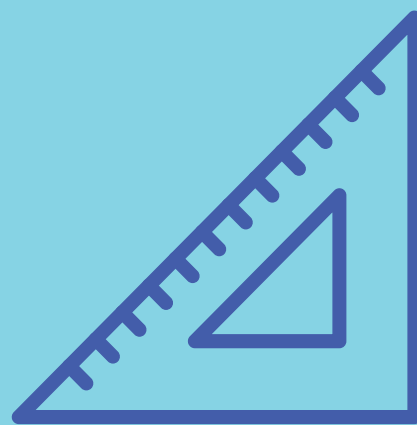
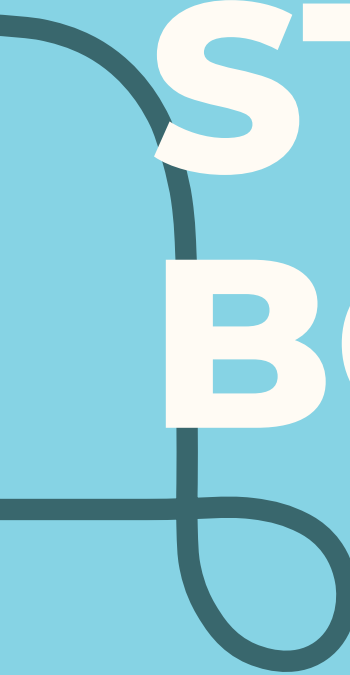




CAREERS XPO STUDENT BOOKLET



2026





Canberra CareersXpo

5 + 6 AUGUST 2026

Exhibition Park, Canberra

- ✓ Open to all college, high school & tertiary students, parents and career changers.
- ✓ Discover hundreds of career options and study pathways.
- ✓ Get help in Career Planning and check out exhibitors who are looking for you.
- ✓ We have over 120 local and national exhibitors including universities, businesses, career placement organisations and a range of hands-on experiences in our exhibition spaces, all at the same venue.

OPEN TIMES

Wednesday

5 August 2026

9am to 2:30pm

Thursday

6 August 2026

9am to 2:30pm



Check out the
Virtual Expo Hall

Visit our website for more
information and while
you're there check out the
'Info for Schools' page.



Student & Parent
Information

careers Xpo

careersxpo.com.au

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ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

All ACT public high schools and colleges have access to Career Tools, which is a career development digital platform. Through Career Tools you will find career resources and activities. In particular, the Career Journeys tool takes you through a series of activities to help you learn and reflect about yourself. This will assist with further career exploration, identifying your needs and preferences and help you make the most from your time at the Canberra CareersXpo where you can source further information about careers pathways you are interested in.

The activities we recommend in Career Tools to prepare for the CareersXpo are explained on pages 5 and 6. You can pick and choose which activities suit your needs but we encourage you to do each of the modules recommended.

Don't forget to follow up with Virtual Job Experience via Career Tools. You have access to dozens of interactive student experiences across a wide range of industries you can review before you head to the CareersXpo!

Don't worry, if your school doesn't have Career Tools you can use myfuture **www.myfuture.edu.au**. You will need to register for myfuture in order to use it. Myfuture provides publicly available resources to explore career pathways and tools to develop knowledge to help with career decision-making. The activities selected on pages 10 and 11 are recommended to prepare for the CareersXpo.

Have fun exploring and learning more about yourself!



PREPARING FOR THE CAREERSXPO

CAREER TOOLS

Through Career Journeys you can complete modules that will help identify your strengths, preferences, skillset and what occupations or industries you might like to learn more about.

LEARN ABOUT MYSELF

This module centres around learning more about yourself and your preference. This series of activities investigates who influences you, what your interests, skills, values and hobbies are. You can complete Multiple Intelligence and Myer-Briggs based surveys also, which can be very insightful and you can see how your results might align with future occupations and industries you are interested in.

CAREER EXPLORATION

Understand how work, jobs and careers are different. If you have completed the self-awareness activities within the “Learn about Myself” module you can use the careers target cluster tools to explore how skills correlate to career clusters. Also within this section you can interpret youth labour market information, and investigate the changing nature of work and future occupation trends. Most importantly this section of Career Tools allows you to start making a career plan!

