

Term 2 Flexi Learning Centre Newsletter 2022

St Marys Flexi Learning Centre
Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre
St Laurence Flexi Learning Centre, Newcastle
Pambula Beach Flexi Learning Centre
Eastern Flexi Network Office, Wollongong



Eastern Flexi Schools Network

Flexible Learning Centres provide a place and an opportunity for young people to engage with learning and community.

Flexible Learning Centres operate on a common ground basis where young people are empowered to determine their own pathways.

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National Reconciliation Week
kicks off on Friday 22nd May 2022!



EDMUND RICE EDUCATION
AUSTRALIA

Visit our website;

<https://www.ereafsn.edu.au/eastern-flexi-schools-network/>

St Marys FLC

A NEW TERM

What's been happening so far.....

Last Term.....

In Term 1 staff and young people were excited to be back on-site full time with a term filled with lots of interesting and exciting events, although sadly we said goodbye to Jeepz and Jordan this term and a huge hello to Sammy.

Badu worked on self-portraits based on the novel *Raw*. These portraits expressed vulnerability and the rawness of individuals.

The young people finally had the opportunity to attend Luna Park. Everyone enjoyed the day with Young People (and staff) braving the Hair Razor Ride.

All young people were fantastic being within the 4Ps and very respectful of the community and little people around them. Our Young People also attended a careers day run by YES in Penrith. Lots of information was made available. Young People were very engaged.

Last day of term was spent at Cables, although the weather wasn't the greatest, a great time was had by all with the Young People even helping prepare lunch.

To top off the term, a Young Person successfully attained a casual job which allows her to still attend school. Another Young Person also started employment a couple of days a week, which is testament to our Transitional Support Worker and the pathways program.

Lots of exciting things to come in term 2.

Coming up in Term 2.....

- 26-27 April - Commitment Days
- 28 April - Return to School for Term 2
- 18th & 19th May - Careers Expo - Penrith Sports Centre
- 29th June - T2 Presentation Day

We also have 2 YP participating in the 'Neighbourhood Jobs Landscaping' program



Good News Stories from StMFLC.....

We have some fantastic news about an awesome young person who recently left our FLC, Hayley, who is currently loving her traineeship and is just about to finish (with flying colours). They are placing her in a permanent role upon completion, and she has been speaking with them about a cadetship to go onto University when she is age appropriate to do physiotherapy.

Her family recently sent us the following regarding Hayley and her traineeship; "I want to thank you so much for your support, I don't think she would be where she is without the support of you and the school. She was heading down a bad path with the previous school before moving, it was the best decision".

Wollongong FLC

A NEW TERM

What's been happening so far.....

Last Term.....

Wollongong Flexi has had lots of events and outings this last Term as we were all very excited to be back onsite after the school holiday break.

We had our Commitment Day and Smoking Ceremony as well as celebrating International Women's Day with making pancakes & a tie dyeing activity.

Our Pathways Program included a visit to Green Connect Farm and WEA Wollongong. We had some amazing onsite visits from Job Find, Wollongong Defence Force and Dress for Success. We also had David from Dmac Fitness visit, for an information session on careers in the fitness industry as well as running a group fitness class for our young people.

Our Cert 1 Art group visited the Project Contemporary Art Space to see the Youth Dismissed Art Exhibition.

Some of our Young People also participated in the one day Hospitality Program at our local Novotel via our Regional Industry Educational Partnership.

Other outings and activities have included bowling, well-being walks at Wollongong Harbour, Flip-out and jazzing up our classrooms with some new plants.

Coming up in Term 2.....

- 3rd May - Visit to North Wollongong TAFE
- 10th May - Apprenticeship Support Australia
- 17th May - Rescheduled visit to Programmed
- 19th May - RYDA Safe Driving Program
- 24th May - Visit to Worksite Training, Corrimal
- 31st May - Rescheduled visit to ITeC, Coniston
- 7th June - Rescheduled visit to WEA & White Card Training the same week
- 14th June - Visit to Risk Response and Rescue
- 28th June - End of term celebrate, bowling/KFC



Good News Stories from WLGFLC.....

Fantastically, we had 3 young people receive their Learner's Licence in Term - Awesome achievement!

One of our amazing young people, Cooper, also successfully passed his Working in Confined Spaces ticket with All Onsite Training and Assessment, Unanderra - which will hopefully lead to some amazing employment opportunities in the future.

Pambula Beach FLC

A NEW TERM What's been happening so far.....

Last Term.....

