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YOUTH MINISTRY TRAINEESHIP CATHOLIC COLLEGE WODONGA

Why did you decide to undertake a gap year traineeship? I decided to do a traineeship to give myself job security for my gap year. I knew I would always have a consistent and regular income whilst gaining experience working full time and maintaining structure throughout the year.

What are the great things about your traineeship? I've really enjoyed experiencing what it's like to work full time in a positive environment. CCW is constantly growing and evolving, meaning that most days you're going to be learning something new. I love that about my job. It keeps the work that I'm doing engaging and interesting. I've also loved being able to build relationships with colleagues. In a part time job this can be difficult as you may be working with different people each shift. Doing a traineeship really allows you to build those relationships and establish good connections throughout the workplace.

What key skills have you developed through your traineeship? I think the two skills I have developed the most are communication and initiative. Something that I wasn't used to coming into full time work was that sometimes I was left to find things to do myself. At first I found this really difficult but through communicating with my supervisor and other colleagues and after settling into my position I found it easier to write up a list of jobs for myself that needed to be done.

Has completing this traineeship strengthened or changed your career/course choice for 2018? If so, how? After being in the traineeship for 8 months now I have a huge appreciation for teachers and all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to keep the school running. I could definitely see myself being a teacher in future years, something I had never really considered until I started the traineeship. For now I will stick with my course for 2018 but I am glad I took the opportunity to explore this career pathway as it could be something I come back to later on.

Why should current Year 12 students consider applying for 12-month traineeship after school? Traineeships give you so much experience. Most people on their gap year work shift work jobs to save money but a traineeship will give you a one-up, as you will have had a years worth of full time work under your belt. Personally, this has helped with my employability, it has improved my confidence and given me life skills that I can transfer into any type of work. Looking back, I'm so glad I took the opportunity when I did.

2018: Bachelor of Veterinary Technology, Charles Sturt University.

