

# Media Release

**The Hon Harriet Shing MP**  
Minister for Water  
Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Equality



Thursday, 8 September 2022

## CONNECTING SCHOOLS TO INDUSTRY REAL WORLD LEARNING

The Andrews Labor Government is continuing to support partnerships between industry and education to ensure the workforce of the future is inspired and engaged.

Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing today visited Traralgon Secondary College to announce the Labor Government's \$228,000 funding investment for the extension of the Broadening Horizons program until June 2023.

Established in 2014, the program is designed to build the aspirations of young people, support increased engagement in learning and school completion rates.

It has been delivered to more than 4,000 students across Gippsland, with Traralgon College a significant supporter of the program since its establishment having more than 1000 of its students take part.

The program is for primary and secondary students and involves working in small groups, on a challenge provided by an industry partner, and over the course of the program the students design and develop possible solutions to present back.

This innovative education model has been designed to provide backbone support through a range of activities including brokering partnerships, onboarding, professional development and initiating activities that schools can embed into their learning models and curriculum.

More than 40 Gippsland industry partners are involved in the program who offer up their time to mentor students, providing them with insights into real world challenges.

There are 21 schools and more than 800 students currently participating in the program across Gippsland from Mallacoota P-12 College to Drouin Secondary, and is now also being delivered in Warrnambool and Ballarat. For more information visit [broadeninghorizons.com.au](http://broadeninghorizons.com.au).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Regional Development Harriet Shing

*"Young people, no matter where they live, deserve equal access to learning opportunities."*

*"Having real-life education experience will ensure people in our regional communities can embrace the emerging jobs and skills challenges of the future."*

### Quote attributable to Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins

*"Extending this program contributes to developing a generation of young Victorians and providing them with the opportunity for real world learning."*

### Quote attributable to Principal Traralgon College John Freyne

*"These partnerships have been hugely successful over a number of years because they provide mutual benefit. Both organisations are better for the Broadening Horizons experience."*

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