# Audio file

VET Small Business

# Transcript

My name’s Vanessa and I'm in year 12 and I'm studying VCE VET Small Business.

I started in Business Management, in VCE Business Management last year, and it was just not practical enough for me, so moving to VET Small Business was a really good change because it helped me like focus on everything in the practical side, I was able to actually demonstrate all of the tasks that I could do. It's great. I definitely don't know what I would have done without this option.

So today at recess, we were running the coffee cart as a part of our small business. It's a practical thing that we do every second Thursday at recess. Selling the coffee is definitely challenging because sometimes you get an overload of customers and it can be quite stressful getting all of it made and everything. But when you're working together as a group, like you've worked with them all year, so you get really comfortable with them and it's like working in a workplace. I've made quite a few friends coming out of all of my VET courses that I'm still friends with outside of school, and now I hang out with them all the time.

So selling and customer service skills has definitely been a top thing, but also being able to communicate with the people inside a business. The change, the EFTPOS machine and also one of the things that we did learn how to do as well was putting up like online orders. And we actually put that through like our own, the school website, so that we knew exactly how much to order so that we made sure that we would make profit. It's definitely helped I think, like learning how to do all of that budgeting and finances and everything has helped out with outside life, even if it's not in a business as well, because you've got to manage your own finance in life. I definitely feel more confident managing money, so that's a skill that's definitely been great to develop.

In the beginning, when we were beginning to promote the coffee cart, we'd put out, send out emails and put up posters around the school. But now that everyone in the school mostly knows that we've run the coffee cart every second Thursday, we do just do an announcement over the PA system about 5 minutes before recess. Yeah, I definitely feel like I'm a lot more confident to step into another job outside of school, because I've already had that experience and getting the Certificate II in Small Business out of it was a good thing cause I can put that on my resumé in the future.

So, if I was to say continue in the agriculture industry, which is where I'm headed, I think the Certificate II would definitely help out because I might, I think I want to go back to TAFE as well to possibly get a degree in business or something maybe because I am hoping to have my own business in the future. And I think small business was a good first step.

So my VET subjects is definitely a lot different to my regular subjects and studies at school because the VET programs are a lot more practical and you're a lot more involved in them. So all of my other studies you would just get regular like class work, theory, here, here's a test, you know. You can do this test and then you'll pass or, whereas you go to your VET classes and your VET courses are very much here, go out and do this practical task, I’ll watch you do it and then once you've completed it, I'll know you're competent. I'd say a lot of people would enjoy it a lot more, but it's also a great way, a great different way to learn.