**Why did you choose to study VET?**

**Clancy (Music Industry):** I chose to study VET because it’s a different way of approaching learning.

**Rena (Electrical Industry):** I thought it was the perfect opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and in a completely different environment.

**Jordan (Creative and Digital Media):** I was interested in the IT field and I was really interested in getting a job in this field.

**Clancy:** And it’s really cool to see a lot of people grow along with you, with um, developing their skills and performance abilities.

**How is VET different to your other VCE studies or VCAL units?**

**Clancy:** At VET we really direct our own studies and decide on what we want to do.

**Jack (Electrical Industry, Building and Construction):** So they give me more opportunities to learn hands-on skills.

**Sophie (Health):** It’s less of sitting down and note taking and it’s more actually understanding about how the human body works and we get to be really, like, full on and hands on.

**Tanya (Community Services):** And it’s actually work that you will need in the future regardless if you’re wanting to do university or not do university.

**Rena:** And it’s so much more relaxed and really fun.

**Tanya:** And it’s not about, um, exams only, it’s more about your structured work placement and then you have your three projects and then your exam.

**What are the best things about VET?**

**Clancy:** Really love the atmosphere. I love the people here. We all absolutely love music and it’s what brings us all together.

**Rena:** I really like doing the practical work. I think it’s really fun. And I find it really good that it’s setting me up for my future.

**Jack:** You get to work on your own projects if you want to. You also get to see how things are done in the building industry.

**Isabella (Sport and Recreation):** The excursions we go on, um, the skills we learn and, um, getting to know a lot of, I guess, a lot of coursework that we can use later on in life when we finish school, which is really helpful.

**How does VET challenge you?**

**Tanya:** VET Community Services, it taught me a lot about communication skills and it really boosted my self-confidence and self-esteem and it allowed me to work with a lot of different people and talk with a lot of different people so now I feel like I become more engaging.

**Rena:** I went into VET not knowing the first thing about tools or anything and being in a class where everybody already knows how to use them I had to learn really quickly. So it’s really made me take responsibility for my own learning.

**What are the highlights from your VET program?**

**Clancy:** The end of year performance last year. That was one of the best experiences I’ve ever had. We had a tiny crowd watching us but it was so much fun to jump into a character and really perform to the audience.

**Declan (Sport and Recreation):** Our first aid certificate and that was a really good thing because it was a challenge but I got it done.

**Jack:** Making cubbyhouses and, um, taking them to primary schools.

**Jordan:** I really like the fact that we get to design games.

**Aisha (Health):** I’m a big fan of biology and how, um, like the science behind it so that’s what I love.

**What skills and knowledge have you gained?**

**Zoe (Hair and Beauty):** Just like practical stuff, communicating with others.

**Rena:** A lot of safety skills as well, um, first aid and things like that. We got our first aid certificate and our white card as well.

**Isabella:** Teamwork, that’s been a big one.

**Clancy:** A lot of music theory. I wouldn’t, I didn’t think I would gain a lot of music theory knowledge.

**Declan:** How to control a group of people for an activity or a program, whether it be in the gym or playing a sport.

**Zoe:** Getting organised, keeping on top of things is really important and you get really good at that when you start studying VET.

**What industry experience have you gained?**

**Aisha:** I did a structured work placement at St John of God, and yeah they provide … so we get a day on each different ward with a different nurse that we get to follow around and have a look at how they are treating patients.

**Declan:** We had some people come into our VET course and speak to us and show us their technology that they’ve got, which is more advanced than what every other person may have access to, and they told us about how they use that at AFL clubs to get statistics on how they’re performing, which was a really good insight into some job opportunities in the AFL.

**Tanya:** Every two weeks or so we have a guest speaker from different organisations such as Scope, um, Scope, Zonta, Maribyrnong City Council, World Vision, they would all come to talk to us and reinforce what we’ve learnt in class.

**Jordan:** Some of the industry experience we’ve had was developing the website for a local business, the Corinella General Store, um and it was quite a good experience within having to talk to people in the community to get work.

**Sophie:** It was interesting and it gave me a really good insight into what my career is going to be like in the future. It just made me fall in love with it more.

**How does VET support your career goals and aspirations?**

**Rena** It allows me to go straight into an apprenticeship and gives me the employability skills that I’ll need to go into that specific job.

**Jordan** Um, just the fact that I’ll get a certificate at the end of it will just be an extra bonus, just to you know throw on my resume when I hand it in or even if I want to go to uni I can hand it in and say ‘yeah I’ve done this’.

**Jack** Well it’ll help me straight into an apprenticeship because the um certificate that I am doing in Electrical is my pre-apprenticeship and it also takes time off my actual apprenticeship.

**Would you recommend VET to a friend?**

**Sophie:** Oh, 100% I would recommend it to a friend. Um, especially if they’re even just thinking about going into any kind of health, it’s not just for nursing or anything like that. You can be, I know some of my other friends that have done it that want to be occupational therapists and physios and stuff like that. It’s just giving you an all-round basis on the human body and health as a whole.

**Tanya:** Anyone who had started off like me, who was very shy, didn’t … was very closed in, didn’t know much, I would definitely recommend it to.

**Rena:** It’s so much fun and it gives you so many skills that you’ll need in the future, and if they’re really interested about that industry, I think it’s good to learn about it before jumping right in.

**Jack:** Obviously yeah you get to learn new skills, get more of a technical knowledge, um, and you get to meet new friends, which is great.

**Clancy:** If you’re going to do any subject you have to choose a VET and if you love music, do VET music. It is so important and it is so relevant to now and especially if you’re, if you’re going to spend all your time at school you may as well make one of the subjects fantastic and I highly suggest VET.

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