hotline operates from 8am to 8pm. The hotline number is 1800 434 144.

In addition, Bendigo Health will be arranging a local clinic (at Braemar College, Woodend campus) for students who wish to book directly with them. Further details will be provided regarding this booking process when they become available.

# VICTORIAN SCHOOL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM



VICTORIAN SCHOOLS EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

At GSC, we currently have two students completing the Victorian High Ability program with Virtual School Victoria. The students are doing a fantastic job attending a once a week virtual lesson in Mathematics or English – Well done Alannah and Charlie!

For Term 4, we have received our invitations from the Victorian High Ability program this week. Six students from Year 7 were selected by the Education Department, we are very excited about this opportunity.

Recently, the students in the Student Excellence Team were invited to attend the Imax & Melbourne Museum excursion on 17<sup>th</sup> August. Many students were keen to attend, but unfortunately, due to the Metropolitan lockdown we have had to postpone this excursion to later in the year (hopefully!).

A reminder to all students in Year 7, 8 and 9, if you are achieving an Above Expectation or Well Above for a subject you are studying at school, this makes you eligible to join the Student Excellence Team. The students in this team can attend the Student Excellence excursions and will have access to the Victorian Challenge & Enrichment Series. All activities are voluntary, financially supplemented and are focused on giving high ability students new skills experiences. Please send me a message on Xuno or Teams if you would like to join.

Tracy Lee (VHAP Leader)



**Certificates for excellent/outstanding Interim Reports will soon be ready for distribution to our students.**

**Congratulations to everyone who receives this award!!!**

# NAPLAN

## NAPLAN results on the rise

At GSC, it is a priority for us to recognise the efforts and achievements of our students throughout the year in various forms. The recent release of NAPLAN results has afforded us a significant opportunity to celebrate as a college community. Across both year levels that participate in the national assessment program at the secondary school level (Years 7 and 9), we have 'bucked the trend' for the State with a rise in our results across the various capabilities tested.

We're thrilled to be able to individually acknowledge both high achievement and high growth of a number of students. All families have been personally contacted by Russell Wigginton, Assistant Principal, Junior School and the students that have demonstrated high growth have been sent a certificate signed by the Hon. James Merlino, Deputy Premier and Minister for Education to acknowledge and congratulate them on their personal achievement.

## Overall results (Top 20)

Year 7		Year 9	
Angus C	Jack I	Ashlie M	Jesse D
Annaliese G-T	Jye S	Ben V E	Lucas K-J
Archie D-H	Matilda B C	Brooke S	Madeline W
Asher K	Noah D	Charlotte J	Matilda W
Bridie H	Noah W	Finnegan C	Maya M-W
Callum B	Rose D	Gemma D-H	Ned E
Charlie F	Sadie H	Hannah B-S	Patrick J
Elias R	Skyler K	Hannah W	Stacie T
Emily A	Sophie M	Holly R	Tristan D
Jack F	William B	Imani A	Zoe B

## Year 7 (Top 3)

Numeracy	Grammar & Punctuation	Spelling	Writing	Reading
Noah W Charlie f Thomas F	Matilda B C Archie D-H Noah D	Sadie H Matilda B C Noah D	Asher K Matilda B C Skyler K	Charlie F Jack I Matilda B C

## Year 9 (Top 3)

Numeracy	Grammar & Punctuation	Spelling	Writing	Reading
Lucas K-J Ben V E Jordan B	Charlotte J Finnegan C Madeline W	Patrick J Stacie T Holly R	Brooke S Zoe B Jesse D	Gemma D-H Lucas K-J Ashlie M

Well done to all students that participated in NAPLAN this year, and their families for their ongoing support.  
As a community we should all feel very proud of these results.

