

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP
Acting Premier
Minister for Education
Minister for Mental Health



Thursday, 25 March 2021

LOCAL BUSINESSES RECOGNISED FOR SCHOOL TRAINING PARTNERSHIPS

Local businesses across Victoria that are giving students vital on-the-job experience have been honoured by the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Education James Merlino today celebrated employers from across the state who are providing valuable workplace education for students through programs such as Head Start, school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, Structured Workplace Learning and work experience opportunities.

The importance of school and industry partnerships were recognised at the *Championing Victorian Industry within Schools* event, which honoured businesses and their outstanding achievements in supporting students in 2020.

The event aims to strengthen relationships between schools and industry to provide further opportunities for students across Victoria.

Industry provides an essential and valued contribution to applied learning outcomes for students across VCE, VCAL and VET programs and this event highlights how integral these industry relationships are.

Schools and school partners nominated businesses and employers who supported students and school-based programs in 2020.

The Labor Government is investing in creating the education and training pathways for students to get the skills they need for the jobs they want.

This includes a current investment of \$49.8 million to deliver Head Start Apprentices and Traineeships – a program that supports students to complete their VCE or VCAL over three years alongside paid on-the-job training that leads to a qualification.

As well as a \$38.1 million investment to transform vocational and applied learning in senior secondary schooling, which includes the development of a new single integrated senior secondary certificate.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino

“This is an opportunity to thank these businesses and highlight their achievements in supporting students.”

“The support of local businesses in providing hands-on experience and training for Victorian students has never been more important and we thank and celebrate those employers that support school programs.”

“We are investing in the future of all Victorians through a wide range of vocational programs which are connecting industry with the workforce of tomorrow.”

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