POST SCHOOL OPTIONS AND PLANNING

This is where you will begin to map your options and plans. This module includes information you need to be aware of in regards to options beyond Year 10 such as apprenticeships/ traineeships, employment, college studies and Vocational Education and Training (VET) options. If staying at college, consideration around senior secondary subject selection is included where you can consider what your passion and interests are, and consider future pathways and career ambitions and how they might match up to subject selections. Expos and open days are also mentioned as well as gap year options, scholarships and how you might fund your future studies.

CAREER TARGETS

In addition to the Career Journey activities, the Career Targets can help you identify occupations that link with subjects studied at school that you might be passionate about and enjoy. The hyperlinks provide information around levels of education and training required to find employment via information provided by The Good Universities Guide.



PREPARING FOR THE CAREERSXPO

CAREER COPILOT

WHAT IS CAREER COPILOT?

Career Copilot is an AI-powered feature meticulously designed to revolutionise personalised career discovery and planning. In just 15 minutes, this innovative tool captures a comprehensive understanding of your skills, strengths, job and education preferences, and suggests a tailored action plan to kick-start your career journey.

HOW DO STUDENTS COMPLETE IT?

When you log in to Career Tools you will see the Career Copilot button/tab in the top centre of your dashboard. The quiz takes an average of 7 minutes to complete and provides you with a skills forecast measured against a debate of jobs to explore and consider. You can short list jobs you like and activate a personalised action plan.



PREPARING FOR THE CAREERSXPO

Virtual Work Experience

See what a job is all about without having to set foot in an actual workplace! Complete tasks and activities relevant to specific careers in order to develop and test your skills. You can complete as many job experiences as you like; for each one you finish, you'll earn yourself a certificate of completion that you can add to your resume.

The wide range of virtual work experiences include:

- Food Scientist at *Gelato Messina*
- Head Chef at *Gelato Messina*
- Electronics Technician at *Australian Defence Force - Navy*
- Artillery Team at *Australian Defence Force - Army*
- Marine Technician at *Australian Defence Force - Navy*
- Mission Aircrew at *Australian Defence Force - Air Force*
- Infantry Soldier at *Australian Defence Force - Army*
- Cyber Security Specialist at *Microsoft*
- Software Engineer at *Commonwealth Bank*
- Data Scientist at *Commonwealth Bank*
- Network Engineer at *National Broadband Network (nbn)*
- Electrician at *VERTO*
- Baking Apprentice at *Bakers Delight*
- Early Childhood Teacher at *Department of Education - Victoria*
- Entrepreneur at *Chartered Accountants Australia and NZ*
- Submarine Fabricator at *Tynbell*
- Design Manager at *Construction Pathways*
- Business Banker at *Commonwealth Bank*
- Pipelayer at *Construction Pathways*
- Early Childhood Teacher at *Department of Education (VIC)*

year13.com.au/virtual-job-experience

PREPARING FOR THE CAREERSXPO

MYFUTURE

Like Career Tools, myfuture enables you to start your own Career Profile and learn more about yourself.

MY CAREER PROFILE

This is where you can build a profile by completing activities that look at your preferences, and explore related pathways. This is an ideal place to start in discovering more about yourself. Within this section activities focus on:

- Interests
- Skills
- Education and Training
- Study
- Work conditions
- Values
- Career knowledge
- Entrepreneurship
- Dream job

[My career profile | myfuture](#)

OCCUPATIONS & INDUSTRIES

Within the occupation spotlight and industries section you will gain valuable insights into employment opportunities, industry prospects and the top 10 occupation areas you are interested in.

Once you have shortlisted industries of interest you can look in more detail at particular occupations of interest. There are videos to watch to help you further gain understanding of areas of interest by:

- Learning area
- Career stories
- Skills shortage occupations

Individual occupation links will give you further information regarding weekly pay, skill level, future growth, labour market information and related industry association and helpful websites.

<https://myfuture.edu.au/occupation-spotlight>

www.myfuture.edu.au/industries



PREPARING FOR THE CAREERSXPO

COURSES

Once you have narrowed down an occupation of interest you can investigate courses that might be available within this section including finding qualifications by study field and qualification level.

www.myfuture.edu.au/courses

CAREER BULLSEYES

Have you considered what subject areas you enjoy? How could this relate to an industry or occupation you might enjoy or want to learn more about? Career interactive bullseyes allow you to seek out information according to subject area interest, and then occupations relating to this. Links expand on required training levels and requirements, wage, main tasks and job descriptions. This is a great place to start if you are unsure of what you might do next!

www.myfuture.edu.au/bullseyes

Asking questions and listening to different people speaking about jobs and training options will help you to decide on future career goals. The CareersXpo is ideal for this!