# ART IN REMOTE LEARNING

*In Year 10 Studio Art students have been busy exploring the different mediums and techniques that they could use during home learning.*

*They have explored Art made with everyday items available around the house including:*

*laundry, found objects and blue biro.*



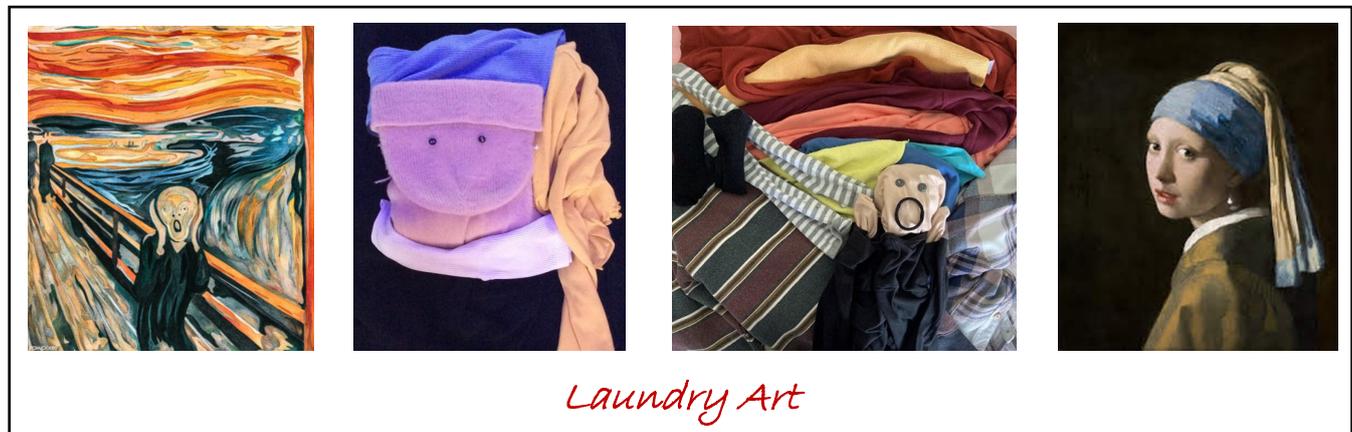
Painting



Blue Biro



Assemblage Art / Found Object Art



Laundry Art

*Respect Achievement Innovation Diversity*

# What is VET?

Vocational Education and Training refers to enhanced senior school studies, which enable a secondary student to combine their VCE or VCAL studies with vocational training.

### FEATURES OF VET

- VET is usually a two year program combining general VCE / VCAL studies with accredited vocational education and training.
- It enables students to complete a nationally recognised vocational qualification (e.g. Certificate II Allied Health) and the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) at the same time.
- VET allows students to go directly into employment or receive credit towards further study.
- Important Industry Specific Skills and workplace skills are learnt through the VET program.

### HOW DOES VET WORK?

A VET in Schools program is usually made up of VCE VET units which are delivered by registered training organisations, the students' school or another school who has a qualified teacher with Cert IV TAE.

### STRUCTURED WORKPLACE LEARNING (SWL)

Students undertake work with an employer that enables the student to demonstrate their acquired skills and knowledge in an industry setting. During the Structured Workplace Learning, a student will have specific tasks to undertake in order to demonstrate competence. Students will be regularly monitored and may be assessed on the job.

# Advantages of VET...

### VET INCREASES STUDENTS' LEARNING POTENTIAL

- Broadens VCE/ VCAL options.
- Develops the student's capacity to make decisions and solve problems.
- Helps students to gain confidence and improve communication and interpersonal skills through learning in an adult environment.
- Matches student interest and career directions through the provision of strong pathways.

### VET GIVES NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

- Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded a nationally accredited vocational training certificate.
- VET qualification articulates directly into further education and training at TAFE, e.g., Cert II in Automotive Technology provides students with a pre apprenticeship in this industry area.
- VET provides access to a range of different technologies related to the workplace.

