

Career Keys

Career Keys offers career services to students making the transition from school to work, accredited training and professional development to the education sector, and assistance to both youth and adults to manage their careers.

The aim of this trial project was to map Career Keys widely used career and transition workbooks against the *Blueprint*. Where gaps were identified the project team intended to further strengthen the resources by developing additional learning materials. By aligning the workbooks with the *Blueprint* via the mapping exercise, the team felt that they would be able to provide better quality resources that maintain professional integrity and fit into a national standard.

What did Career Keys do?

Career Keys partnered with two high schools to evaluate their workbooks against the *Blueprint* alongside their usage with high school students. An initial mapping exercise, using Appendix D: *Career Management Competency and Performance Indicator Checklist by Phase*, was undertaken to determine whether the workbooks were compatible with the *Blueprint*. The competencies and performance indicators were mapped against the workbooks at Phases II and III, and this mapping was then translated into abridged tables that identified the competencies and their corresponding workbook pages.

The team found that the workbook materials did in fact demonstrate good coverage of many of the *Blueprint* competencies and performance indicators.

Was the *Blueprint* helpful?

The Career Keys team recognised that the developmental phases of the *Blueprint* could not be used as a 'one size fits all' model for targeted students, and felt the framework provided them with the ability to articulate the learning outcomes of career development activities. Working with teachers allowed the team to see a 'bigger picture' of how performance indicators translate into classroom activities.

Mapping career resources retrospectively was also helpful, providing something tangible and 'hands on' that people can use to understand the *Blueprint* and how it relates to what they already do.

The *Blueprint* has greatly enhanced the team's ability to build career development in incremental steps and has helped to establish the idea of career as a developmental process.

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