

gippsland

# youth

commitment

# 2010

*Everyone's Responsibility*



**gippsland youth commitment**

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## **Supporting Achievement ...**

GYC partners commit to supporting all young people to achieve.

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# Introduction

“What is important is not what we say we will do, it is what we do and how it impacts on young peoples’ lives”  
( GYC partner, December 2009)

The Gippsland Youth Commitment (GYC) has now formally been in place for three years. Through the continued support and efforts of the GYC partners a solid foundation has been established from which we can confidently continue to create new education and training opportunities for all young Gippsland people aged 15 - 19 year old.

To date, many local initiatives have been developed and implemented by the GYC partners. The future challenge for us all is to guarantee every young person is offered the same education and training opportunities, no matter where they live or what school they attend. Under the revised GYC governance structure local government, business, schools and training providers will be able to work together to ensure local ownership of planning and delivery arrangements. In addition the revised GYC governance will strengthen the development of integrated regional strategy..

The young people of today must function within a global community and a world of work that is continually changing at an unprecedented rate. How young people will fare is reliant on how we collectively prepare all of them for this world.

We are making a difference for the young people of Gippsland. I encourage you to continue to work together and to get others to work with you to create new opportunities and meaningful learning experiences for all young people aged 15- 19 year old: ‘Gippsland’s youth – everyone’s responsibility’.

