

Inner South District

Welcome to the 1st edition of the Quality LinCS quarterly newsletter for school staff, local employers and members of our many networks in 2008. Welcome back and we look forward to informing you through out the year.

The aim of this newsletter is to inform and update our many stakeholders on the range of strategies and activities being facilitated including new career development resources for schools, labour market updates, Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) activity, employer / student profiles, Training & Development (T&D) opportunities and good news stories.

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Action Teams 2008

Last year there were regular meetings of three Action teams which were hosted and convened by Quality LinCS Local Community Partnership (LCP) / Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) Inner South. The membership comprised of Teachers, Coordinators, District staff, Service Providers, Assistant and Deputy Principals.

These three teams were established to deliver the Australian Government's Career Advice Australia initiative and State Government's Futures Connect Strategy. They are the main conduit between the Governments' funding, outcome agenda and schools and young people. They facilitate the transfer of information; access to support and resources; sharing of best practice in program delivery, curriculum innovation and development of partnerships with business, industry and training providers; the collection and sharing of data and outcomes and resolution of shared challenges.

The Inner South Futures Connect Transition Broker and the Quality LinCS LCP staff will continue in 2008 to work together to support these teams and also to maximize support and resources available to schools. The teams will meet at least once per term as per the schedule opposite. As was the case last year, the teams may decide to meet more frequently as sub groups/interest groups to address particular issues.

Action Team Meeting Dates for 2008

Innovations and Partnerships Action Team (IPAT)

Term 1 (Week 3) – Thursday 14th February
Term 2 (Week 3) – Thursday 15th May
Term 3 (Week 3) – Thursday 7th August
Term 4 (Week 3) – Thursday 30th October
Term 4 (Week 6) – Thursday 20th November

Targeted Intervention Action Team (TIAT)

Term 1 (Week 4) – Thursday 21st February
Term 2 (Week 4) – Thursday 22nd May
Term 3 (Week 4) – Thursday 14th August
Term 4 (Week 4) – Thursday 6th November
Term 4 (Week 6) – Thursday 20th November

Career and Transition Action Team (CTAT)

Term 1 (Week 5) – Thursday 28th February
Term 2 (Week 5) – Thursday 29th May
Term 3 (Week 5) – Thursday 21st August
Term 4 (Week 5) – Thursday 13th November
Term 4 (Week 6) – Thursday 20th November

All meetings are held at the Urrbrae Skills Centre and begin at 4.15pm and conclude at 5.30pm.

A reminder that if you would like to join an action team to contact Nicole, Lori or Peter. Your name and contact details will be added to the distribution list to ensure you receive the appropriate information, agendas and minutes.

Adopt A School

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) recently reviewed and provided updated Adopt A School Guidelines. They include:

What is Adopt A School?

An 'Adopt a School' program (ASP) seeks to develop effective partnerships between schools and local businesses for the benefit of students, schools, industry, business, and the community in general. The programs aim is to build links between businesses, students, teachers and the broader school community through activities that will increase knowledge and opportunity for careers and further education.

What are the objectives of an ASP?

Facilitate engagement between industry and schools

A typical project facilitates engagement between industry and schools through working in partnership on a suite of activities.

Help industry to meet future skills needs

A typical ASP project provides young people with hands-on learning in a specific industry. This can encourage them to consider further education, training and employment options.

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Increase student and industry participation in the program.

LCPs need to look for opportunities to expand the types of projects delivered. They also need to look for more businesses and young people who could benefit from being involved in an ASP.

Promotion of ASPs to students, schools, employers and the community.

Successful ASPs should be celebrated and promoted. This helps to generate interest and involvement from other businesses. It also helps to encourage more students to participate in future projects and other related programs.

What are the requirements of an ASP?

They must follow a project plan

Every ASP must have a project plan. The plan helps to ensure that everyone knows what needs to be done and that all activities are completed properly and on time. Each project should have a clear start and end date.

They must target a specific cohort of students

ASPs are aimed at a specific cohort of students such as a specific year group, a group of Indigenous students, or students with special needs. These cohorts typically complete their ASP in one school year, although a LCP may run the same or a related project in subsequent years for different cohorts.

