

Print Industry

Jacob is planning a future in the printing industry:

Maryborough Regional College has joined forces with the region's largest employer, McPherson's Printing Group, to offer a themed VCAL program focused on the printing industry.

John Jackson, the company's Quality and Training Manager, said the themed VCAL pilot program was designed to show students the range of careers available within the printing industry.

"Our VCAL students gain experience in five areas of printing including sheet-fed printing, web press, digital printing, pre-press and binding and finishing."

"They also see the range of career pathways the industry has to offer which includes apprenticeships, customer service and sales, as well as administration and management," says John.

The 12 students participating in the themed VCAL program complete a rotation of structured workplace learning in different areas at McPherson's Printing. The students undertake Certificate II in Vocational Studies (Printing and Graphic Technology) and are assessed to industry standards by RMIT – the Registered Training Organisation (RTO), a partner involved in this VCAL program.

Back in the classroom, the VCAL students study VCE English and mathematics units and undertake VCAL personal development projects appropriate to their course.



Jacob
learning on the job at McPherson's Printing.

EMPLOYER:

"VCAL is a way for us to introduce young people to our industry and enable them to make informed career choices. The program equips them with a broad knowledge of OH&S, manual handling, Workcover and working online, which will benefit them no matter what industry they enter. With this compulsory knowledge under their belt, should they commence work with us, they'll be able to fast track their apprenticeship and become a tradesperson quicker, due to recognition for prior learning."

Bill Drummond

Manufacturing Manager
McPherson's Printing, Maryborough

The Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) is a hands-on option for Years 11 & 12 students. It gives students practical work related experience and the literacy, numeracy and personal skills they need to take them into further training or their ideal job. Like the VCE, it's a recognised secondary qualification. **For more information about VCAL, phone 1800 828 262 or visit www.vqa.vic.gov.au**