As is becoming our school tradition in Term 1, we trained to climb Mt Kosciuszko. Each afternoon after a day of processing numbers and smiting words, our students would train. There were 20 training sessions that mentally and physical strengthened our young people. When it came to the day of reckoning, the weather decided to test resolve with predicted heavy rain and thunderstorms. That did not dim our spirits! Amazing! On the day we included EREA CEO Craig Wattam, Rev Michael Palmer, 10 Young People and 5 PBFLC staff. Everyone participated in wild conditions with winds whipping up at around 100km/ph. It was a day, nobody will forget!

We also welcomed a cohort of new young people swelling our school population to 22. In Cam and Caleb's class, artwork on the walls has added a third dimension to the space. Rikki and Erin's students have been reading *The Outsiders* and understanding energy transfer by making tiny guitars. The early part of the term also included learning to surf. Our young people participated in great numbers and demonstrated genuine commitment. Some students may have developed a lifelong passion.

The snorkelling program slayed in the later half of Term 1. The ultimate was snorkelling with Bull Rays (massive stingray type animals the size of your car bonnet) at Kianinny Bay. It was scary, but our young people are brave, so it mattered not. In we went. I dare say another lifelong memory.

I do not know how we squeezed all this in, but our students raised nearly \$5000 for teen mental health in *Laps for Life*. They swam and swam. Brilliant! Also worth a mention, go-karting in Canberra, Parkour sessions on Thursdays (thanks Paddy), Art on a Monday afternoon, Mental Maths engagement and a new game called Sequence. All in all our young people have really enjoyed the start of 2022 and are looking forward to Term 2.

Coming up in Term 2.....

Term 2 is looking fantastic for lots of different reasons. We have been lucky enough to get the use of the St Mary Flexible Learning Centres Canoes, which will allow a real exploration of our local waterways.

We start our Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways at our centre in Term II. We are looking forward to our young people achieving the certificate before the end of 2022.



Good News Stories from PBFLC.....

Conan and Will, two likely lads in Cam and Caleb's class seemed to have gone a bit missing of late. After realising we barely see them at school anymore... we thought we'd reach out...

When pressed for answers they replied, '*we are working bruz.*' It turns out these young people are both working part time for a local truck company and are gaining skills faster than a newborn.

We miss seeing them as much as we used to, but we are really proud of their commitment to work and school. Well done boys!

Eastern Flexi Network Office

The Trustees of Edmund Rice Education Australia (EREA) announced on the 27th April 2022 a new incorporated governance structure – to be called EREA Ltd — which heralds a transformation of the organisation for a new era.

EREA Ltd has been created in response to a renewed commitment to governance that continues to place the over 40,000 students of our diverse learning communities at the heart of all we do with clear lines of accountability and transparency.

The details of the new structure, **effective from 1 January 2023**, in summary are:

- EREA Ltd Parent Entity will be a company limited by guarantee with four subsidiaries together, EREA Ltd and its subsidiaries will be responsible for the continuation of the mission of a Catholic education in the Edmund Rice tradition.

- The four subsidiary boards reflect the breadth of EREA's education ministries, with each board having a very distinct function and a Board of Directors with specific expertise:

- EREA Flexible Schools Ltd will oversee 21 flexible learning centres across metropolitan, regional, and rural Australia. These schools serve some of the most marginalised young people, who yearn for another chance at education, and who may have been excluded from or have felt excluded from education.

- EREA Colleges Ltd will oversee the mainstream colleges and early learning centres across Australia outside Victoria.

- EREA Victorian Schools Ltd will govern 5 Victorian colleges and one Flexible Learning School to ensure that the specific regulatory requirements of Victoria are met in a targeted manner.

- EREA St Kevin's College Ltd will provide local governance oversight to St Kevin's College, Melbourne, strengthening specific governance and accountability requirements

For further information, please reach out to your Head of Campus, or see full details on: <https://www.erea.edu.au/new-governance-structure-for-a-new-era/>

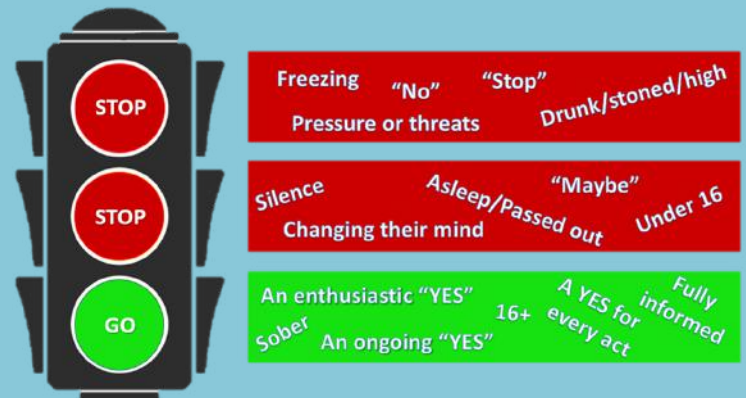
A NEW TERM.... IMPORTANT NEWS.....