They must deliver industry-specific, hands-on learning for participating students.

An important element of ASP is to deliver industry-specific, hands-on learning for students as part of the project. In some cases this involves learning in more than one industry. In many cases, participants will be provided with an industry mentor who will help provide the hands-on learning experience. Such learning also exposes participants to vocational learning, and provides a taste of employment that may lead to increased interest in education or a career within a particular industry sector.

They must produce a finished product

Every ASP needs to result in some kind of finished product. The type of finished product usually reflects the industry involved, and can be anything from a multimedia presentation to a barbeque area for a school.

They must include an awards component for participating students.

Every ASP must celebrate what the students have achieved. While this can be a simple awards presentation at the participating school, many LCPs see this as an opportunity to have a more public event. For example, a public awards ceremony which also acknowledges the participating school and industry, helps to encourage and promote involvement in future ASPs.

Westfield Adopt A School (ASP) 2008

Quality LinCS, DECS Inner South, Southern Futures (our neighbouring southern LCP) and Marion Council are currently working with Westfield Marion to host an Adopt A School program in 2008.

We are in the process of drafting four priorities that we would like Westfield to commit to in 2008 including:

Term 1

A series of tours, visits and excursions involving students and teachers to develop a greater understanding of the retail industry and support sectors. These would be organised, advertised and coordinated by DECS Inner South and Quality LinCS. We would also like to host an official launch of the Westfield Marion Adopt A School program at this point.

Term 2

The above parties would like to host a School Industry Leaders Forum. The forum aims to bring schools and industry / business leaders together on a local level to share ideas and plan better ways of working together to develop relevant and locally specific career education programs in schools.

Term 3

In consultation with tenants and the major stores within Westfield Marion provide work experience opportunities, Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) and career / job shadowing for 50 students across the regions.

Term 4

To cater for the diversity of students in the region and their learning styles we would like to host a series of competitions, games, work simulation exercises and community projects over a week period.

This ASP would involve any school in the Quality LinCS / DECS Inner South region who would like to be involved. We await a response from Westfield Marion and will keep schools informed at Action Team meetings.

Student Industry Tours

In 2007, Quality LinCS and DECS Inner South planned and hosted a series of student industry tours. With the support of the neighbouring LCPs, Southern Futures and FEVER, we were able to concentrate tours on the specialised industries that exist in each region. The tours were extremely successful and 90 students from our region participated in tours in the following industry areas:

- ⇒ Advanced Automation / Engineering,
- ⇒ Community services including youth work and aged care,
- ⇒ Food / Wine / Tourism and Dairy.



Yundi Dairy, Mt Compass

The last industry tour in Food, Wine and Dairy took place late in Term 4, 2007 with students from Urrbrae Agricultural High School and Blackwood High.

The students visited:

- ⇒ Yundi Dairy
- ⇒ Nangkita Dairy
- ⇒ McLaren Vale Visitor's Centre
- ⇒ The Terraces Vineyard.

The day was a success and students feedback was positive. Students were asked 'what was the best part of the tour?' Responses included;

- ⇒ 'The speakers giving us an inside view of their job',
- ⇒ 'The dairy calves',
- ⇒ 'To view first hand the new technology used in dairy farms'.

Staff at all sites were wonderful and happy to share their knowledge with students. We believe that the tours represent an opportunity for students to view a range of industry areas, to experience first hand what actually happens in industry and to talk with staff about the skills, qualifications and experiences that are necessary to design a career in the industry.

We hope to conduct a new series of students and teacher industry tours in 2008 and would welcome any feedback from schools.

RICA News

Megan Clark, the Regional Industry Career Advisor (RICA) for Southern Adelaide (including the Quality LinCS, Southern Futures and FEVER LCP regions) has accepted a new position as the RICA in the Adelaide metro area, western and eastern Adelaide, and the Hills / Murraylands. Our best wishes to Megan for her continued work with LCPs to provide young people with quality career information.

