

Aspirational Behind the Scenes & Future Links Tours

These tours provide students with a rare opportunity to meet people in the workforce and ask them questions to link the skills they are learning in school with the skills required to succeed in the real world.

Participants travel by bus to visit different venues to learn about career options and education pathways. Students are guided and supported by SWC facilitators to gain important information and discover services and support networks that will help them on the path to creating a successful future.

The Tours are usually offered as an extension of Second STEP and the topics covered during the tour include:

- Career Pathways & Goal Setting
- Wellbeing & Support Networks
- Transition to high school, TAFE, university

Students receive a showbag containing a range of resources and items to help them with their career exploration journey. The main tool is the “Future Links Activity Workbook” which is not only a great compass during the tour, many students use it to set and achieve goals and also as a reference to successfully transition into high school.



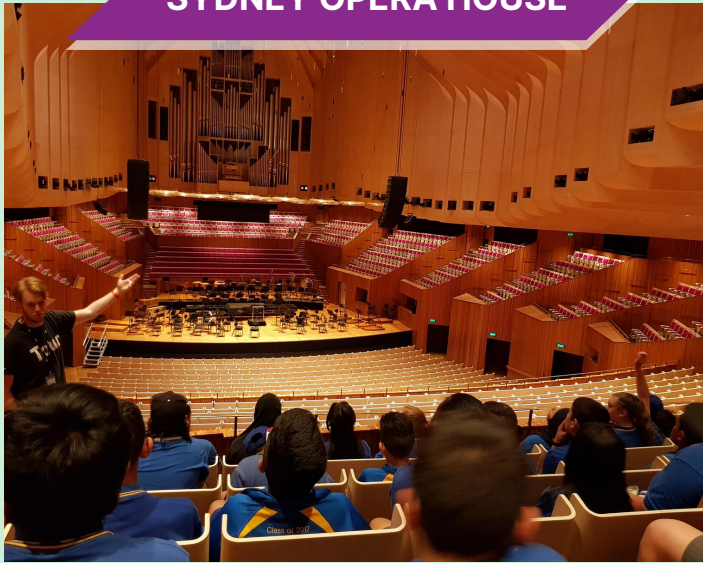
The students got to see a huge variety of careers and goals on the Future Links Tour. There was so much information for the students about higher education and training options, the students learnt a lot about TAFE, colleges, and universities. The University of Sydney was fantastic and made university achievable for the students.

- Primary School Teacher



WETHERILL PARK TAFE

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE



LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL



SYDNEY TOWER RESTAURANT



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I didn't think that I could get into Uni, but after this tour, I believe I can get into Sydney University if I set the right goals.

- Jacob

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“

Students are more motivated to study so that they can go to university.

- Primary School Teacher

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Future Links Future Ready

Made possible through funding by Cabra-Vale Diggers Club, this project has allowed SWC to partner with local schools & businesses to deliver a unique & innovative approach to navigating careers and connecting with employers. Through a series of interactive sessions, participants have been inspired and motivated to take action after gaining the skills and resources to help them overcome common barriers.

There are 4 main components of the project, which were delivered throughout the year:

- Future Links Career Workshops and Seminars
- Career Explorer Tours (including tertiary education options)
- Future Links Skills Journal (to log career options and aspirations)
- Mentoring & Volunteering



Most of these students don't understand the social and financial responsibilities of adult life and don't have the motivation to find work after school because they learn strategies in a school context, not in a workplace context. The Future Links Future Ready Workshop did a fantastic job in giving the students a 'reality check' of their future selves to motivate them to find work after school. Future Links goes beyond what schools are currently able to do with our students.

- High School Teacher



The girls were enthusiastic and excited meeting so many women with successful careers and were inspired by listening to their stories and advice.

