

Home Education and Careers

Free Career Resources for Young People

By Kate Flaherty

It's getting to that time of year when we start focussing on endings and thinking about beginnings. Some of our young people will be graduating from home education and heading off to further study and to look for work.

How do we make decisions? Career decision making is made up on two main elements, 1) understanding yourself, and 2) understanding the world of work.

Understanding yourself involves reflecting on values, strengths, interests, personality, likes & dislikes which helps us to put language to who you are, what brings you joy, what makes sense to you, and what you like to do. Understanding the world of work involves identifying what opportunities are out there, what the future of work looks like, and how you can create your own opportunities through entrepreneurship.

I work as a career practitioner, and in my experience of working with home educators, I have observed that they are pretty in touch with what they like to do and what gives them joy. They have had time to pursue their interests and identify their values. This is a huge step towards making career decisions.



The next step is understanding the world of work. It is a confusing time with a rapidly changing work landscape. When looking at career options, it is important to remember that the choices young people make now in no way define them forever. According to the Foundation for Young Australians, young people are predicted to make 17 changes in employers across 5 different occupations throughout their working life. The reality is that many jobs of the future do not exist today. Some jobs that exist now will not exist as they do today, or at all in the future.

There is exceptional free information and support available for young people to assist in career decision making.

On the next page is my top pick...

Kate Flaherty is an HEA member and one of our ACT advocacy volunteers. She is a Career Development Practitioner and Registered Clinical Counsellor.

Your Career

NEW & FREE Government Funded Support School Leavers Information Service available to young people 15-24

The National Careers Institute (NCI) was established to ensure people have access to authoritative, accurate careers information and support, irrespective of their age or career stage. You can visit the Your Career website to be connected to further education, training, or work options to support your current career needs or goals.



Anyone can access information on the Your Career website. On the site, you can find the **School Leavers Information Kit**.

The School Leavers Information Kit **“Your Career: What’s Next For You?”** provides young people with information about education, training, and work options to help them navigate the changing landscape of the labour market. Key sections include:



- **Help to build your future career**
Information about further education and training and industries across Australia.
- **Help with short-term options**
Identifying current skills, undertaking short-term education, training, and options to pursue different opportunities like work experience or volunteering.
- **Help to pursue your goal**
Financial assistance, starting your first new job and local careers information.

You will also find information about the **School Leavers Information Service and hotline**. This service is targeted at young people between the ages of 15 and 24. The School Leavers Information Service will provide school leavers with two levels of careers support:

The Service is available by:
Calling 1800 CAREER (1800 227 337)
Texting SLIS2020 to 0429 009 435
Emailing schoolleavers.nci@dese.gov.au

1. help to navigate the School Leavers Information Kit, access and use of the Your Career website, or be referred to relevant government programs or support services
2. where needed, a personalised career guidance session with a qualified career practitioner for up to 45 minutes.

Other worthwhile sites to check out are...