Andrea Cameron has replaced Megan in the south and hence will now service the Quality LinCS region. We look forward to working with Andrea, who brings a wealth of experience from roles with business and industry, community organisations and local government. Andrea can be contacted via email – acameron@aigroup.asn.au

The RICA's role, in partnership with industry, existing service provider and the LCP, is to provide high quality, relevant, localised career information, advice and resources, particularly in skills needs areas. There are 57 RICA service regions across Australia – 5 service South Australia.

Quality LinCS Website

A reminder that the Quality LinCS website is contains a plethora of information and resources!

We are in the process of updating the website but information relating to the Regional Training Programs including application forms and the course booklet, LCP Business Plans and Reports, Roles of the Action Teams and Youth Engagement Network agendas and minutes are all available.

www.qualitylincs.com.au

VET Enrolment Management System (VEMS)

In 2008 Quality LinCS will use a new VET Management System that will enable schools to have online access to VET offered in the region and to directly enter school VET student details into the database.

This on-line database developed by School and Beyond LCP is designed for LCP's who want to streamline the management of their region's VET enrolments.

The database will have all details of VET courses offered in the region. Each school will have a key user that will have access to course details, be able to enrol students online and have records of students that are enrolled in courses. Host schools and/or RTO's will be able to track course enrolments. The school can withdraw students or change details if needed.

The system is user friendly. Quality LinCS will be implementing the system in Semester 1, 2008 and will be providing demonstrations to VET Coordinators via Action Team groups and individually for teachers if requested. It is expected the database will be available for use towards the end of Semester 1, 2008 for Semester 2 enrolments. The administrator will be Quality LinCS and for schools not yet comfortable with entering details directly into the database, applications can still be forwarded to Quality LinCS.

Ultimately the new VET Enrolment Management System will be paper free and offer greater control and instant information for schools.

For further information on VEMS contact Nicole Theodorou or Lori Hocking on 8372 6945.

SAGE AUTOMATION ADOPT A SCHOOL

Six "SAGE Storytellers" hosted 40 students on a half-day tour of SAGE Automation and told them about the advanced manufacturing industry and their particular job. The Storytellers were all employees from different occupations within various aspects of the company including CAD, Manufacturing Intelligence, Mechanical Engineering, Robotics, Safety & Quality Control and Apprenticeships.

The students then produced posters to promote a career in one of the occupations they heard about during the visit to SAGE Automation, and the posters were judged and prizes awarded at a morning tea celebration the following week. Students were targeted from the schools in each LCP that will be utilising the TTIM conveyor system to deliver hands-on programs through their school next year; in Quality LinCS region these schools are Unley High School, Seaview High School and Hamilton Secondary College.

A DVD has also been made of this program which will be used to promote careers in the industry to students.

2007 Outcomes – Quality LinCS LCP

Below is a summary of some of the outcomes that Quality LinCS has reported for 2007. The full 2007 Business Plan Outcomes Report is available on the Quality LinCS website.

⇒ In 2007, the Project Officer for Quality LinCS assisted with 170 Mock Interviews. Only 4 four sites requested support from the LCP with Mock Interviews.

⇒ The three Southern LCP's (FEVER, Southern Futures and Quality LinCS) have devised one page flyers which provide information to Employers in response to their needs. The flyers include information on:

1. Adopt a School Programs – what are they, how they work and how business can be involved.
2. Australians School Based Apprenticeships (ASBA's) – the benefits of the ASBA for the business and the student, the process of sign up and further information.
3. Ten Ways to Build Relationships with Schools – ten dot points on the mutual benefits of school industry relationships.
4. Structured Work Placement (SWP) – the difference between SWP and work experience, the benefits to business of a SWP and insurance implications.
5. Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (OHSW) - issues pertaining to students on SWP's, how to address issues relating to OHSW and a suggested checklist for Employers in preparation for placements.
6. Employability Skills.
7. Frequently Asked Questions – a combination of all of the above flyers drafted into one document.

