

"Influencing youth to seek and embrace opportunity"



Hospitality Food & Beverage students during their Work Placement at VETsteddFOOD (see page 13 for more details)

mwlp
linking youth

A NOTE ON THE 2023 REPORT...

The essence of this annual report is to focus on all who have contributed to the 2023 year. The picture below captures MWLP's mission - 'to engage with others to support youth in their personal and career ambitions, to become effective contributors to society'.

The team at MWLP look forward to continuing to hear about the success of all who have engaged with us in their development.

Dr David M Williams AM & the MWLP Team

2022 MWLP Student Work Placement Awards Night Finalists and Winners





OUR MISSION

MWLP is a not-for-profit organisation focused on engaging a community of stakeholders to support youth in their personal and professional career development.

OUR REGION

Servicing the greater Macarthur, Canterbury, Bankstown and Inner West Sydney region.

Proud member of the



An association of 16 NSW work placement service providers





ABOUT US

MWLP is a not-for-profit organisation focused on engaging a community of stakeholders to support youth in their personal and professional career development.

MWLP assists young people make the successful transition from school to work. We do this by connecting the incredibly important space between schools and the wider world, including business, industry, training organisations, parents and families, three tiers of Government and the broader community. Our work focuses on preparing young people for the world of work, nurturing aspiration, career management and entrepreneurialism, whilst simultaneously addressing the ongoing needs of business.

Our primary program places up to 6,500 HSC students into the workforce for weeklong Work Placements across the three Education Sectors: Government, Catholic, and Independent Schools. Key funding is made available from the NSW Department of Education. These students are undertaking Vocational Education Training (VET) courses such as Automotive, Business Services, Construction, Electrotechnology, Entertainment Industry, Financial Services, Hospitality - Food & Beverage, Hospitality - Kitchen Operations, Human Services, Information & Digital Technology, Manufacturing & Engineering, Primary Industries, Retail Services, Tourism, Travel & Events and numerous Board Endorsed Courses.



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OUR TEAM

Dr David M Williams AM Chief Executive Officer
Michael Everett Operations Manager
Deanne Martin Business Administrator
Dr Greg Kerr ELA Project Coordinator
Jenni Harrington Marketing & Events Coordinator
Nicole McGee Manager, Work Placement
Chantal Allen Work Placement Coordinator
Courtney Barnes Work Placement Coordinator
Nicole Chesworth Work Placement Coordinator, TAFE

OUR BOARD

Shelley Bullock Chief Executive Officer, My Gateway (Chair)
Jon Prior GM Field Operations, Apprenticeship Support Australia (Deputy Chair)
Lyn Kenny Career Learning Coordinator, NSW Department of Education
Brad Mitchell Principal, Oran Park High School
Maria Pedavoli Education Officer, Sydney Catholic Schools





Shelley Bullock
Chair

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) continued to be the focus and core activity. The funding body issued an extension of the existing contract carrying it through till 31st December 2025.

Whilst the team put efforts into developing and implementing self-funded activities to build financial sustainability and growth plans. They maintained our true mission of 'Linking Youth' to quality employment, careers, and opportunities.

SWL is funded by the Government, Catholic and Independent schools administered by the NSW Department of Education. During 2023, MWLP supported 94 schools and placed 4734 students into Work Placements across 33 VET frameworks. This is a testament to the ongoing commitment and work carried out by the team.

2023 seen the exciting introduction of the Entry Level Academy offering students an opportunity to participate in learning to assist them in transitioning from school into full employment. Students will participate in a specifically designed four stage programs. The program has achieved some wonderful outcomes for students being successful in gaining traineeships in the local area.

The staff have continued to deliver an innovative and professional services across the regions. Creating hands on opportunities for students to undertake. The board and I would like to thank the team for the hard work and dedication.

Directors, all of which donate their time, skills, and expertise to ensure a professional and highly desirable service is delivered. Thank you for your ongoing commitment.

I look forward to 2024 and the opportunities it creates to deliver SWL and activities linking youth to employment.

Shelley Bullock
Chair

CEO'S REPORT

2023 has seen a return to reality and normality post the unfortunate challenges of COVID.