At EREA Flexi Schools, we feel it's important to forward on the following information for our Young People

In NSW, consent is the act of *freely and knowingly* agreeing to engage in sexual activity.

Consent needs a new kind of traffic light - if it's not green, it's red: There is no 'maybe' in consent.

Anything that is **not an enthusiastic and freely given "YES"**, is actually a **"NO"**, and that means **STOP**. Asking your partner "Is this ok?" is a good way to make sure you getting consent.



The teaching of age-appropriate consent education has now been made mandatory in all Australian Schools, which includes coercion, gendered stereotypes and power imbalances.

Bottom line: you get the final and only say over what happens with your body. Without consent, any sexual act is considered sexual assault or rape.

There are supports available; please talk to a trusted adult, such as a Youth Worker, Teacher or Head of Campus. You can also visit WWW.1800respect.org.au or call 1800RESPECT if you are worried.

If you would like more information or have any questions, please email Sonja, the leader of Child Safeguarding at the Eastern Flexi Schools Network at Sonja.Marjanovic@ereafsn.edu.au

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR FAMILY/GUARDIANS/CARERS SURVEY IS NOW AVAILABLE TO COMPLETE up to the end of MAY 2022.

COPIES HAVE BEEN EMAILED OUT AND THERE ARE ALSO PAPER COPIES IN THE RECEPTION AREA OF EACH FLC, OR CAN ACCESS THE LINK VIA EACH FLC WEBSITE.

Connecting with community..

Regional Industry Education Partnerships Program (RIEP)

An initiative of the NSW Government

Term 2 has the following program coming up in May for ALL our Young People at all Flexi's;

May 12th 2022 - 'Launch your Career in Care', 10am - 11am. Identifying future career pathways by connecting secondary students with industry. Poster attached.

Our RIEP collaboration in the Hunter/Newcastle region has the following programs in Term 2. If interested in anything below, please contact your Transitional Support Worker and we may be able to arrange a similar program within our other regions in NSW via the RIEP program;

Hunter Defence Industry School Pathways Program - Includes site visits to local defence pipeline industries/ pathway to a traineeship.

Fit for Success Program - A one-day program introducing the career/pathways in this sector.

Light and Heavy Vehicle Program - Apprenticeship pathways into the automotive industry will be covered inc a week of structured work experience.

Pathway to Nursing Program - An exciting opportunity that provides Year 10 students with an opportunity to explore a career in the health sector

Educators of the Future Program - Explore a career in the education sector, for students who want to work within Childhood (0-12 years).

Hospitality Work Readiness Program - An opportunity for students to gain industry awareness in a leading international hotel chain.

Media for Millennials Course - A two-day course for students about a career in media/Journalism.

NSW Cyber Ambassador Program - Aimed at educating learners on transformative computing knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

A Cut Above the Rest, Hairdressing Program
A 5-day hairdressing program - could lead to a School Base Apprenticeship program or the **Barbering Program** - A 3-day Barbering hands on experience. Delivered by TAFE NSW.

Intro to Construction Program - Delivery of the White Card, then 3 days of construction skills



**2022 ROAD
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**



**WOLLONGONG
NSW – AUSTRALIA**

The city of Wollongong will host the 2022 UCI Road World Championships from 18-25 September.

Wollongong will welcome the world's best athletes for the UCI's pinnacle road cycling event encompassing eight days of elite racing and a non-stop city festival for the whole community.

Join team Wollongong 2022 – the above event is currently looking for 1,500 enthusiastic, passionate and amazing volunteers to help deliver a safe and successful event through our volunteer program.

At Wollongong Flexi Learning Centre, we feel this would be a unique opportunity for our staff and young people to be part of this inclusive, energetic, can-do team and create a lasting legacy for the Wollongong community and cycling in Australia.

There are many benefits to volunteering: you'll be making a contribution to the community, be part of a diverse team, enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience behind the scenes of a major international sporting event, receive an exclusive volunteer uniform, undertake some training with event professionals, build your network, make new friends, be a part of history and learn some amazing new skills that will help you with future employment opportunities.