### VET PREPARES STUDENTS FOR THE WORKFORCE

- Expands post school opportunities.
- Provides the opportunity to trial a career.
- Helps students explore possible areas of interest, which promote further study and work choices.
- Allows students to develop strong links with industry and local community employers. Students may be offered part time or casual work.
- Improves employment prospects.
- Helps students gain knowledge of employer's expectations and real working conditions.
- Develops student's capacity for co-operation, teamwork and leadership skill development.
- Assists the transition from school to work.

## CAREERS

At Gisborne Secondary College we have a fantastic Careers Team that work closely with students to guide them in choosing the right pathway *for them*, whether they are doing VCE or VCAL. There are SO many options and variations available to students it can get very confusing!

In the next few newsletters I will be highlighting some of our 2021 students that have participated in VET courses, School Based Apprenticeships and the Headstart Program. Some of these students they have now successfully obtained apprenticeships, or fulltime employment in a field that they are passionate about. A VET course combined with work experience and/or structured work place learning (work placement) one day a week can provide students with the knowledge, experience and confidence they need. School Based Apprenticeships and the Head Start Program, enable students to remain at school to complete their schooling, or alternatively if the time is right for both the student and employer students will exit school to continue their apprenticeship full-time.

**We would also like to thank the many employers that give these students the opportunity to gain hands on experience.**

If you would like to know more about pathways for students please do not hesitate to contact the Careers Team at the College.

**The following highlights two of our 2021 students that have successfully obtained apprenticeships this year. Each student has a different journey to obtaining their apprenticeship, however both students were supported by our careers team work closely with their employers.**

### **Lily D - Year 11**

*Last year I decided to choose the VCAL year 11 and 12 pathway not knowing where I would end up in the long run, and I chose the VET Beauty Services course, knowing I wanted to do something revolving around hair and beauty. The plan for the year was that on a Wednesday I would go into the city and do a Certificate 3 in Beauty Services course. I then had to find a work placement for Friday's (which is the work placement day for year 11 VCAL), and so I applied at a hairdresser in Gisborne, Anaste Hair & Beauty.*

*Eventually after doing this Beauty course for term 1, I decided the beauty course wasn't for me, however I had been working hard at my work placement and I love it, which led to my boss offering me an apprenticeship. I took a part time apprenticeship (which I love) and changed my work days to a Wednesday and a Saturday.*

*As I started an apprenticeship I then had to change my course to a hairdressing course, so I left my beauty services course and I was lucky enough to get into the trade school on a Friday in Fitzroy at BIBA. Unfortunately due to covid it's put a hold on this course and my work and having to start and stop all the time, but putting all of that aside this is one of the best decisions ever, and I love going into work being open to learning more and more each time and meeting some amazing hairdressers/work colleagues.*



**Congratulations Lily**

# CAREERS

## **Brodie M -**

*Brodie is a Year 10 student at GSC .*

*Brodie completed his year 10 work experience with Tim from **Westside Group** as a roof tiler. Brodie loved the work and Tim decided to keep Brodie on. This led to Tim offering Brodie an apprenticeship.*

*Through the school and the employer working together, Brodie has been able to continue his school work and commence as an apprentice under a School Based Apprenticeship.*

*Brodie intends to continue his apprenticeship full time in 2022.*



**Congratulations Brodie**

# CAREER OPPORTUNITY



## Head Start Apprenticeship Expression of Interest

**EARN** as you learn

### Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care Traineeship



Early Learning & Kinder

**The Centre**  
Woodend Early Learning & Kinder is seeking mature Year 11 students for a school based traineeship. Woodend Early Learning & Kinder offers families a premium standard of early education and care for children aged 6 weeks to school age. Passionate educators strive to support the ongoing learning and development of every child. Visit [www.earlylearningandkinder.com.au](http://www.earlylearningandkinder.com.au) to find out more about the centre.

**About You**  
The successful applicant will be a person that possesses the following skills and attributes:

- A natural connection and passion for working with children;
- A genuine interest in supporting children's learning and development;
- The ability to communicate effectively and build relationships with children, parents and colleagues;
- A patient manner with plenty of energy and enthusiasm;
- Be committed to commence and complete Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, whilst also seeking to complete Year 12 through either a VCE or VCAL program.

