I’m Corey, I’m in Year 11 and I’m studying VET Engineering.

So when I first went into the program, I wasn’t sure what it was going to be like, but it’s like been very different to what I thought and it’s really been really enjoyable.

So VET Engineering is way more different to all my other subjects, as it’s more hands on and stuff I’m going to use in the future more than my other, sort of, classes that are more theory based. It’s sort of like we start with the easier, sort of, hand tools and, like, then it goes into the more machining and welding and stuff. But to start off with you learn how to make basic things out of just regular tools and then as you go into it you have to make, like, just a random piece of metal that has all these different procedures of sawing, drilling, grinding, just different things.

So some of the hand tools I use are like verniers and stuff, which give precise measurements of different parts and stuff. And we also learn to use hammers and hacksaws and all sorts of tools. Um, we also learn how to use grinders and sanders. Um, we also learn how to use welders and set up the welder to different types of metal and different thicknesses of metal.

Some of the machinery we use are folding machines that fold pieces of metal to precise measurements. Um, we use bench presses that drill holes into the metal. Um, we also learn to use the lathe. Currently now we’re making a spit roast, and we started off with a toolbox and that was just made out of sheet metal that we folded up and spot-welded together. And then we went into making like this drill gauge so we just put a drill bit up to it and it shows us what size the drill bit is, which is pretty handy to use. And right now we’re making the spit roast, which is probably the favourite thing that I’m going to enjoy most.

We use computers and we use a program called SolidWorks and we make 3D objects of things we need to build. We made an anvil type thing on the SolidWorks CAD drawing, and we later went into the workshop and sort of built that up.

Yeah so I did a structured work placement in Bayswater, and they were doing a project for VicRoads, and when I went in there I had the skills to be able to do the things they needed me to do without much training. And I learnt to use different machines and different tools and stuff that I haven’t ever seen before. So I feel like me being at this structured workplace learning has given me the skills and the experience to go to other places and yeah in the future I would like to be doing something in engineering.

So after I receive my Certificate II in Engineering Studies, I’d probably want to go somewhere to do a school-based apprenticeship where I can later get my Cert III, or just find a job.

When I first went into it I didn’t really know many people but as the year went on we sort of just all became friends and now the whole class is friends. We just help each other out, if someone doesn’t know how to do something we sort of ask each other and figure it out together.

I would recommend VET Engineering to future students, it’s very fun, get to learn different skills with other students that I’ve never met before and it’s just a really great environment.

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