If interested, please reach out to your Transitional Support Worker or Head or Campus before the 25th May to register.



THE FACTS ABOUT VAPING

Electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, often called 'vapes', are electronic devices designed to deliver vapourised liquids into the lungs. There are many different styles of vapes available and they can be difficult to spot.

The main ingredient in vapes is propylene glycol, vegetable glycerine or glycerol, and they often also contain nicotine, flavours and other chemicals. Vapes may contain harmful chemicals that aren't listed on the pack.

The biggest misunderstanding about vapes is that they are harmless compared to cigarettes. This is not true. **Vapes are not safe.**

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY'RE VAPING?



NICOTINE

Many vapes contain nicotine making them **very addictive**

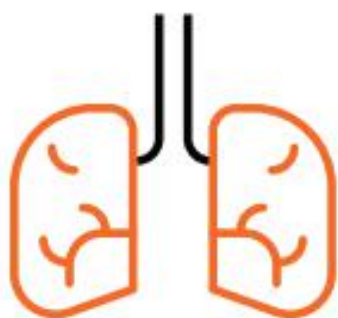


FRUITY

The nicotine in 1 vape can
= 50
cigarettes



Young people who vape are **3 times** more likely to take up smoking



Vaping has been linked to **serious lung disease**



Vapes can contain the same **harmful chemicals** found in cleaning products, nail polish remover, weed killer and bug spray



Vapes come in a variety of designs and styles and can be **easy to conceal**



VAPES APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

The flavours (such as watermelon, grape, caramel, bubble-gum, vanilla and mint) and colourful packaging used for vapes make them appealing to young people. **Many vapes also contain nicotine, which young people can become addicted to very quickly.**

Tobacco companies are continuously looking for new customers. Vapes are a new way to get young people addicted to nicotine, which is often difficult to quit.



HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM?

The take-up of vaping by young people is increasing. Research shows that **1 in 5 young people have vaped** and nearly **80% of them say it is easy to get a vape illegally** at a shop or online.

In a recent survey, 64% of teachers reported being aware of the sale of vapes at school. The consequences of vaping are starting to emerge, and any uptake of vaping by young people is a concern.

NICOTINE IS HARMFUL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



Nicotine is a drug that is often in vapes and is highly addictive for young brains.

It can cause long-lasting negative effects on brain development.

Nicotine changes the way brain synapses are formed in young people.

The impacts can include impaired attention, learning, memory, and changes in mood.

RISKS TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Vapes may expose young people to chemicals and toxins at levels that have the potential to cause negative health effects. **Vapes can leave a young person at increased risk of depression and anxiety.** Vaping has also been linked to serious lung disease. Importantly, many of the long-term harms of vaping are still unknown. The liquid in vapes and the vapour is not water. Vapes can expose young people to:

- the same harmful chemicals found in cleaning products, nail polish remover, weed killer and bug spray.
- toxins such as formaldehyde and heavy metals.
- ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs.
- flavouring chemicals such as diacetyl (a chemical linked to serious lung disease).

Vapes have even been known to explode causing serious burns.



Do you know what they're vaping?

Get the evidence* and facts at health.nsw.gov.au/vaping

*All statements are backed by evidence which can be found on the website





iDO EXPO 2022

NDIS
INFORMATION
SESSION
10.30am to 11.30am



2022 Illawarra Disability Options Expo

Thursday | 26th May | 11am to 4pm

The Fraternity Club | 11 Bourke Street | Fairy Meadow

The iDO Expo helps link people with a disability and their carers to over 70 product and service providers, while offering a range of information by industry experts.

Come along & explore the supports available in the Illawarra.



Skill Set in Certificate II in Hospitality

SIT20316

Now is the time to
UPSKILL!

Location : 1-4/24 Rivulet Crescent, Albion Park Rail NSW 2527

Venue: Go Kids Play

Time: 9:30am - 4:00pm

Week/ Day	Date	Unit Name	Trainer
Week 1 Day 1	Monday 23/05/2022	SITXFSA001 Use hygienic practices for food safety	Ashlea Harper
Week 2 Day 2	Monday 30/05/2022	SITHFAB002 Provide responsible service of alcohol (RSA)	Cameron Stone
Week 3 Day 3	Monday 6/06/2022	SITHFAB004 Prepare and serve non-alcoholic beverages	Ashlea Harper
	Monday 13/06/2022	BREAK	
Week 4 Day 4	Monday 20/06/2022	SITHFAB005 Prepare and serve espresso coffee (Theory)	Ashlea Harper
Week 5 Day 5	Monday 27/06/2022	SITHFAB005 Prepare and serve espresso coffee (Practical)	Cameron Stone
Week 6 Day 6	Monday 4/07/2022	WHS – Work Health & Safety	David Napper



2022 Illawarra Schools Careers Expo

FREE ENTRY TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON:

Tuesday 10 May 2:30pm - 4:30pm

Get Ready, Be Inspired, come on down and talk with one of our many Industry Career Experts from TAFE, Universities, Local Businesses and Training organisations who can help you find your career direction!

