

***Building brighter futures  
for local young people***

# **Strategic Plan 2006/2008**



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## ***Our Mission***

***Our mission is to create partnerships between young people, community and business that support and empower each young person to achieve their full potential in the journey through education, training and employment.***

## ***Our Vision***

***Our vision is for a community which nurtures young people towards becoming vibrant, engaged and enterprising and with the values, outlook and skills to succeed in a global environment while maintaining strong connections to their community.***

## ***We Value***

- ***people and our community***
- ***leadership and commitment***
- ***consultation and collaboration***
- ***innovation and excellence***
- ***lifelong learning and engagement***
- ***integrity and accountability***

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## COMMITMENT 1

### **We will act strategically to improve education, training and employment outcomes for young people.**

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#### **Objective 1**

Facilitate stakeholder collaboration which will increase the engagement of young people in education, training and employment and in particular the number of at risk young people successfully completing Year 12 or it's equivalent.

##### **We will:**

- Operate LenZone! Youth Resource Centres in Stawell and Ararat to provide a positive environment for young people to increase their engagement with education, training and employment.
- Facilitate and deliver programs such as Partnership VCAL that will increase the number of at risk young people who complete Year 12 or it's equivalent.
- Facilitate and deliver programs such as Happening Families that grow the capacity of parents to support their children to complete Year 12 or it's equivalent and find a pathway which best suits their skills, aptitude and aspirations.
- Support access to transport for students from isolated communities to undertake VETiS.
- Provide opportunities for our member schools to develop common student exit procedures that will shed light on the causes of early school leaving and provide a consistent referral system to transition brokers for follow up of early school leavers.
- Support the establishment of Student Transition and Support Teams in each of our member schools to increase the number of at risk young people who access the practical support and assistance they need to complete Year 12 or it's equivalent and find a pathway which best suits their skills, aptitude and aspirations.
- Raise the profile of initiatives aimed at improving outcomes for young people through a range of communication channels including school newsletters, parent-teacher nights and TAFE/ University open days.

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## COMMITMENT 2

### We will support smooth transitions from school to further education, training and employment.

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#### Objective 2

Increase collaboration between industry and education and the take up of formal on-the-job learning.

**We will:**

- Auspice and deliver the Australian Government's Local Community Partnership initiative in the region.
- Provide opportunities for employers and training providers to collaborate in the development of new course offerings (including Trade Taster programs) which address skills shortages, meet the needs of employers and result in job outcomes.
- Manage and deliver *Careers Month* each year to increase the number of young people who access *local* pathways to further education, training and employment.
- Increase the number of employers offering work-experience, work-placements, school based new apprenticeships and apprenticeships.

#### Objective 3

Increase stakeholder collaboration to support successful transitions for young people from school to further education, training and employment.

**We will:**

- Establish a Youth Guarantee Network to provide an integrated and seamless support and referral system for all young people in the region.
- Support our member schools to increase student participation in School Based New Apprenticeships, Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) and Structured Workplace Learning.
- Support our member schools to improve the quality and effectiveness of Careers Advice and Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs).
- Increase the take-up of tertiary education by young people by championing the establishment of a new Support Fund to help young people overcome financial barriers to accessing tertiary education and training.
- Be involved in innovative and technology driven projects that provide flexible delivery to support access to programs for young people.

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## COMMITMENT 3

**We will provide opportunities to build brighter futures for young people, *locally*.**

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### Objective 4

Work with our partners to increase the support and opportunities provided to our young people at a local level so they feel valued and have a sense of connectedness and belonging to our community.

**We will:**

- Lead local efforts to better understand and respond to issues of youth social disconnectedness.
- Support and facilitate local mentoring programs.
- Provide advice to government on the capacity of the region to deliver education and training to migrant youth.
- Develop strategies to support and keep in touch with young people after they leave our region.
- Collaborate with local government to better understand and respond to youth issues including the establishment of MOUs with our two member councils.
- Assist local initiatives which increase youth participation and access in local decision-making.
- Support and deliver projects including Making it Real and FReeZA, which will foster innovation and entrepreneurialism, and build the self-esteem, confidence and life-skills of our young people.
- Promote and celebrate the successes of local young people through our website and promote these successes to the wider media.

**WORKING WITH:**

***The Victorian Learning and Employment Skills Commission  
The Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training  
The Victorian Department for Victorian Communities  
The Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services***