Researching the CareersXpo exhibitors and planning out your day using the floor plan will help you get the most out of the attending the CareersXpo. Once you have narrowed down who you want to speak to, you can use the questions below as a guide.

We have broken down some questions for you to consider at different points in time:

- Questions for **BEFORE** you go to the CareersXpo*
- Questions for **DURING** the CareersXpo*
- Questions for **AFTER** the CareersXpo*

** These questions have been informed by the Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA) 2023, which has lots of resources that can provide further guidance.*

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CAREERS ADVISOR:

It is useful to follow up your CareersXpo visit with an appointment with your Careers Advisor. They will be able to discuss your personal circumstances, ideas and help you formulate a plan towards your career goals. Some questions you can ask them include:

1. I am interested in pursuing a career in Are the subjects I am currently taking setting me up to have a good pathway to my career goals?
2. I have to pick my courses for college, is my level of Maths and English appropriate for what I hope to undertake after college?
3. I am interested in studying Can you discuss which qualifications might be available in the local area?
4. I would like an ATAR estimate, and then I would like to discuss whether I am on track for entry into my preferred degree.
5. My studies are going well, what else can I do to make sure I am best placed to kick start my career journey?
6. Can you help me apply for some work experience?
7. I am not doing a Tertiary Package but am interested in going to university. Can you talk to me about alternative pathways into university?
8. Does the industry I am interested in prefer vocational qualifications or do I need to go to university?



QUESTIONS FOR EXHIBITORS:

You might want to start your conversation with “Hi, my name is Alex and I’m very interested in a career in Carpentry. I would love to ask you a couple of questions please?”
(Adapt to your own personal circumstance of course!)

1. Can you please describe a typical day or typical tasks in your job?
2. Do you work mainly alone or with others?
3. How does your job affect the rest of your daily life?
4. What kind of training or education does a person need for your job?
5. What are the skills needed for your job?
6. What personal qualities does a person need to do well and be successful in your job?
7. What things did you learn in school that help you most in this work?
8. How can hobbies or activities outside of school help prepare me for this line of work?
9. What can I do now to help prepare me for this job?
10. Are the subjects that I am taking or planning to take in college appropriate for further study in this area? Are there prerequisites or assumed knowledge for entry into study beyond college?
11. What opportunities normally exist within your industry?
12. What skills or interests should I have for the job?
13. What do you love about your job?
14. Did you undertake any courses when you left school?
15. What skillset is useful in this job?
16. What don’t you like about your job?
17. Could you offer advice on how to gain a career in your industry?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FAMILY:



It is always useful to ask adults within your family or close circle about their jobs. You could start approaching this by saying “I am heading to the CareersXpo soon and would like to investigate a few career choices I am thinking about. Do you mind if I ask you a few questions about your career journey?”

1. What is your current job?
2. What made you decide to work in this area (chance, parent/family influence, personal interest, salary, first available job, etc.)?
3. What skills and qualifications does a person need to have to do your job?
4. What duties do you have during a typical day?
5. What do you like best about your work?
6. What do you like least about your work?
7. When you were my age did you think you would be working in the job you have today?
8. How many jobs have you had in the past?
9. How has the world of work changed since you first started working?
10. What do you think the future has in store for the industry I am interested in?



ACT
Government



Teach in **Canberra**

Take the first steps towards a rewarding career and consider a future role teaching in Canberra.

You'll receive competitive public school pay and conditions and extensive support via our New Educator Support Program.



**act.gov.au/
TeachinCanberra**

POST CAREERSXPO INFORMATION

So far you have reflected on your skills, interests and attributes and how these might align with career choices in the future. It will be important to evaluate your options and goals after the CareersXpo. You will find some useful links below in regard to additional industry exposure such as Virtual Job Experience on the Career Tools platform. Post school resources will be essential to review if you are nearing the end of your college studies, and of course you will need to have a career plan to help you work out the next steps you need to take to work towards your career aspirations.

