



STUDENTS ENJOYING AMBITION PLUS ACTIVITIES AT FAIRFIELD RSL

## COLLABORATION WITH RIEP: READY ARRIVE WORK

(Regional Industry Education Partnership)



Education

Since 2006, SWC has been in a productive partnership with the NSW Department of Education (DoE), facilitating over 77,000 student work placements. Collaborating closely with Business & Industry, SWC plays a pivotal role in aiding young individuals in their transition to the workforce.

One of our key initiatives, the RIEP is designed to bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world industry requirements. RIEP enables students to acquire job-relevant skills by integrating school learning with workplace demands.

Additionally, the Department of Education's Ready Arrive Work (RAW) initiative recently organized a career expo at Fairfield RSL. This event was part of their ongoing efforts to assist refugee students in our region.

Targeting recent refugees, the RAW program focuses on enhancing employability skills and providing insights into the dynamic Australian job market. The expo, attended by students from various Western Sydney high schools, featured inspiring talks from successful professionals who were once in similar situations, including Shaun Christie-David, the owner of establishments like Colombo Social.

SWC supported this valuable initiative by inviting our network of host employers and organizations to participate in the expo. Our presence at the event underscores our commitment to such impactful programs, contributing to the development and empowerment of the youth in our communities.

## EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS PROGRAM



Education

SWC has been involved with the EPP since the pilot launched in late 2019, our focus includes two main programs: the "EDGE for Work" workshops and the **Careers Immersion Teams (CIT)**. In collaboration with CIT Head Teachers, (Joyce Choucair and Olga Gromof, now Nicholas Chambour) SWC is dedicated to forging strong industry connections and creating synergies, particularly within the Liverpool and Cowpasture clusters. This collaboration aims to offer students valuable insights and opportunities in their career development journey. CIT Head Teachers have been instrumental in organising EPP students to attend many SWC events including the SWC VET Summit and Ambition PLUS.

Previously called the EDGE for Work sessions, and now renamed **Job Readiness Workshops**, delivered by EY (an international professional services firm) is now the sole service provider tasked with conducting these workshops across all 148 EPP schools in NSW.

The workshops are designed to offer students practical advice and inspiration for their first job and to encourage exploration of vocational career options. These sessions aim to familiarise students with the workplace through engaging, hands-on activities. Conducted in schools, they cover a range of topics from interview preparation to grooming and dressing for success.

“The Educational Pathway Program (EPP) has been the greatest support we, as a school, have had in addressing the changing climate of our school, especially through their expert staff who come to school to help out. We have an increasing number of students who do not want to go to university; so EPP has helped us to provide VET exploration opportunities for students and parent, work-ready programs, and has really improved our community's understanding of job opportunities.

**Annie Chehade, Careers Adviser,  
Bossley Park High School**”