



# MEDIA RELEASE

**North Central** LLEN

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## **Pathways to the future of Work**

The North Central LLEN (NCLLEN) is working on a range of initiatives to help inform students, parents, businesses and industry about the changing world of work and how young people can prepare for the future.

Together we can create opportunities for all children and young people to be on their way to success in education, work and life.

NCLLEN Careers and Pathways Manager Jerri Nelson says we have all realised over the last few months how quickly the world can change and how important it is to think not only about the challenges that lie ahead, but also the exciting opportunities for young people and businesses who are prepared to embrace them.

“So we have joined forces with the North Central News on a series of stories that will focus on some of the opportunities that can be created through partnerships with schools, communities, and businesses that are passionate about our communities,” she said.

“The aim of the articles is to inspire families and the community to become more actively involved in supporting students to embrace their education journey and be able to see and understand opportunities that exist, or they might like to create in their community,” said Ms Nelson.

One of the most important partnerships currently in place and available to all year 10-12 students at St Arnaud Secondary College is the ‘Career Education Partnership’ (formerly known as MIPs).

This is a partnership that sees the NCLLEN working collaboratively with nine secondary colleges across the north central region to ensure that each year every student in years 10 – 12 has the opportunity for one to one support in creating a Career Action Plan (CAP), with NCLLEN Staff Member and Careers Professional, Sue Clay supporting students at St Arnaud Secondary College.

According to Ms Clay, the CAP is not about career advisers ‘telling’ students what they should do, but rather supporting students to explore their interests and know how to find information that will help them in understanding the pathways and options they have for the future.

“Students are supported to explore vocational pathways, university pathways and how to prepare for employment after school.”

“Understanding what opportunities will be available beyond school can motivate and inform students and parents when it comes time for subject selections and post school applications for training, higher education, or employment,” she said.

In January this year a small group of business and industry representatives from the automotive and agriculture industry in St Arnaud met with the North Central LLEN to explore how they might be able to support young people to explore local employment and training opportunities: this meeting led to an opportunity to work with St Arnaud Secondary College Northern Grampians Shire and East Wimmera Health Services to co-design a local Careers Expo.

In February, a working group was formed to develop the Expo, where business, industry, apprenticeships and entrepreneurial opportunities could be showcased to students, families and the broader community.

With activities such as this on hold for the foreseeable future – we are keen to make sure some of the important information and opportunities are still showcased and will start this through this series of articles in the coming weeks, so stay tuned.

For more information about the North Central LLEN and the Careers and Pathways Partnership, visit [www.ncllen.org.au](http://www.ncllen.org.au).