

WHITTLESEA YOUTH COMMITMENT

SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT 2020-2022

What is the Whittlesea Youth Commitment (WYC)?

The WYC is a long-term community-based initiative that is committed to ensuring that every young person in the City of Whittlesea has access and support to complete either year 12 or its equivalent in accredited training, and is linked in to employment.

The structure and activities of the WYC are outlined in the WYC Handbook.

The Commitment

'To enable children in their middle years and young people to become empowered citizens capable of participating in safe, equitable and sustainable education, community and work opportunities'.

The WYC will deliver on this Commitment by bringing together representatives from education, training, employment agencies, service providers and local businesses to enhance the opportunities for youth in the City of Whittlesea.

Purpose

The purpose of this Spirit of Co-operation Agreement is to formalise arrangements between the schools, agencies, organisations and businesses supporting the WYC. Specifically, to:

- Confirm the principles of the WYC.
- Establish comprehensive communications strategies to involve partners of the WYC in achieving its goals and link the community through communication, by sharing knowledge, expertise and resources in a spirit of co-operation.
- Commit to collectively using best endeavours to undertake the proposed work of the WYC and support and encourage partnerships between schools, industry, education providers and community to bring about a strategic and whole-of-community approach to benefit young people.
- Commit to identifying organisational accountability within each WYC organisation for the achievement of WYC principles.

The Agreement

As a signatory to this Spirit of Co-operation Agreement, you commit to doing what you can as an organisation, within your own work plans, to deliver on the Commitment.

This can be demonstrated by your organisation's involvement in the activities of the WYC.

Underlying Principles

Partners of the WYC will work cooperatively and make a commitment to support young people to:

- Make a successful transition from primary school to secondary school and engage in learning.
- Provide all young people with the opportunity and support to complete Year 12 or its equivalent.
- Be flexible about the nature of this equivalence, which is defined by the needs and aspirations of young people themselves.
- Ensure the provision of a safety net, to support young people who are not completing year 12.
- Develop new learning, training, employment and further education options for young people to achieve these goals.
- Explore new work placement, work opportunities, skill development and community support structures for young people to achieve these goals.

- Continue to measure the progress made towards meeting the needs of all young people in the region.
- Develop and customise the curriculum provision of schools, TAFE and other training providers to better support the aspirations of young people.
- Develop innovative and collaborative arrangements between key providers of employment, education, training and personal support services.
- Implement strategies that promote a seamless inter-agency collaboration on the progress of young people in their transition.
- Support the families of young people to engage in their children’s learning
- Work collaboratively to raise awareness of the diverse needs and issues of young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origins, and who have disabilities, in order to support their engagement in education, training and employment.
- Work collaboratively to support young people address health, welfare and social issues that are a barrier to engagement in education and training.

Partnership

Becoming a partner of the WYC is free and is open to all who are willing to work together as a community to enhance the well-being, learning, training and work opportunities of its young people.

All those who sign up to the Spirit of Co-operation Agreement become partners of the WYC which entitles you to:

- Information and resource sharing
- Membership of the WYC Community Team
- Partnership development opportunities with other members
- Opportunities to promote your activities through the WYC network
- Input into the decision-making processes of the WYC

Organisation Details:

Name of Organisation:

Name of Signatory:
(Principal/CEO/Manager)

Phone:

Email:

Signature: Date:.....

Contact details for WYC Community Team database and information dissemination:

Name: Phone:

Email:

Name: Phone:

Email:

Please return to Helen Mecozzi Email: helen.m@hwllen.com.au