

Planning and Review – A guide for schools

Planning your Year 9 Career Taster Program

The flexibility of the *Year 9 Career Taster Program* (CTP) allows schools to build on and complement their existing career development, and taster opportunities based on students' interest and school capacity. Your program can be as big or as small as required, using a mixture of the curriculum and taster experiences, or just one of these components. **There is no set model.** The focus is on taking students through a process of self-discovery and broad exploration of a diverse range of industries and occupations.

School:				
School CTP leader:				
School type	<input type="checkbox"/> CARE school	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote
Student cohort: (Who is the main target group?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	General Year 9 cohort	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal students
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disengaged students	<input type="checkbox"/>	Students with disability
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Students in care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Culturally and linguistically diverse students
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Students at educational risk		
Cohort considerations: (e.g .student interest, transport, supervision, assistance, language and communication)				
Delivery schedule: • When • Where • How • By whom?				
Self-discovery or pre-visit components and activities. (eg accredited or non-accredited training? Guided career exploration?)				
Exploration activities including taster experiences:				
Action planning components and activities:				

Reviewing your program

What worked well for you? What worked well for your students?	
How did the students demonstrate they were engaged?	
What career insights students able to demonstrate had learnt?	
What would you do differently?	
What other support is needed next time to engage students more?	
Was the structure of the program right for your students?	
<p>Are you planning on providing further career taster opportunities for Year 9 students in 2022?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If yes, what might your program include? • If not, why not? 	
What other activities or content would you include/exclude next time?	
How did you document the events? How might you document the events next time?	
How might you share your learnings with other schools/career practitioners?	

Program structure ideas

A CTP can include one component, or any combination of the taster experiences and curriculum. Programs can be delivered:

- » on set days;
- » as an intensive program, over a term or throughout the school year;
- » as stand-alone lessons; or
- » embedded into the teaching and learning of the curriculum within learning areas.

The curriculum can be delivered:

- » as an accredited VET pathway;
- » in-part or in-full through a non-accredited pathway; or
- » used as a guide for career learning in the classroom.

A number of resources are available to assist schools to plan their program. Visit the Career Taster Portal at careertasterportal.jobsandskills.wa.gov.au for further information.

Tips for designing a program

- » Survey students to find out their current knowledge of career pathways and what industries they might be interested in learning more about.
- » Maximise opportunities for students to see, try and do – make it fun and exciting
- » Use the Career Taster Portal to choose activities that match students' interests.
- » Use the *Course in Early Career Exploration* to give you ideas on how to structure your program.
- » Look for opportunities to work with schools in your area to provide and maximise opportunities.

Pathways for designing a program

1 One-off experience

Based on the results of student surveys, approach local businesses or use the Career Taster Portal to organise excursions to see a workplace in action and hear from an employee or school alumni about their pathway into the industry. This could be a short 1 hour experience, or schools to arrange multiple experiences over one day.

2 Learning area integration

Use the *Course in Early Career Discovery* to integrate career exploration into a learning area (for example: mathematics, science, IT) over a term, semester or year. Organise a taster experience day with the local TAFE college related to the learning area. Take students to an expo, participate in an industry webinar or undertake an industry challenge project. Explore the options for a virtual reality/online activity.

3 On-Country experiences

Schools could arrange an On-country experience using the *Certificate II in Mibila Learning Country* over a two to three day camp. Practical experiences could also be arranged through a ranger program, or schools could work with the local council to set up a project. Use Country Week to explore career exploration activities outside of the region.

4 Intra-school connections

Get students to research future-focused careers/occupations. Students could use the Career Taster Portal to design and plan an in-school mini career expo. This could be an opportunity to work with other local schools that have specialist facilities. Schools could also take turns at hosting a particular type of taster experience. Clustering of students from across several schools to attend one taster experience reduces the administrative burden on individual schools with smaller Year 9 cohorts participating in the CTP.