CAREER TOOLS

VIRTUAL JOB EXPERIENCE

Once you have narrowed down some industries you are interested in, it is worthwhile to participate in some Virtual Job Experience. If you are a college student attending an ACT school you may even be able to register for R units points. Don't forget to reflect on your thoughts at the end! There are many options you can pick including:

- Forensic Science
- Actor
- Physiotherapy
- Vet nursing
- Nursing
- Policing
- Psychology
- Vet
- Hairdressing
- Engineering
- Law
- Environmental
- Science
- Game Development/Design
- Construction
- Entrepreneur
- Doctor
- Software Developer
- Fitness/Personal training
- Teacher
- Creative industries

www.vje.com.au/

POST SCHOOL OPTIONS

Here is where you can find a heap of information relating to a variety of post school pathways on Career Tools, whether it be local, interstate or overseas options you are considering. You can search and compare courses, gap year information, discover apprenticeship or traineeship options, job possibilities, VET pathways or university information related to the areas you are interested in!

CAREER AND TRANSITION PLANNER

This valuable section will enable you to document what you have done, are doing and plan to do in order to reach your career goals. You can continue to add to, modify and update this plan as you progress through school. Reflecting and actioning steps that need to be taken will keep you on track and support your progress toward your goals and aspirations.



POST CAREERSXPO INFORMATION

MYFUTURE

CAREER STORIES

Myfuture also provides links and videos to 'Career Stories'. These are useful in providing further understanding about occupations and industries that are of interest to you. These real life career stories give you insight into the different pathways people have taken in their chosen careers.

www.myfuture.edu.au/career-stories

OPEN DAYS & POST SCHOOL RESOURCES

Once you have narrowed down areas of career interest, it is important to visit institutions that you are interested in. Representatives can discuss your unique situation and how and when it is best to apply for courses of interest. They will be able to present a range of study options to you. You get to explore the campus and understand whether this might be the best fit for you in your next steps after school.

[Open Days | myfuture](#)

Myfuture also provides valuable information relating to post school resources such as:

- Beyond school study guide
- NDIS and employment goals
- Job seeker resources
- School leaver support resources

www.myfuture.edu.au/assist-others#post-school-resources

CAREER ACTION PLAN

As Myfuture does not have a career planner, action plans for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 can be sent separately to your school. Ask your teacher for a copy when you return to school.

We hope you enjoy your time at the Canberra CareersXpo. Attending the Xpo, together with working through some of the activities above, will assist you in taking steps towards your future career aspirations!

Good luck!



POST XPO SURVEY

Scan the QR code below to complete a survey about your experience attending the 2026 Canberra CareersXpo.



VOLUNTEERINGACT

The QR code below takes you to the VolunteeringACT website. Here you will learn about volunteering opportunities in the ACT.



What is Work Experience (WEX)?

WEX is a short-term, unpaid placement where students can observe different aspects of work within an industry of interest. WEX is a great option to start a student's career pathway.

Scan the QR code to learn more!



What is an Australian School-based Apprenticeship (ASbA)?

An ASbA is a great way for students to learn, work, and get a head start on a possible career. Students will complete subjects at school, undertake paid work, and study a nationally recognised qualification at a Registered Training Organisation (RTO).

Scan the QR to learn more!



EXHIBITORS

To view the complete list of exhibitors in the Exhibition buildings [click here](#) or use the QR code.



FLOOR PLAN

To view the Exhibition floor plans [click here](#) or use the QR code.



STUDENT AND PARENT INFORMATION

To view the student and parent information [click here](#) or use the QR code.





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GAMES, ANIMATION, FILM & VFX

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The Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) is Australia's most awarded game Development, film and visual effects educator.

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aie.edu.au
AIE Canberra, E-Block, 49 Phillip Ave, W

AIE: RTO88021CRICOS 02406FAIE Institute: PRV14333CRIC

Open Day • Sun 16 August

Discover the courses designed to get you started in Game Development, Filmmaking, 3D Animation and Visual Effects at the

AIE Open Day on Sunday 16 August, 2026.

Join us at our Canberra campus to find out how AIE can get you into a creative career!

**Open Day
Next Sunday!**
Scan here to register





START YOUR CAREER IN THE ADF

EVER CONSIDERED WHAT A CAREER IN THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE (ADF) IS LIKE?

The ADF is a modern, people-focused organisation and one of Australia's major employers. With over 300 roles on offer, there's a wide range of specialist military positions, support roles, trades, and professions to choose from all offering world-class training, free healthcare, and a competitive salary.

Plus, you'll make life-long friendships and have a chance to see the world. If you've ever wondered what life in the Navy, Army or Air Force is like, come and talk to us at the ADF Careers stand at the Canberra Careers Expo to find out more.

ADF 
CAREERS

13 19 01
adfcareers.gov.au



DISCOVER A CAREER IN WATER

It takes people with all kinds of skills to keep Canberra's water flowing.

