



**Congratulations** on being selected to participate in Work Inspiration. You are going to meet new people and visit interesting work places, and you will have the opportunity to learn many new things.

Some of you may already have part-time jobs but for many of you, this will be your first experience of visiting and learning about a workplace and the world of work.

But first the most important thing to learn is that you are an individual. You may enjoy doing the same things as your friends, but as you think about your future it is important to remember that you and your friends have different abilities, strengths, weaknesses, passions and family

backgrounds. Even in a sporting team where everyone loves the sport (for example cricket) there will be those who are better batsmen, bowlers and wicket keepers and there are also those people who just love to watch.

It's the same with your future – you need to know what suits you best and what gives you the best chance for success and being happy.

Your life is full of decisions - what food will I eat? What TV will I watch? Where can I get help with my maths homework? What subjects should I choose for Years 11 and 12?

As you plan for your future career options you will need to make many decisions and some of them will be different to your friends, and sometimes even different to those suggested by your family. To help you make these decisions it is helpful to understand and develop the skills needed in decision making so that you can make informed choices.

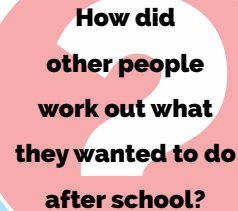
Have you ever asked yourself or thought about the following questions:



**Who is going to help me start my career journey?**




**There are too many career choices ..... how do I decide?**



**How did other people work out what they wanted to do after school?**



**How have other people discovered the career of their dreams?**



**If I don't know what I want to do now, how am I ever going to work it out?**



**Can work really be fun?**



These are just a few questions that may have started to pop into your mind when you think about what you are going to do when you leave school. It doesn't matter if you know exactly what you want to do or if you have absolutely no idea - every student will ask themselves similar questions at some point in their final years at school. Some of your friends might know what they want to do but it is okay if you don't know what you want to do NOW - even discovering what you don't want to do is a step in the right direction.

Choosing a career is not something that will just magically happen ..... no-one else can choose a career for you ..... you have to make it happen for yourself.

Everything changes. You change as you grow and develop and have additional experiences. Your knowledge, skills, interests, even your values and personality can change. The world around you is constantly changing. Just think about the many changes in the world during the relatively short time between starting high school and now - even technology has changed and will keep changing.

Because everything changes, your way of looking at yourself and at the world around you changes. You cannot expect that the decisions you make now will be appropriate

throughout your life. Being flexible and willing to adapt to new circumstances is an essential attitude and skill.

At Work Inspiration you will learn many things about yourself, about actual job opportunities in a workplace and through career conversations with the workplace employees, you will learn about their career journey - how they started and how they got into their current job and maybe what their future plans are.

You will have the chance to reflect on these conversations and consider what you might learn from them.

Your Work Inspiration Hosts have planned a range of activities that will help you to learn about yourself and their workplace and about employability skills (general skills which will help you to get most jobs). These skills include: communication, teamwork, problem solving, initiative and enterprise, planning and

organising, self-management, learning and technology. You already have many of these skills.

Your Work Inspiration Hosts expectations of you are for you to:

- **Be punctual** - otherwise you may miss the bus or they may start without you (demonstrating self-management and planning)
- **Be well presented** in your school uniform (or as advised by your school) as you will be visiting their workplace (demonstrating self-management)
- **Listen and pay attention** (demonstrating communication skills)
- **Participate in discussions** sometimes in teams (demonstrating initiative, communication and teamwork)
- **Enjoy** the activity and learn.

Congratulations,  
your Work Inspiration  
journey starts here

Founding partners:

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Resource

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