“Today will be the past tomorrow, and tomorrow will be the past of the following day”. Looking ahead, MWLP aims at making each day a positive past that strengthens our future.

MWLP exists to influence youth to seek and embrace opportunity. The medium for this purpose has been through a contractual relationship with the NSW Department of Education in delivering work placement for years 11 and 12 students studying vocational subjects. This activity has become the catalyst for a range of related youth support services.

MWLP now supports 94 Schools and TAFEs within our footprint. As reported in this document, the team completed close to 5000 placements across 33 separate frameworks. The number of host employers now stands at 462 of which 171 new hosts of were recruited throughout the year. Our client base of schools include Department, Catholic and Independents.

Other activities throughout the year included the delivery of Work Readiness Programs which supports the preparation of students for their work placement. A new presentation developed by the ‘Youth Futures Network’ (the peak body of work placement providers) is now being utilised.

MWLP received funding from Training Services NSW and DESE (Federal funding) to deliver the ‘Entry Level Academy’, designed to assist students who have a preference to transition into meaningful practical work. Some 80 plus students have undertaken the program, with some great outcomes.

The ever-successful VETsteddFOOD provided a unique opportunity for students to undertake their work placement in a real-world setting. The vent has attracted some 390 guests from seniors groups. The creation of events such as VETsteddFOOD, evolved from the need to facilitate other work placement opportunities when there has been a shortage of hosts. Activities have included, Nappy and Underwear Drives for the Salvation Army, and Information and Digital Technology Hub and an Entertainment Hub.



Dr David M Williams AM
CEO

CEO'S REPORT

The MWLP Team have willingly supported allied projects and events. The annual VET in Schools Forum organised and delivered by the Teachers Guild and MWLP was a great success with many representatives from education, industry, and business present. MWLP will be co-hosting the event again in July of 2024.

Our Student Work Placement Awards were held in March 2023, and as usual it was a fantastic evening recognising the achievements of students in all frameworks. The students successes were highly acclaimed but can only be achieved through the genuine hosting provided by our many supporters from industry, commerce, and government. Our hosts give of their time, resources, and expertise providing gold experiences to students.

We were informed during the year that our current work placement contract with NSW Department of Education would be extended another two years to December 2025. This now provides MWLP with the opportunity for the team and Board to focus more intently on our direction and delivery. There are several new initiatives in the pipeline extending our capabilities.

2023 has been a successful year for MWLP. I wish to thank the MWLP team for their diligence and focus on the relationships they have built and maintained with all schools, students, and hosts. To the Board of MWLP, thank you all for your guidance and interest you display in guiding the organisation's direction and future.

Let us all through our efforts make each day a great day, so that tomorrow has the capacity to be even better.

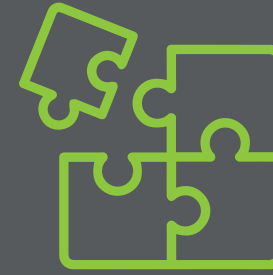
Dr David M Williams AM
CEO



MWLP staff with Greg Warren MP, Member for Campbelltown

WORK PLACEMENT STATS

Work Placement is a limited period during which students work within an environment aligned to their vocational studies.



94

SCHOOLS & TAFE NSW

Increased by 21 since 2020

4734

STUDENTS PLACED

Completed placements
1262 arranged by not placed

33

VOCATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

ICF - 13
BEC - 10
Launch Pad - 10

462

HOST EMPLOYERS

171 new hosts
291 returning hosts



WORK PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Service Region D

DoE Estimate	Anticipated Placements	July 1, 2023	December 2023
7468	6377	2340	4734
AIS Totals :	317	86	247
CEC Totals :	2087	786	1538
DoE Totals :	3473	1312	2642
TAFE Totals :	500	156	307

Total placements actually carried out in 2023 vs Department Estimates, Anticipated Placements (School Requests) and Actual Placements .



WORK READINESS

Students undertaking a VET course must demonstrate an appropriate level of work readiness prior to accessing and attending a Work Placement. Students must show a positive attitude and a level of basic skills and knowledge.

Schools and EVET providers are expected to prepare students in: safety in the workplace, employer expectations and what to do if help is needed during the placement.