**The Training**  
As a trainee you will be supported in the following ways:

- Receive quality training through a registered training organisation;
- Be provided with effective supervision and mentorship within the workplace to support your skill development.

**On Going Support**  
As a Head Start student you will be supported by the Head Start Coordinator in your school:

- The Head Start Coordinator will work closely with you, the school, your employer and the registered training organisation to come up with a schedule that supports everybody;
- The Head Start Coordinator will continue to offer support throughout the life of the traineeship.

**Requirements**

- Be willing to obtain a working with children's check.

**Making application**  
To seek further information please contact Kelli Hewton  
Head Start Coordinator on 0428 998 261 or [kelli.hewton@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kelli.hewton@education.vic.gov.au). Closing date 1 Oct 2021



Education and Training

## Diary Dates:

The Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee supports Barb through fundraising activities. New members are always welcome, and Year 7 parents are encouraged to join. This is a great way to be involved in the school that your child attends and to meet other parents and members of the local community.

If you would like to make a donation or contribute in any way to our program, please feel free to contact Barb.

### **Donations can be direct deposited to the account:**

Gisborne Korus Connect Chaplaincy

BSB 633 000

Account- 179 831 797

Donations are tax deductible, please email:

[gscchaplaincy@gmail.com](mailto:gscchaplaincy@gmail.com) with the details,

and a receipt will be issued if requested.

### **Please see below for upcoming fundraising events:**

#### **Saturday 9th October: Morning tea at the House of the Rock with Pastor Christie Buckingham, (Refer flyer)**

Our guest speaker is Pastor Christie Buckingham. She ministered to Bali 9 prisoner, Myuran Sukumaran and walked with him to his execution with Andrew Chan in 2015.

Tickets are available to purchase at Snapshot Photos, Shop 2/18 Brantome St, Gisborne

See flyer for further details & ticket information.



*Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee  
and House of The Rock invite you to*

## *Morning Tea*

*With Guest Speaker - Pastor Christie Buckingham*

As Spiritual Adviser for Myuran Sukumaran (member of the Bali 9), Pastor Christie walked with Myuran to his death by firing squad in 2015 and was with him in his final moments. "I was so taken by how inspirational they were and how they had reformed themselves inside Kerobokan".

Chaplaincy will be making a donation to Kingdom First International which is an organization that supports international prison ministry specifically Kerobokan.

### *Saturday 9th October @ 10am*

*\$25 per Ticket*

## *House of The Rock*

*247 Station Road, New Gisborne*

Tickets can be purchased at Snapshot Photos Shop 2 / 18 Brantome st beside Priceline.

Cash only please

if you are unable to visit Snapshot photos please contact

Bronwyn 0417 028 605



### **Next Chaplaincy Committee meeting**

**Tuesday 12th October @ 7.30pm**

**Gisborne Uniting Church**

Phone Ann-Maree on 0415773402 if you would like to attend.

# WELLBEING (SUPPORT FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAYS)

## Page 1

### For parents and carers Wellbeing support for students during the school holidays

This guide provides tips and resources for parents, carers and families to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in their care during the school holidays. This includes services to reach out to if more support is needed.

#### Actions that support positive mental health

- Encourage your young person to:
- Exercise and eat healthily to boost their mood
  - Prioritise sleep to support mental and emotional wellbeing
  - Explore relaxation techniques and coping strategies
  - Stay in touch and catch up with friends and loved ones
  - Make time to do things they enjoy
  - Practice positive self-talk, and remind them they are not alone
  - Seek professional help if needed.<sup>1</sup>

The Department have developed wellbeing activities and conversation starters for parents and carers of [primary school-aged children](#) and [secondary school-aged children](#).

