

Palm Beach Currumbin State High School

Palm Beach Currumbin State High School had an established vocational training program in partnership with the Local Community Partnership, however staff sought to strengthen this program by integrating it into the school curriculum for senior students. The program developers hope to have a “whole school program in the end, with enthusiastic community partners participating”.

What did the school do?

A flexible program was established, the school allocating three days to a ‘work readiness program’ and two days to pursuing Certificate II or III level courses or undertaking work experience. The work readiness program was based on Certificate II in Workplace Practices and Phase II and III competencies in areas A and B of the *Blueprint*. Individual counselling sessions, community mentoring sessions and an individual personal development plan (SET plan) were incorporated into the program.

Program design focused on the career management competencies Year 10 students should master at different stages of their educational journey; Area A: Personal Management Competencies (particularly competencies 1 and 2), and Competency 5: Locate and effectively use career information.

The program was also designed to ensure students could develop competencies and gain credit for the study of units of the Certificate II in Workplace Practices. A feature of the program was a mentoring scheme where students partnered with a community or business volunteer; this was the major learning strategy for developing personal management competencies.

How did the *Blueprint* help?

The *Blueprint* proved useful in a number of ways, during the development of this cross-curricula program. The *Blueprint* provided a framework that:

- staff used to enhance the career development culture of the school community through professional development that encouraged teaching staff to develop links between the career management competencies and their specific areas of learning, and
- could be used to evaluate existing resources.

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