Career Conversations with Your Young Person

With the 2018 annual Macarthur Careers Expo approaching now is a great time to sit with your young person and discuss pre and post school career options with them.

The Macarthur Careers Expo will provide students with the opportunity to engage with over 100 exhibitors including Universities, TAFE, Private Colleges, Apprenticeship Centres, Local Employers and much more. Students will be provided with the latest information and resources available to assist them with their career choices.

Making decisions around post school options can be a daunting and confusing time for all parties involved.
Research suggests that parents/ carers occupy a unique and critical place in the successful transitioning of their young person. Your involvement and support will ensure they make informed choices.

So where to start! Below are a few helpful tips to assist you when discussing careers with your young person;

- Do some research; be aware of latest career trends and labour market information before you start chatting to your young person.
- Listen to different opinions/points of view about what the job is like, what the chances are of getting into that job, but do your own research too – it might be different for your young person
- Work with your young person to plan goals. Explore subjects they are interested in, listen to their ideas and try to avoid judgement. By exploring options with them you are teaching them how to make good informed choices.
- Utilise career quizzes, they are a great way to start exploring careers and setting goals.
- Encourage career exploration, jump on the net or attend career open days. Exposure is critical in the career planning process. You can visit www.macarthurcareers.com.au for resources
- Talk to your young person about your career and work experiences. Be aware of your views and opinions regarding work. They are greatly influenced by your feelings.

Before the Careers Expo encourage and remind your young person that the event is a great opportunity to talk to the exhibitors and ask questions. The exhibitors are there to help and they want to talk with young people. Your child's Careers Advisor will also be available on the day to assist and direct them when needed.

After the Expo debrief with your young person; talk about who was there, what information they collected and what interested them. Information about Exhibitors will be on the Expo website www.macarthurcareers.com.au if you want to follow up with any of them.

Remember as a parent/ carer you are well positioned to be one of the strongest influences in your young person's future. So take the time to have those crucial career conversations.

Please feel free to contact your School Careers Advisor if you have any concerns or questions regarding your young person.

Careers Advisors name