Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
Minister for Jobs and Skills
Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy

Tasmanian Government

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 123, Hobart TAS 7001
Phone: +61 3 6165 7770 | Email: Minister.Ellis@dpac.tas.gov.au

Mr Marcus Vermey MP
Member for Clark
Email: haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Vermey

Thank you for raising Josh's question in Parliament on 3 September 2026 about apprenticeship awareness in schools.

It is important that young people understand the full range of options available to them when they are thinking about life after school, including apprenticeships and traineeships.

There is a significant amount of work happening directly in our Tasmanian schools. In 2026, the Department for Education, Children and Young People's (DECYP) Apprenticeships Team has conducted 135 school visits and provided 461 one-on-one consultations with students about apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities.

There are also practical opportunities for students to get a taste of different industries before they leave school. This year, 577 students from 53 schools have taken part in the Keystone-funded White Card Program, while 96 students across eight schools participated in YouthBuild. DECYP has also coordinated 425 work-based learning placements in the construction sector, giving students direct exposure to workplaces and different occupations.

Importantly, some young Tasmanians are already starting their apprenticeship journey while they are at school, with 34 Australian School-based Apprenticeships currently being undertaken in construction-related trades including carpentry, plumbing, electrotechnology, fabrication and bricklaying.

We are also working closely with industry through the Government's High-Vis Army. Organisations including Master Builders Tasmania, the Housing Industry Association, Civil Contractors Federation, NECA and Master Plumbers Tasmania are engaging with schools and promoting the opportunities available across the building and construction sector.

The Tasmanian Building and Construction Careers Expo has attracted more than 800 students each year from more than 30 schools, giving students the chance to speak directly with more than 45 exhibitors about the jobs and careers available in the industry.

More broadly, the Tasmanian Life, Learning and Work Framework is being embedded into career education and transition planning in schools, with a focus on making career support practical, consistent and accessible to young people as their interests and goals develop.

We are also testing new approaches through the Youth Jobs Strategy, including the Incat Demonstration Project, which brings together schools, industry, Jobs Hubs, TasTAFE and the Beacon Foundation to create clearer pathways from school into real jobs.

There is always more we can do to make these pathways visible to young people and their families. Josh is right to highlight the importance of students knowing that an apprenticeship is a genuine pathway into a skilled, rewarding career, and I appreciate him taking the time to raise the issue.

Thank you again for raising Josh's question in Parliament.

Yours faithfully



Felix Ellis MP
Minister for Skills and Jobs
13/10/2026