⇒ The Action Teams for the LCP have met four times in 2008 and attendance was good. The attendance summary is below:

Innovations and Partnerships Action Team (IPAT)

- Term 1 – 10 / 23 sites, no apologies.
- Term 2 – 9 / 23 sites, 5 apologies.
- Term 3 – 11 / 23 sites, 3 apologies.
- Term 4 – 9 / 23 sites, 3 apologies.

Targeted Intervention Action Team (TIAT)

- Term 1 – 9 / 23 sites, 4 apologies.
- Term 2 – 9 / 23 sites, 2 apologies.
- Term 3 – 11 / 23 sites, 5 apologies.
- Term 4 – 9 / 23 sites, 6 apologies.

Career and Transition Action Team (CTAT)

- Term 1 – 10 / 23 sites, 6 apologies.
- Term 2 – 11 / 23 sites, 7 apologies.
- Term 3 – 8 / 23 sites, 6 apologies.
- Term 4 - Term 4 – 6 / 23 sites, 8 apologies.

⇒ The Quality LinCS website has been well received and statistics for 2007 are:

- April - 1265 hits, 62 visitors
- May - 928 hits, 80 visitors
- June - 828 hits, 152 visitors
- July – 298 hits, 59 visitors.
- August - 1859 hits, 182 visitors
- September - 1916 hits, 126 visitors
- October - 3328 hits, 109 visitors
- November - 1748 hits, 83 visitors
- December - 1061 hits, 157 visitors

The total number of hits for 2007 is **27 090** and **1536** visitors.

⇒ The LCP jointly hosted 'Trades as Career' Expo at Urrbrae Agricultural High School in Term 2 2007. The career expo was established to promote trade only careers and to establish a expo where student engage with stall holders. The expo displayed 26 different industry areas. The day was a considered a success with students from 16 schools attending (308 students attended in total). 174 students filled in feedback forms during the day and the responses were positive. Approximately 60 families

attended the evening session and exhibitors were impressed with the level of interest from students' parents.

⇒ The Compass Booklet was produced again in 2007 – approximately 2698 copies for school leavers in the LCP region. In 2007 we surveyed 100 young people, parents and community members with regards to the content. The edition better caters for young people with special needs including those with a disability, CALD backgrounds.

⇒ Quality LinCS jointly hosted student tours in Advanced Automation / Engineering, Community Services and Food, Wine and Tourism. The first tour in Advanced Automation / Engineering attracted 35 students (3 sites represented). The second Community Services Tour attracted 16 students (6 sites represented) and the third Agriculture and Wine Tourism Industry Tour attracted 16 students (2 sites represented). The tours have proved to be very worthwhile with excellent feedback provided by students and schools.

⇒ Quality LinCS with Minda Inc hosted an Adopt a School project in Term 4 – 18 students attended and 4 support workers teacher. The aim of the project was to encourage links between Industry and young people with disabilities.

2007 Outcomes - Futures Connect, Inner South

In 2007, over \$110,000 was distributed to DECS Secondary schools in the Inner South to support youth engagement initiatives which contribute towards achieving the Futures Connect strategy. Some of the programmes which have been supported and implemented are listed below:

- ⇒ Programmes to engage students at risk.
- ⇒ Implementation of Individual Learning Plans from 8 to 10.
- ⇒ Establishment of new VET in Schools programmes.
- ⇒ Support for students participating in VET in Schools.
- ⇒ Resourcing for sites to continue delivering VET in Schools.
- ⇒ Programmes to prepare Students with Disabilities for transition from school and to undertake VET.
- ⇒ Projects to increase the number of school based apprenticeships.
- ⇒ Aviation Industry Pathways programme.
- ⇒ Production of career development resources.
- ⇒ E - portfolio trials.
- ⇒ Destination Surveys.
- ⇒ Business Maths Programme.
- ⇒ Parents as Career Partners events.
- ⇒ Curriculum for senior school students with disabilities
- ⇒ Professional Learning and Professional Development in:
 - VET delivery in IT, Hospitality and Tourism,
 - Information Technology,
 - Career Development curriculum,
 - Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) and Personal Learning Plans (PLPs),
 - Doorways to Construction,
 - Transition programmes for Students with Disabilities.

A more detailed report will soon be available on the Quality LinCS website.