**Feeling it:** [mindfulness resources and activities for senior secondary students](#). Smiling Mind gives tips on self-care, understanding and managing emotions, being mindful, being kind to yourself, navigating uncertainty and preparing for change.

#### Signs a child or young person may need mental health support

In some cases, these actions will not be enough to support positive mental health.

Keep an eye out and seek professional help for changes that last two or more weeks such as:

- Loss of interest or involvement in activities normally enjoyed
- Feeling 'low', unusually stressed or worried
- Ordinary things get harder
- Being easily irritated or angry
- Taking more dangerous risks, like using alcohol or drugs
- Withdrawal or feeling overwhelmed
- Difficulties with concentration and motivation
- Having a lot of negative thoughts
- Changing in sleeping and eating.<sup>2,3</sup>



<sup>1</sup> headspace – a parents guide to school issues and stress <https://headspace.org.au/friends-and-family/parents-guide-tips-for-managing-stress-and-problems-at-school/>  
<sup>2</sup> headspace 'mental health and you' poster <https://headspace.org.au/assets/uploads/Mental-Health-Posters-mgcpdf.pdf>  
<sup>3</sup> headspace – how to talk to your children about mental health <https://headspace.org.au/dads/>

## Page 2

### Young people supporting each other

Young people are **most likely to turn to each other for support** before seeking out an adult or service provider.

Young people can support each other by:

- contacting 000 if a friend needs urgent assistance or is at risk of harming themselves or others
- reaching out to a friend, offering support and letting them know you care
- letting their friend know they may need to tell a trusted adult about their concerns.

Having these types of conversations can be difficult for young people. Information for young people on how to support a friend is available on the headspace website: [How to help a friend going through a tough time](#)

### Mental health support

- **Your local GP**
- **headspace Counselling:** Victorian Government secondary school students, including those who have just finished schooling, can access counselling services from headspace. During the holidays, students can self-refer by calling their [local headspace centre](#).
- **eheadspace:** 1800 650 890 [www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace](http://www.headspace.org.au/eheadspace)
- **Kids Helpline:** 1800 551 800 [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au)
- **Lifeline:** 13 11 14 [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)
- **Beyond Blue:** 1300 224 636 [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)
- **Head to Help:** 1800 595 212 [www.headtohelp.org.au](http://www.headtohelp.org.au)
- **Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659 467 [www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au)
- [Family violence information and support services](#)
- **Contacting 000** for urgent assistance

### Family violence support and resources

- **Safe Steps:** 1800 015 188 [www.safesteps.org.au](http://www.safesteps.org.au)
- **1800RESPECT:** 1800 737 732 [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)
- **What's okay at home:** [www.wcoah.org.au](http://www.wcoah.org.au)
- [Family violence support](#)

### Self-harm and suicide prevention resources

- [Getting a mental health care plan \(ReachOut\)](#)
- [What you need to know about self-harm](#) (headspace)
- [How to help when someone is suicidal](#) (SANE Australia)

### Mental health resources

- **Mental Health Toolkit:** contains resources for students, parents and carers to support the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in their care including:
  - o [Raising Learners Podcast Series](#): providing expert advice/information to parents/carers on topics including how to keep your child safe online
  - o [Understanding mental health – fact sheet](#) (Orygen)
  - o [Learn how to handle tough times](#) (headspace)
  - o [Get into life \(to keep your headspace healthy\)](#) (headspace)
- [Supporting your young person during the holidays](#) (headspace)

## COMMUNITY NEWS



16/09/2021

Dear School Community,

#### Changes to School Holiday Trading Hours

We're writing to advise you of changes to our trading hours for the upcoming school holidays. We had sent a letter last week advising that we would be open for the entire duration of the holidays - unfortunately, we have had to amend this decision, and will no longer be open in the first week of the holidays.

Instead, **we'll be closed from Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of September**. Our stores will reopen from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> of September, subject to our standard trading hours.