Prior to Work Placement, students complete a Go2workplacement module prior to commencing their Work Placement. This is an online course that assists VET students to prepare for Work Placement and the workplace. Students receive a Work Placement ready certificate on course completion.

MWLP facilitate and deliver Work Readiness presentations to all Schools and EVET Providers to assist students in the preparation of getting “work ready”. Our Work Placement presentation consists of information on Work Placement, employer expectations, legal requirements, dress requirements and student’s behaviour whilst on placement.

Additionally, MWLP conducts Work Placement readiness talks at Career Days and Subject Selection Nights at schools to inform Parents/Carers of the expectations for students whilst undertaking a VET course and Work Placement attendance.



ENTRY LEVEL ACADEMY

Our Entry Level Academy (ELA), a program funded by Training Services NSW and the National Priority Fund, is designed specifically to assist those students at school who have a preference to transition into meaningful and practical work. In 2023, the program was delivered to 81 students from the following 6 schools : Camden High School, Elderslie High School, Elizabeth Macarthur High School, John Therry Catholic College, Mount Annan High School and Oran Park High School.



WEEK 1

Orientation & Induction - two full days at the MWLP training room



WEEK 2

Work Readiness - three full days at the MWLP training room



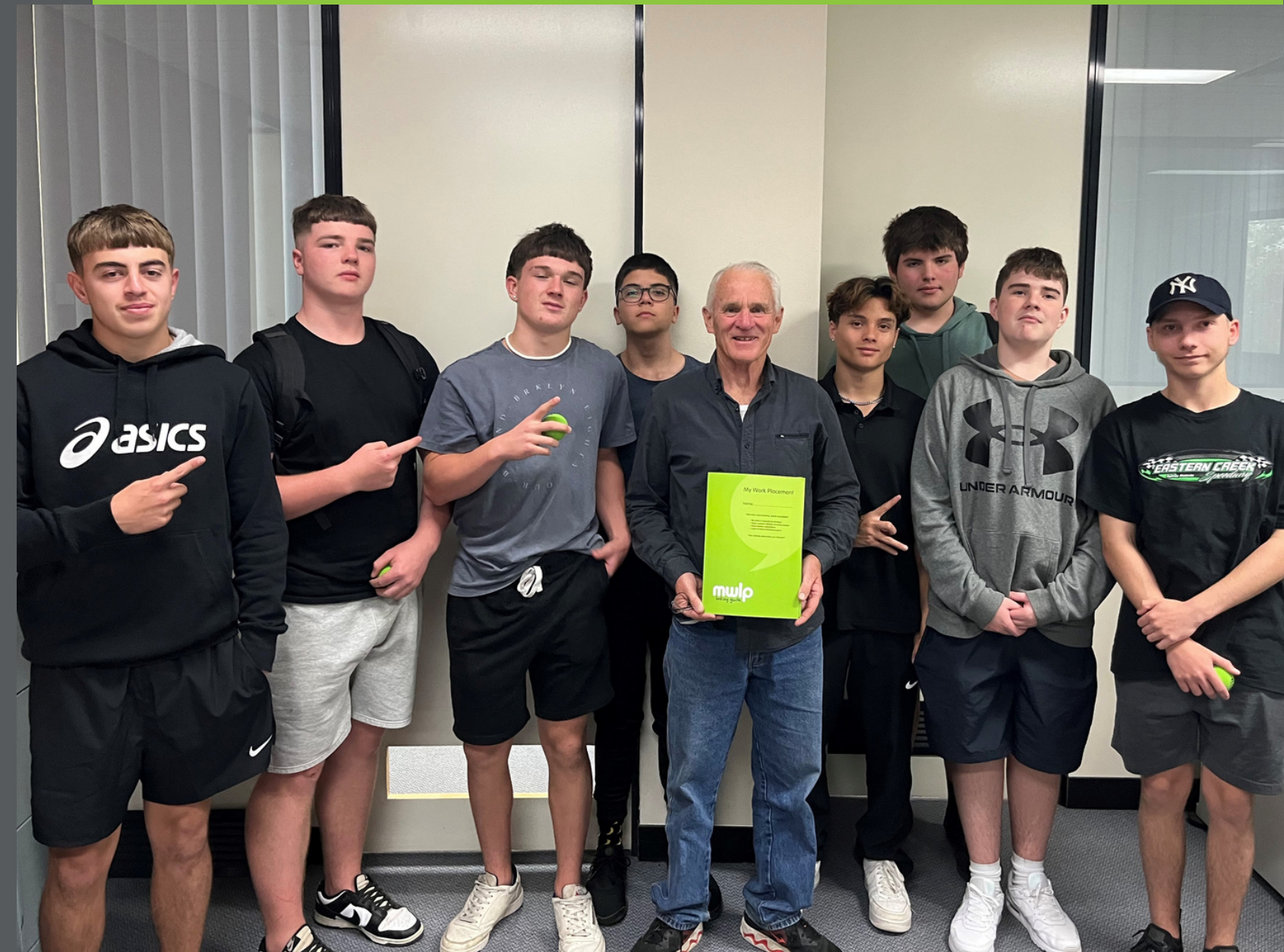
WEEK 3

Work Experience - one full week of work experience arranged by MWLP with a host employer



WEEK 4

Reflection & Refinement - one full day at the MWLP training room



STUDENT WORK PLACEMENT AWARDS NIGHT

The highlight of our year is the recognition of students that have gone over and above in their allocated Work Placement.

Nominated by our host employers, students from all frameworks are recognised for their commitment and industrious actions during their Work Placement. The Awards Night is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the students and the generosity of the host employers.

Eli Uluibau from Campbelltown Performing Arts High School was our Student of the Year for 2022.

Overall 70 students were nominated for a Work Placement Award across 15 frameworks. The winners for each framework were:

Automotive	Semi Ropeti	TAFE NSW - Campbelltown Campus
