

YOUTH CONNECTIONS – PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Introduction

Youth Connections will provide a safety net for young people who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from education, and will offer flexible case managed support and services that recognise the role family and community play in a young person's wellbeing and development.

Program Objectives

The objective of Youth Connections is to support these young people to attain Year 12 or equivalent and to help them make a successful transition through education and on to further education, training or employment.

Youth Connections will focus on three program outcomes:

- i) that young people at risk develop personal skills and attributes that promote wellbeing and support positive life choices
- ii) that young people at risk are connected to education, family and community and achieve successful education and transition outcomes
- iii) that Youth Connections providers work collaboratively within their Service Region to strengthen service delivery outcomes for young people at risk

Service Delivery

Youth Connections service delivery will focus on achieving outcomes for young people. Outcomes will be prioritised towards *personal development, connection and progression* through education and *relationships* with other service providers and stakeholders.

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YOUTH CONNECTIONS SERVICE TYPES

Services to individual young people

Other Services

Type One: Most at risk of disengaging

Type Two: Disengaging / severely disengaged

Type Three: Re-engagement and Outreach activities

Type Four: Strengthening regional services

- Assist young people at school who are most at risk of disengaging from school
- Young people identified and supported in conjunction with their education provider
- Services characterised by short term case management and low level intervention, and may include group work
- Key outcome: to maintain engagement in mainstream schooling or other education and training pathways

- Assist young people who are disengaging or recently disengaged, or those who are severely disengaged
- Services characterised by tailored, individualised case management to address barriers
- High level intervention with responsive, flexible services
- Key outcome: to re-engage with mainstream schooling, alternative education or suitable alternative pathways

- Provide proactive youth focused activities and outreach activities to young people
- Activities must be relevant to young people, their communities and the region
- Key outcome: finding, connecting with and engaging severely disengaged young people

- Work with Partnership Brokers and Key Stakeholders to assist education, training and other youth and community service providers to build their capacity to identify and support at risk young people
- Identify and disseminate best practice
- Establish links with other services for at risk young people in the region