From major infrastructure projects to hands on maintenance, cyber security to customer service, there's a career path here for you.

Chat with us about our traineeships, apprenticeships, graduate program and work experience opportunities.

Water you waiting for?

iconwater.com.au/startmycareer



Health careers

A career in health can be rewarding and varied. From high adrenaline environments to behind-the-scenes support, there is something in health for everyone!



Interested in health? Speak with real health professionals at this year's CareersXpo!



YOUR LEGENDARY CAREER STARTS HERE

Discover a rewarding career with the Australian Federal Police, where you can help defend and protect Australia locally, nationally, and internationally.

Whether you want to work on the frontline or behind the scenes, your work will make a real difference in keeping people safe.

To learn more visit afp.gov.au/jobs or come chat with us at the Xpo.



AFP

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LEGENDARY WORK

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As an ACT Policing officer, you help keep Canberra safe while serving your community. You're paid to train for an active, hands-on career, supported by a team committed to protecting others. With roles in road safety, family violence, investigations and intelligence, ACT Policing offers a diverse, rewarding career where no two days are the same and your work matters.

Come meet us at the Xpo or visit www.police.act.gov.au/careers



ACT
Policing

EVERYDAY PEOPLE
LEGENDARY WORK



Indigenous Employment *Exhibition*

Building a school
culture of respect

Engaging with
students, families
and community

Teaching with
Cultural Integrity

The Indigenous Employment Exhibition is proudly sponsored by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Section of the ACT Education Directorate.



Artwork by Kalara Gilbert.





Are you ready to navigate your career journey with confidence?



In just four short and easy steps, kickstart career exploration and activate your career plan today!

“ I could spend hours on here because there is so many things I have never considered and it's filled with great info”

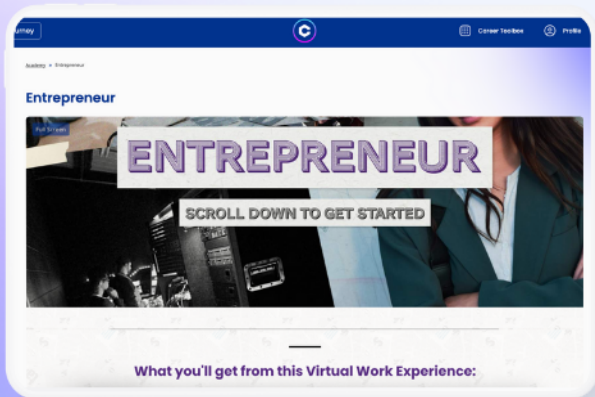
“ I like the fact that they give specific fields of science, rather than just “scientist” so it gives me more choices to think about”

“ I like that it's showing me fashion design and interior design, I've actually seriously thought about doing those in the past and now I would definitely consider them again”





EFFICIENCY EMPOWERS | CONFIDENCE INSPIRES

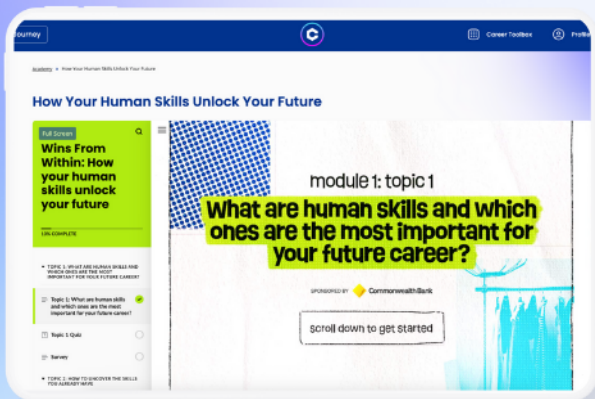


Learn Life Skills

Engaging, bite-sized courses that teach valuable real-world skills. Co-created with experts like Microsoft and KPMG, including AI skilling and financial literacy.

Industry Tasters

High-level overviews of key industries like Defence. Perfect for students exploring career options, with insights into roles, benefits, salaries, and pathways.



Virtual Work Experience

Short, interactive experiences developed with top Aussie employers like Microsoft, CommBank and ADP. Each VWE gives a deeper look into specific roles, with job insights, pathway advice and hands-on activities.



The ACT Government supports the use of Career Tools in ACT schools to enhance career education and planning. Log in to your school's account to access the resources available.



Strategic Partners



Major Partners



Supporting Partners



AFP



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