Beauty Services	Ruby Linnegar	Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College
Business Services	Jade Jeffress	St Patrick's College Campbelltown
Construction	Dominik Kuk	St Francis Catholic College
Electrotechnology	Placido Galtieri	La Salle Catholic College
Entertainment	Yvette Paci	Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College
Fitness	Kohan Prenter	St Gregory's College
Hospitality - Food & Beverage	Breanna Hodgetts	Picnic Point High School
Hospitality - Kitchen Operations	Paige Kalipciyan	Meriden School
Human Services	Emma Jones	Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College
Information & Digital Technology	Onon Amgalan	Campbelltown Performing Arts High School
Manufacturing & Engineering	Ema Tuipala	Airds High School
Primary Industries	James Hackett	Elizabeth Macarthur High School
Retail Services	Aayah Wehbe	Birrong Girls High School
Sport Coaching	Eli Uluibau	Campbelltown Performing Arts High School



ELI ULUIBAU
STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Award presented by Shelley Bullock, MWLP Chair

VETSTEDDFOOD

Hosted by MWLP and funded by Camden Council, VETsteddFOOD once again provided a unique opportunity for students to undertake their work placement in a real-world setting. Hospitality students cooked and served a 2 course meal to guests from local aged care facilities and community groups while Entertainment students managed on-stage performances from local primary and high school students. 5 shows were held at Julia Reserve Community Centre in Oran Park across 4 days.



22

STUDENTS PLACED

8 for Hospitality, Food & Beverage
5 for Hospitality, Kitchen Ops
9 for Entertainment



165

STUDENT PERFORMERS

76 primary school performers
89 high school performers



390

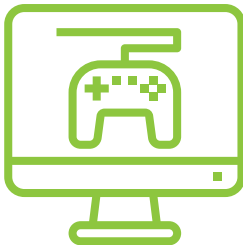
ATTENDEES

From local seniors groups, retirement villages and aged care facilities as well as parents of performers.



OTHER EVENTS

During the year MWLP joined forces with some amazing businesses to provide unique work placement experiences.



ID&T GAME DESIGN VIRTUAL PLACEMENTS

Information & Digital Technology (Game Design) students took part in a virtual work placement with The Mobile Apps Man. 28 students took part in 2023, creating assets for use in a new holographic crime scene training and assessment tool called Forensic XR. This app is currently being trialled by the Murdoch University to give students the chance to virtually walk through a crime scene.



