

Overview 2020-2021

The following is a brief outline of the focus for **Highlands LLEN** in 2020-2021 as we remain committed to creating learning opportunities for young people and disadvantaged cohorts by facilitating genuine partnerships and complementary support systems.

Highlands LLEN

Highlands Local Learning and Employment Network is part of a Victorian network of 31 LLENs established in 2001. We have strong connections to local communities, including schools, education and training providers, business and industry, all levels of Government and community.

In 2019 Highlands LLEN broadened its focus by adding GROW Ballarat to our suite of programs. The contract between the Department of Education and Training and Highlands LLEN that focused on Structured Workplace Learning and Education Engagement ended in 2019 and from 2020 the new focus became School-Employer Engagement. Highlands LLEN continues to co-ordinate the VET Cluster that offers broad VET choices to students in the region.

Highlands LLEN has committed to funding the coordination of the Youth Advisory Board which is in its second year.

CONTACT

Jannine Bennett

Executive Officer



P | (03) 4344 4154
M | 0458 344 484
E | eo@highlandslen.org

School-Employer Engagement

Events & Activities

From 2020, Highlands LLEN is funded to source School-Employer Engagement activities and events for school students. In addition to placement opportunities, other forms of industry engagement activities and events will be organised and delivered, for local growth industries and skills shortage areas. These activities will aim to support students to expand their knowledge and skills, promoting their effective course and career decisions.

Highlands LLEN remains committed to creating, developing and maintaining relationships and partnerships with and across local schools, education providers, industry and community services, promoting high quality, cross sectoral practice to support the achievement of positive education outcomes for young people.

CONTACT

Asha Buckmaster

Senior Project Leader



P | (03) 4344 4153
M | 0419 512 027
E | abuckmaster@highlandslen.org

Funded by Department of Education and Training

School-Employer Engagement

Placements

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) supports efforts to provide placements for students undertaking Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs as part of their senior certificates. To achieve this, Highlands LLEN engages with industry and employers to source SWL opportunities that are advertised on the Statewide Portal.

The Highlands LLEN SWL Program makes it possible for young people studying VET to undertake different jobs, meet local employers and gain beneficial opportunities to practice their knowledge and skills through SWL and/or School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs). In addition, Highlands LLEN assists with the recording of Work Experience activity in the region.

CONTACT

Sarah Forte

Placement Specialist



P | (03) 4344 4151
M | 0400 564 839
E | swl@highlandslen.org

Funded by Department of Education and Training

Committee of Management

Leanne Parker (Chair)
 Karen Monument (Deputy Chair)
 David Clark (Treasurer)
 Susan Honeyman (Secretary)

Belinda Coates
 Alice Christie
 Phonse Crawford
 Jim Dannock

Jen McCrabb
 Stephen Fields
 Joanne Gilbert
 Janelle Johnson

Robert Lewers
 Barry Wright

GROW Ballarat

Growing Regional Opportunities for Work (GROW) is a Collective Impact initiative, with business, government, community organisations and individuals working together to address disadvantage in Ballarat. This long term unique regional strategy was established in Geelong in 2013 and works with local businesses to increase the following:

1. Local spending
2. Social spending
3. Inclusive employment
4. Advocacy & collaboration

These four behaviours are designed to increase the number of employment opportunities for our target groups. GROW Ballarat provides local organisations with the tools they need to practice these four behaviours and achieve this outcome.

CONTACT

Rob Croucher

GROW Ballarat Project Manager



M | 0490 204 661
E | grow@highlandslen.org

Funded by Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.

Youth Advisory Board & Project Work

The Youth Advisory Board (YAB) is a collective of 15 young individuals who are all passionate about improving outcomes for young people in the community through leadership and advocacy. Meetings are facilitated by Highlands LLEN and occur monthly.

There are a number of key projects that Highlands LLEN undertake each year including research, data analysis, report writing and resource production which all assist Highlands LLEN in providing information to stakeholders and achieving goals in key areas of our work.

Highlands LLEN also provides post-school support to self-nominated participants as part of our work on the annual On Track Connect project.

CONTACT

Pearl Goodwin -Burns

Project Officer & Youth Advisory Board



P | (03) 4344 4152
M | 0451 281 623
E | pearl@highlandslen.org

VET Cluster

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) Cluster is a partnership between Highlands LLEN and 28 Secondary Education providers within Ballarat and surrounding areas.

Our programs, delivered by Registered Training Organisations, offer students an opportunity to undertake National or State vocational certificates which are recognised as part of a student's Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) as endorsed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

In 2020, 20 VET Cluster Programs are offered and 469 students are participating.

CONTACT

Kylie Barnett

VET Cluster Coordinator



P | (03) 4344 4150
M | 0448 559 246
E | uet@highlandslen.org

Funded by Secondary Schools

CONTACT

Kelly Ashmore

Administration Officer



P | (03) 4344 4155
E | admin@highlandslen.org

The Administration Officer supports Highlands LLEN in all key portfolios and other major projects including: Get into Games Expo, School Leavers Manual etc.

CONTACT

Sally Poulton

Finance Officer



E | finance@highlandslen.org

The Finance Officer supports Highlands LLEN in achieving balance and consistency across all financial concerns. This role is crucial to the successful operation of the organisation.

CONTACT

Chloe Waddell

Administrative Support (VET Cluster)



E | uetadmin@highlandslen.org

Administrative Support (VET Cluster) is a role designed to support the work of the VET Cluster Coordinator and ensure the Cluster operates efficiently and effectively.