INTERESTED?

Bookings not
required,
just turn up!



ADDRESS:
Illawarra Sports Stadium
Fred Finch Park
Hooka Creek RD, Berkeley

For more information contact: expo@iswlp.org.au or phone: 02 4225 2526



‘Launch your Career’ in Care.

‘Launch your Career’ is a series of live virtual events that identify future career pathways by connecting secondary students with industry.

This event takes a deeper dive into the diverse roles across the aged care and disability sectors. You will connect with young people working in the industry who can keep you up-to-date on the skills and opportunities needed to gain meaningful employment across this rapidly growing sector.

Strong future growth

Job opportunities in welfare support, early childhood and in the aged care and disability sectors are predicted to have very strong future growth.*

High school students throughout NSW are invited to hear from industry professionals, teachers and alumni to get a first-hand look at roles within the Care industry, and learn more about:

- Designing a career with purpose and make a real impact in your community.
- Working with older people or people with disability in person-centred ways.
- Developing your interpersonal and specialised skills to make a difference.
- Study options at TAFE NSW and career opportunities.



Register now for the free live virtual event

LIVESTREAM: 10 -11am, Thursday, 12 May at 10am.

TAFE NSW RTO 90003 | CRICOS 00559E | HEP PRV0246. *Source: Australian Government, JobOutlook 2022

Proudly funded by the NSW Government in association with TAFE NSW, the NSW Department of Education, and Training Services NSW.

tafensw.edu.au



TAFE NSW

Thursday, May 19, 2022

Newcastle Racecourse
Darling St, Broadmeadow NSW 2292

The Newcastle & Lake Macquarie Career Expo is proudly presented by Career Links, on behalf of the CAA.

Career Links have coordinated the Expo since 2009. The expo attracts school students and their parents from across the region, in 2018 over 4000 students attended.

This leading Career Expo is attracting a record number of local and interstate exhibitors including major universities, leading training colleges and employers.

Career Links is committed to the youth of Hunter region, we coordinate this event to support them in transitioning from school to their future careers.

Year 10, 11 and 12 students from 38 secondary schools accompanied by their Career Advisers and Teachers attend. Parents, Guardians and support people of the students are encouraged to attend also.

www.careerlinks.nsw.edu.au



📅 Thursday 19 May 2022, 9:00 am to Thursday 19 May 2022, 3:00 pm

📍 Location: Newcastle Racecourse, Darling Street, Broadmeadow NSW, Australia

💰 Cost: \$0

The Newcastle & Lake Macquarie Career Expo is proudly presented by Career Links, on behalf of the CAA. This leading Career Expo is attracting a record number of local and interstate exhibitors, including major universities, leading training colleges and employers. Career Links is committed to the youth of the Hunter region, coordinating this event to support them in transitioning from school to their future careers.

2022 GREATER WESTERN SYDNEY CAREERS MARKET

Dates: Wed 18 May & Thur 19 May 2022

Time: 9am to 2pm both days

Where: Penrith Valley Regional
Sports Centre

About the event



The annual Greater Western Sydney Careers Market is our marquee event, which in 2021 attracted over 5000 years 10 to 12 High School students from the Greater Western Sydney region and 140 exhibitors.

Brought to you by Brett Carter Events, we aim to eclipse previous successful events and are working on new initiatives to take this years to another level.

The Greater Western Sydney Careers Market offers students the chance to explore and speak with the professionals from Universities, Registered Training Organisations, Apprenticeship Centres, Group Training Organisations, Private Colleges, Professional Associations and Employers about further education and/or careers options available to them.

The event provides a fantastic opportunity for students to seek that all important career and further education advice from a wide variety of exhibitors and industry experts to enable them to make informed choices.

Formally known as the Nepean Careers Market since the late 1980's, the event has helped over 163,000 young people with their critical career and/or further education decisions.