- High School Teacher



(This program) allowed me to build knowledge that will help me towards deciding my future career

- Vanessa

Inspiring Women & Inspiring Apprentices



SWC lead a group of 80 female students from across local High Schools in attending the **Inspiring Women** event in Liverpool CBD with a total of 200 participants. By introducing young people to successful women working in different roles and industries, the aim is to enhance understanding of the breadth of career opportunities available, challenge gendered stereotypes about occupations and give young people the chance to ask questions and make connections with female role models.

The **Inspiring Apprentices** event introduced 300 students to careers in the construction industry. This included an array of employers ranging from traditional trades like plumber and electrician through to innovative engineering roles that project manage large multi billion dollar projects like the Metro Rail line. Both these events involved a panel discussion followed by a career speed networking session. There was also an expo component allowing participants to speak with and collect information from stall holders.

Youth Action : What's Up West

SWC lead a group of 30 students to attend the **What's Up West** Youth Convention in Parramatta CBD. The theme 'OUR TIME IS NOW!' looked at ways to empower young people, exploring the connections, diversity and livability of Western Sydney.

Throughout the 2 days, students participated in interactive sessions and learning life skills in practical groups and were able to:

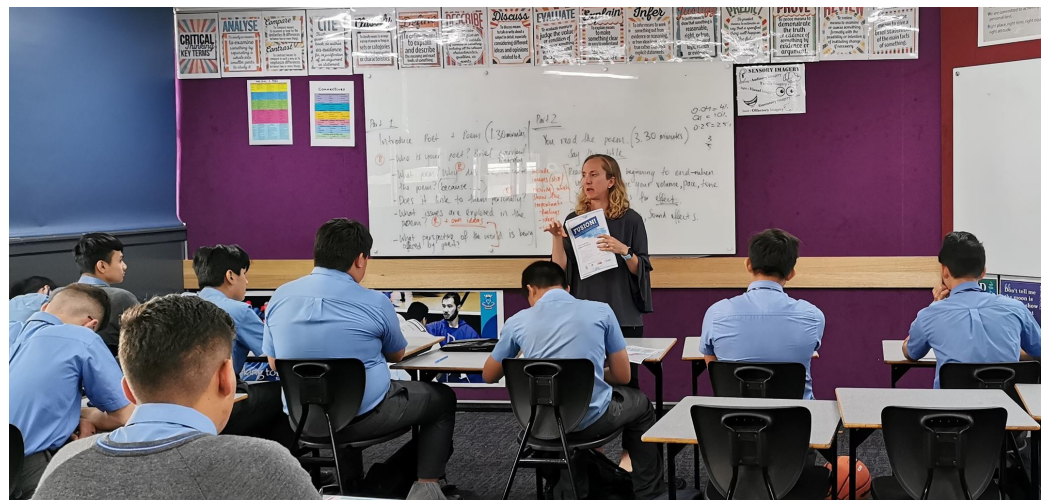
- Hear directly from inspirational young leaders who saw a need in the world and acted on that
- Learn how to advocate for what they believe in and get skilled-up to create change in their own community and the world
- Find out about volunteering opportunities to make a real, lasting difference in the community
- Learn real-life practical skills like managing your cash and taking care of your medical records and so much more



Future Ready & Transition Ready (Speed Networking & Mentoring Session)

(In the Future Links Future Ready Tour) I got to see what I could be when I'm older.

- Jordan



SWC partnered with Patrician Brothers' College Fairfield (PBC) to mentor year 6 primary school students transitioning to high school from Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School (OLR), with a total of 120 participants. PBC students had the opportunity to develop their leadership and communication skills by mentoring OLR students in a speed networking event. By sharing their strategies for a successful transition to high school, the High School students were able to reflect on the same skills (communication, teamwork, problem solving etc) that would help them make a successful transition to the workplace.



This program is an amazing opportunity for students to gain confidence and learn life skills necessary for their future. Before the workshop, one of my students did not have the confidence to speak comfortably around other people. After the program, I noticed she was confidently demonstrating leadership and public speaking skills around others.

- High School Teacher