My name is Bailey and I’m studying VET Electrical Industry.

Ah, I chose to study VET Electrical Industry because I found it was something that really interested me. I always had a passion for electronics, and taking things apart, putting them back together and making them neat and tidy.

Um, so I’ll be gaining the Certificate II in Electrotechnology. And I’m hoping that this course will help me to become an apprentice, and then hopefully go on and go all the way to A-grade and be a fully qualified electrician. I think this course will help me do that because it already involves a couple of the apprenticeship courses, which will save me a bit of time in the future.

So, I’m currently doing VCE at Cathedral College in Wangaratta. The subjects that I’m doing that really help with the electrical course that I’m doing are Physics, Maths and Business. But either way it works out fine. You can still excel in your VET course without doing specialised courses.

With VET, you learn a course, one at a time, and then you do a prac or many pracs regarding to it, learning everything that you can about that topic. There is a fair bit of tool knowledge that you have to understand. Ah, wire strippers, pliers, screwdrivers. Measuring is a really key important part of the electrical industry. As you can’t see electricity you have to be able to measure it somehow. And so being able to measure it correctly is a really important skill. The favourite units of mine have been the tools, and the AC and DC theory, learning about the different voltages and how the circuits work and how they should be done correctly.

Both years are fairly practical but of course being Electrical there is a lot of theory that you have to do as it is a licensed trade. So throughout the course we always have to deal with safety, it’s always a big concern. You can’t work live, the circuit must always be off. It’s a main part of Electrical that you also have to have a CI card, which is the Construction Industry card. Um, throughout the course we also have to have a CPR course, and any first aid and anything like that. Safety is very important when it comes to Electrical.

So structured workplace learning is a key part of the VET experience. It gives you real-life experience with an actual electrician. I’ve done a couple of houses, just taking apart old fixtures, couple of installs, and working on businesses and on one of the jobs we wired up a cattle shed. It was really good experience as well. After a couple of days I’d already have the thing or the part the electrician needed before he asked, and so he was getting really impressed with me.

Yeah I’ve really enjoyed the VET course that I’ve done. It’s been a lot different to school. It’s a lot more hands on but it’s also just one thing for the day and it means you really focus on it and you get better at it quickly. And it’s a great way to make new friends and learn new things.

I’d recommend this course to pretty well anybody. It doesn’t have to be a man’s job. There are a lot of female tradies out there now. And I love the fact that it’s really hands on but it’s also extremely safe. Yeah, you get a real satisfaction out of finishing a job, making sure it’s all neat and tidy, and it works correctly.

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