FACT SHEET - MY EDUCATION
Career and life planning in Tasmanian Government schools

"Are you the parent or carer of a student starting Year 10 in 2015?"

What changes are being made to careers education?

The Department of Education is expanding the delivery of careers education for students from 2015. The introduction of My Education will see career and life planning provided in every year of schooling – from Kindergarten to Year 12. Year 10 students in 2015 will be the first group to have the opportunity to receive three years of support as they plan for their future.

By 2017, My Education will be taught as part of the curriculum for all students. This new approach will ensure students develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that they need to plan and make good choices for their future over a longer period, helping them to feel more confident and prepared to make these key decisions.

We want to build My Education to best meet the needs of our students and the Tasmanian community and will be listening to principals, teachers, parents, students, education and training providers, business and the wider community.

Why are we making this change?

Young people today may have up to 15 different jobs or careers in their lifetime, which will require a range of skills and knowledge.¹

The skills and knowledge needed to plan and make decisions for work, life and learning are now just as important as technical skills and qualifications. These skills include communication, problem solving and team work, and personal qualities like adaptability, resilience and enthusiasm and openness to new ideas.²

There is evidence that career development is most meaningful when it begins early, is taught at school, uses technology and involves parents, the community, business and industry.³

¹ McEECDYA, 2010 The Australian Blueprint for Career Development
² McEECDYA, 2010 The Australian Blueprint for Career Development

Department of Education
Will Year 10 students still have a pathway plan?

Yes. Every Year 10 student in 2015 will be supported to develop a pathway plan and make decisions about their post-Year 10 pathways that reflect their skills, interests and ambitions. This will include career awareness programs and advice about appropriate subject choices for Year 11 and beyond.

If your child requires additional assistance to explore and access post-Year 10 pathways, your local school will provide a range of supports and will work with you, and your child, to best meet your child’s needs.

What opportunities will Year 10 students have to prepare for their future?

As well as a pathway plan, your child will have additional opportunities to prepare for their future through school subjects.

Work Studies has been developed as part of the Australian Curriculum as a response to key work-related issues young people are facing today and in the future. In 2015, schools will use Work Studies as a resource to give your child the opportunity to develop work readiness skills, participate in vocational learning and develop the skills to gain and keep a job. Work Studies can be adapted by teachers to reflect your child’s aspirations and interests and local circumstances.

Work Studies aims to ensure that your child develops:

- Knowledge of the world of work and the importance of lifelong learning
- Capacity to manage their career and change and transitions in an uncertain and changing future
- Literacy, numeracy, ICT and interpersonal skills to work, interact and communicate with others in diverse contexts
- Skills and resilience to meet the demands of present and future learning and work
- Entrepreneurial behaviours.

All Year 10 students will continue to have access to work experience opportunities and career awareness programs as determined by your local school.

Your child will also continue to have access to the myfuture website, which contains information about careers and allows the public to explore careers options. The myfuture website also provides a number of resources for parents and carers. These resources will enable you as a parent or carer to assist your child by exploring their interests, skills and potential careers.

How will career and life planning be a part of teaching and learning across K-12?

By 2017, My Education will be taught as part of the curriculum for every student from Kindergarten to Year 12. My Education recognises the developmental nature of the way young people learn to manage life, learning and work, and provides students with the best chance of success right from the very start.

There are already many opportunities for career related learning to be linked to what is being taught in classrooms. Many teachers already make connections between learning, the world of work and students’ aspirations for their future.
Through *My Education*, teachers will be supported to connect career and life planning to what is taught in school. This includes linking teaching to vital skills such as literacy, numeracy and information and communications technology. Through *My Education*, our young people will gain the vital skills for the 21st century which are needed to navigate the rapidly changing world of work.

*My Education* focusses on each individual and their strengths, interests and aspirations. As students’ progress from Kindergarten to Year 12, they will consider the following questions:

- Who am I?
- What are my opportunities?
- What do I want to achieve?
- What is my plan for achieving my goals?

An online career development tool will also be available to support teachers and students, so that students can see how what they learn is connected to the world of work and keep a record of their growth from Kindergarten to Year 12 and beyond.

**How can parents or carers help students plan for their future?**

The work environment that young people will enter into is likely to be vastly different from the experience of their parents.

As a parent or carer you have the biggest influence over your child staying in school, their understanding of the world of work and having a plan for the future.

Talking to your child regularly about what they are learning at school, what they find interesting and what they enjoy is a great way to start talking about their aspirations for their future.

As part of *My Education* there will be a formal invitation for parents, students and teachers to have a conversation at least once each year to discuss how a student’s achievements link with their ambitions and how parents and carers can support their children to achieve their aspirations for the future. We encourage you to regularly talk to your child’s teacher or school principal to discuss your child’s education.

With a clear plan for their future, based on their individual interests and strengths, your child is more likely to have a successful future.

**What opportunities are there for parents and carers to shape *My Education***?

The Department of Education will consult with the Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations (TASSO) about *My Education* and how we can facilitate parent engagement in career education. TASSO represents the parents of children who attend Tasmanian Government Schools.

If you would like to provide feedback about how we can ensure *My Education* best meets the needs of parents and students please contact your local School Association or TASSO.

**Where do I get more information?**

If you would like further information about *My Education* please contact your local school principal or visit [www.education.tas.gov.au](http://www.education.tas.gov.au)