Additionally, **we'll be closing early at 3pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> of September**. For a summary of our holiday trading dates, please see below:

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - **CLOSING EARLY AT 3:00PM**

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> - **CLOSED**

**\*Monday 27th - OPEN**

**\*Stores that are typically closed on Mondays will reopen from Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

We'd like to apologise for any confusion caused by our earlier communications, and thank you for your patience and understanding. We wish you all the best for the upcoming holidays, and look forward to seeing you again for Term 4!

### **Local Bendigo Bank university scholarships open!**



The team at Community Bank Gisborne & District congratulates Year 12s for making it through the tough last two years and encourages students living in the Gisborne area who plan to start university next year to apply for a 2022 Community Bank Gisborne & District University Scholarship.

Applications are already open online at <https://bit.ly/uni2022> to allow students to work on them before exams, then complete them once they receive their ATAR and preferred university offer.

Scholarships of \$5,000 will be available to students who live in postcodes 3431, 3437, 3438, 3440 and 3441, completed VCE in 2021 or 2020, and have been offered a full-time place at an Australian university in a bachelor's degree course starting in 2022.

In past years, scholarships of one-year (total \$5,000) and three-year (total \$15,000) duration have been awarded, to students commencing a wide range of courses including teaching, science, arts, social work, law and commerce.

Unlike other scholarships that focus on academic results, key selection criteria for Community Bank Gisborne & District University Scholarships are any challenges applicants face when starting university and community involvement or interest. As the scholarship is only open to students from the Gisborne area, the chances of being successful are also much higher than for most other scholarships so we say GO FOR IT!

Gisborne Secondary Students have received Community Bank Gisborne & District scholarships in the past and we welcome applications from current students.

**For more information, email:** [mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:mrcepublicrelations@gmail.com) or pop into the Gisborne Bendigo Bank branch at 11 Nexus Way. A great way to stay up to date on our university scholarships and get reminders before they close is to like our Facebook page, [facebook.com/communitybankgisbornedistrict](https://facebook.com/communitybankgisbornedistrict)

#### ***Heads up to students living in regional Victoria but not near Gisborne:***

You will likely be eligible for corporate Bendigo Bank scholarships and/or any scholarships of your nearest Community Bank branch. Most of these scholarships will open in early December. Keep an eye on [bendigobank.com.au/scholarships](https://bendigobank.com.au/scholarships) for updates or call into your local branch.



## FOSTER CARE INFORMATION NIGHT

Ever thought about fostering children or young people?

Anglicare Victoria is looking for people who have a place in their heart for a child in need of a safe home. Care can be short term or long term. Training, support & reimbursement provided.

### Foster Care Information Session:

Wednesday 22nd September (via Zoom) | 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Anglicare North West Region

Come along to find out more & have your questions answered.

CALL US on 9301 5200 or [carer.info@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:carer.info@anglicarevic.org.au)

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE... AND YOUR OWN!**



03 9301 5200 | [anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)



### LEARNER DRIVER PROGRAM IS BACK - Need Help?

The TAC L2P program assists learners under 21 years of age, without access to a supervising driver or vehicle, to gain the 120 hours of driving experience required to apply for a probationary licence.

Young people are matched with fully licensed volunteer mentors, and use a sponsored vehicle to gain supervised driving experience.

To join the program, you need to be:

- Between 16 and 20 years of age
- A current learner's permit holder
- Without access to either a vehicle, a supervising driver, or both.

For more information contact  
Phillip 0438 774277



The L2P Program is a joint partnership between VicRoads and the Transport Accident Commission, supported by the Victorian Government.



### Gisborne Secondary College Privacy Policy

Our school collects, uses, discloses and stores student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the [Schools' Privacy Policy](#)

Please take time to remind yourself of the school's collection statement, found on our website: <http://www.gisbornesc.vic.edu.au/download/15/college-documents/7055/collection-statement.pdf>

For more information about privacy, see: [Schools' Privacy Policy – information for parents](#). This information also available in nine community languages.

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