

Where can I find out more?

If you want more information about the Links to Learning Program please:

- telephone **1800 009 129**
- send an email to: **youthassist@det.nsw.edu.au**
- check out our website at: **www.det.nsw.edu.au/eas/youth/**

If you require an interpreter, first contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on telephone 13 14 50

Project Details

community education and training for young people 12-24 years

LINKS TO LEARNING

Fun + creative activities
Personal support
Career pathways planning
Skills
and its free

Information for young people

www.det.nsw.edu.au/eas/youth/
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What is Links to Learning?

Links to Learning is a creative and practical program for

- young people thinking of leaving school early or
- young people who left school early and are not in education or training

Links to Learning projects help young people to remain in or return to school, or access post-school education or training courses by :

- improving skills in reading, writing and maths
- developing communication and technology skills
- increasing confidence, self-esteem and resilience
- setting education, training and career goals
- developing work skills

Who is it for?

Students - in Years 7-11 at identified NSW government secondary schools, who are thinking of leaving school early.

Early Leavers - young people under 24 years of age who have left school early and are not currently studying.

In some areas, Links to Learning projects operate specifically for young people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent or for young people from a language background other than English.

What would I do in a project?

A Links to Learning activity may cover some of the following topics:

- reading, writing and basic maths
- arts and crafts
- computer, multimedia and video skills
- music and theatre
- photography
- sport and recreation
- study skills
- negotiation and conflict resolution
- cultural awareness
- environmental activities
- life skills
- driver education.

By participating in these activities you can gain a broad range of valuable skills in areas such as:

- communication

- teamwork
- problem solving
- initiative and enterprise
- planning and organising
- self management
- learning
- technology

Throughout the activity, you are also encouraged to think about your 'next step'. Links to Learning coordinators will make sure that you are aware of all the education, training and career options open to you, and provide ongoing individual support, both during and after the project.

How does it work?

Links to Learning activities are provided by local community organisations such as youth services, neighbourhood centres and community groups, adult education centres, community colleges and local councils.

Each project is specially tailored to meet your needs and interests and gives a high level of individual support in an informal environment. Projects offer certificates of achievement, and some offer accredited training. Some activities are also Centrelink-approved.

All projects activities are free of charge.

Participant comments

It's given me a second chance to pick up on the basic things.

You can talk about your problems.

We are allowed to speak our minds and voice our opinions.

It gave me the skills and confidence I needed to make important decisions about my future, like what job I want and how to get it.