AWS - GIRLS TECH DAY

Hosted by Amazon Web Services, the aim of the Girls Tech Day program is to educate, inspire and empower girls and young women to pursue careers in technology. MWLP spent 3 days onsite with some of our Robotics work placement students prepping for the event, taking part in a workshop on programming Imagicharms and assisting at various activity stations on the day.



OTHER EVENTS

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INFORMATION & DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY HUB

In November, we hosted 10 Information & Digital Technology students at our office for an ID&T hub. Students spent a couple of days updating and packaging up donated computers to be sent overseas with the Computers for Zim charity. They also spent some time building websites on a topic of their choice and then presented them to our team.

Later in the week we took the students out to Carrington, a local aged care facility, where they spent time helping residents with technical problems such as email issues, how to set up and use the Kayo app on a smart TV and even how to turn the communal computer on to use the internet.

The feedback from the residents and the students was amazing - we plan on running this type of hub again in 2024.



ENTERTAINMENT HUB

To fulfil a need for more entertainment placements in the Macarthur area, we hosted our own Entertainment hub. 4 students from Camden HS and Campbelltown Performing Arts HS spent the week with us working on a special entertainment project which we hope to get up and running in 2024.

We took them on site visits at Narellan Library Recording studio and Julia Reserve Community Centre where they chatted with Artist Manager Isaac Lewis about the entertainment industry and career pathways. They also undertook an industry tour at 32 Hundred Lighting's head office and warehouse.

OTHER EVENTS

The Teachers / VET Coordinators we work with play a vital role in ensuring the success of our Work Placements. Throughout the year we held various meetings to provide our teachers with updates on the Work Placement Program and our new Entry Level Academy Program. These meetings also allow us the chance to receive valuable feedback to help improve our programs.



REFERENCE GROUP MEETINGS

During the year we held 3 Reference Group meetings for our VET Coordinators and teacher. In person meetings were held in June at Revesby Workers' Club and Menangle Country Club. In November we held our first virtual Reference Group which was well received and saw our largest attendance at this meeting since covid.



ENTRY LEVEL ACADEMY PROGRAM EVENTS

Our first ELA meeting was to launch the new program format and was very successful. We saw an increase in participants in the program from schools that attended as a result of this launch.

The second ELA meeting featured special guest speaker Greg Warren MP, who provided some valuable information to the attendees about youth and education in the Macarthur region.

WORK PLACEMENT UPDATE

MWLP's contract with Dept. of Education has been extended for another 2 years.

Term 1 : 570 placements – 201 cancellations

Term 2 : 1849 placements – 454 cancellations

Term 3 : 1230 placements – 351 cancellations

Term 4 : 1133 placements – 245 cancellations
(placements still ongoing)

Totals YTD : 4782 placements – 1251 cancellations

Arranged not placed – 2040 placements offered and not taken up this does not include FCFS offers



MWLP STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Check out some of the things our staff got up to in 2023.



STAFF CHANGES

Greg Kerr joined the team as the Project Coordinator for the Entry Level Academy.

We said goodbye to Industry Engagement Officer Jeanette.



WP DEVELOPMENT

Staff from MWLP attended the 2 day conference along with other members from the Youth Futures Network to discuss all things Work Placement.



CHANTAL'S WEDDING

Our WP Coordinator Chantal married the love of her life Robert in a beautiful ceremony on the NSW Mid-North Coast.



OUT & ABOUT

Kids of Macarthur Charity luncheons
Local Award Nights
Career Expos
Team lunches & birthdays
Christmas Party Painting Session



PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

MWLP would like to thank our partners and supporters, and of course our all fantastic Industry Host Employers - without you our Work Placement program and other events wouldn't be successful.



Education



2024 & BEYOND

Our plan for 2024 and beyond, is to continue to build on our current programs, whilst developing new and innovative ways to engage students and the community.

December 2025 will see the end of our current contract with the NSW Department of Education for Work Placement. At MWLP we don't focus on endings but continue to seek new beginnings.

We have several innovative ideas on the go. An innovation is about a new method, idea, product, service etc. Our market is youth, and the pipeline is strong.

MWLP is pleased with what we have done but are more than eager to do better! DMW

