



Matching learning with jobs
Certificate II @ Year 9

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Year 9 students complete Cert II in the calendar year
- Composite Year 9 – 10 classes can work for schools wishing this option
- Course content is suitable for Year 9 literacy and numeracy level
- Victorian Curriculum Science, Humanities and Health classes are mapped *OR* the certificate can be delivered using an existing community or work-related class/program to add rigour or be delivered as an elective

*The 'What's It Really Like...' *WIRL* model is flexible and can adapt to needs of schools. Please discuss your individual situation with the *WIRL* team. Successful completion contributes to VCE/VCAL and, if a 3-4 sequence, to their ATAR. This enables students to move into Year 10 with the inspiration taken from industry experience.

WHO PROVIDES WHAT?

Organisation		
The School	Workforce Development Project through the LLENS	RTO
Timetables enough class time for delivery over 12 months (e.g. Comm Services II requires 1 block, Ag and Hort require 2 blocks of classtime)	RTO negotiation for prices & delivery options (choice of RTO will be offered if school requires)	Enrolment details
Staff for each class of Cert II	Appropriate local industry placements	Course content
VASS enrolment for students 15 years by May	Risk Assessments	Delivery options e.g. fortnightly face-to-face with/without video conferencing, and assessment
Busses	Curriculum mapping if required	
Parent permission for weekly field trips (or fortnightly if chosen)		

FAQS

What will it cost?

WIRL is designed to be a cost-neutral model. RTO delivery & auspicing are met through targeted VET funding + rural weighting (enrol on VASS to access). Speak with the WIRL team to clarify since students need to be 15 to access VASS targeted VET funding and 14-year-olds need to be resulted in the following year for the school to access this funding. RTOs off-set current-year costs from continuing students in subsequent years (SBATs). Busses can be paid for out of the VET funding once a manageable fee with RTO is negotiated.

What staff qualifications do I need?

None. The RTO and workplace mentors provide the expertise and qualifications. Staff qualifications of Cert II in industry and Cert IV TAE would enable a stronger bargaining for delivery costs. Where there are no Cert II qualified staff (most schools) arrangements are made with the RTO for flexible delivery options to reduce costs e.g. RTO staff deliver and do all assessment while staff assist students with bookwork and on excursions. The staff do not have to be the experts because the RTO and work placement mentors provide the expertise.

How will the timetable look?

Block double periods together or use existing blocking to create blocks of time at least once in the week e.g. Science double blocked alongside Humanities double = 4 periods to enable field trips

Is it sustainable?

The model is designed to be cost-neutral with no unsustainable overheads, no costly infrastructure and no heavy workloads on already-busy staff. Best industry practice exists just outside the door; only a bus trip away. Schools do not need to replicate workplaces as we see from multiple reports that cite costly programs which collapse once a passionate teacher exits.

Can 14-year-olds (Year 9 students) do Certificate II?

Yes. Students must be 15 to be involved in SWL but can complete Certificate II activities on class field trips with teacher prior to that age. There are age restrictions on some units e.g. 16 years for machinery such as tractors, so those units are not offered to Year 9s. It is a basic industry certificate which enables students to learn work-related skills while contributing to their VCE/VCAL.

Are there clear pathways for students?

Yes. Students and teachers will be provided with material that explicitly details options for university and further certificates. Students may receive credit towards their university degree. Employers indicate that they will employ students on part-time/casual basis once completing their Certificate II in the relevant field.

How does this program benefit the school and the students?

- **improves** outcomes for students e.g. inspired to access study opportunities and/or follow career pathways in industry, ATAR & VCE contribution, connects to community mentors
- **improves** engagement and retention rates
- **provides STEM** learning opportunities, sustainable and cost-effective
- **addresses FISO:** positive climate for learning, community engagement, excellence in teaching and learning
- **aligns** with components of teaching and learning model e.g. engaging students at Year 9, relationships and applied learning underpinning the pedagogy
- **contributes to AIPs:** implementing improvement initiatives
- **provides opportunities** for learning Capabilities, Social and Emotional Learning, Industry and Enterprise Skills.
- **forges strong relationships** between the school and the community