*Michonne van Rees*

**Regional Director - Gippsland  
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development**



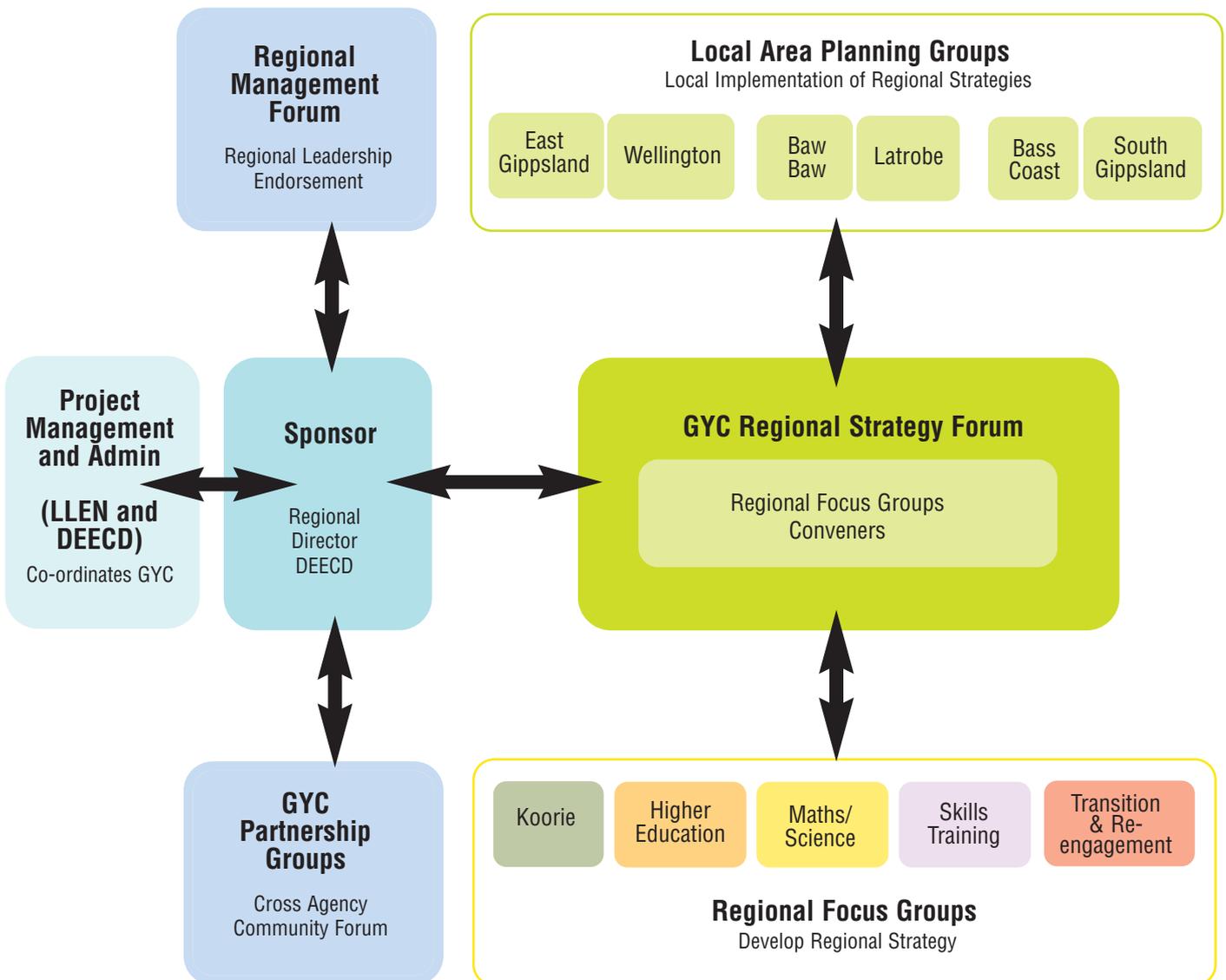


## Meaningful Experiences ...

GYC partners commit to providing learning experiences to support the aspirations of our young people.

## GYC Governance Structure

Endorsed by a GYC partnership group meeting on 11 Dec, 2009



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# Working together

Local, State and Australian Governments, industry, business, education providers and community organisations working collaboratively to improve the planning and delivery of education and training that advances both individual and regional development.

## Where did we start in 2007?

There is a growing sense that the needs of both young people and regional development can best be met by working together.

**Industry and employers** understand that by supporting community initiatives for young people they are also laying the foundations for a more skilled and adaptable Gippsland workforce.

**Education providers and support agencies** understand that working more closely with industry will ensure young people better understand local employment and career opportunities.

**Governments** at the Local, State and Australian level understand they have a significant leadership role in bringing stakeholders together.

There is broad understanding that no single provider, support agency or employer can meet all the needs of an individual learner if a young person is to achieve their best.

## Where do we want to be by 2010?

Schools, local government, industry, employers and community agencies working collaboratively in planning for the provision of education and training that supports regional development.

Every young person provided with education and training that supports their individual needs and prepares them for the next stage of their life.

All young people provided with experiences that increase their knowledge of local industry, employment and career opportunities.

More young people participating in education and training programs that are aligned to regional skill shortage areas.

## What did we say we would do in 2009/10?

Where relevant we will establish new partnerships and further strengthen the partnerships developed in 2008. This will occur at several levels.



### Regional Leadership

A regional post compulsory planning group will be established, to ensure an integrated approach underpins planning for all school student's education and training.



### Regional focus areas

We will establish a Higher Education Reference Group.



All reference groups will be supported and further developed to ensure their outcomes and accountabilities are developed within a local and regional context.

### Local communities

We will continue to improve local planning processes by establishing:



- Post compulsory planning groups in each of the six Local Government Areas in Gippsland



- Lake Tyers Education focus group



- Wellington Community Business partnership facilitated with Transfield Services

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## What did we do in 2009/10?

**We now have strong relationships and sustainable partnerships between a broad cross section of government, education and training providers, industry, and community organisations.**

A Regional GYC Strategy Group has been established. The purpose of the group is to provide guidance and leadership in the development of regional strategic plans and ensure that local plans are integrated into a regional strategy.

The Regional Higher Education Focus Group has been established. The group has representatives from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, TAFE, University, Regional Development Victoria, Regional Management Forum and is Chaired by a Local Government representative.

A Regional Planning template has been developed. The template enables each of the five regional focus groups to develop strategic outcomes and accountabilities specific to their focus area within a common framework.

Planning groups are currently being established in each Local Government Area. The groups are at different stages of development. The initial focus for the groups has been the preparation of Trade Training Centre applications.

The Lake Tyers Education Focus Group meets quarterly to develop strategies and create partnerships which aim to ensure Koorie children and Koorie young people make successful transitions.

The partnership implemented a 5 day project-based students @ work program for 6 students at the RAAF base, Sale. The 2010 program is extending and diversifying in to skill shortage areas and will be offered in other workplaces.

# Everyone's Responsibility

# Meaningful experiences

Inclusive provision arrangements to engage young people in learning to Year 12 or its equivalent.

## Where did we start in 2007?

In comparison to other areas of the state Gippsland has low rates of school retention and university entry. A high number of young people are not in any form of education, employment or training.

### Percentage of young people staying on at school from Year 10 to 12

Gippsland: 72.3%, Non Metro: 73.4%  
Metro 85.3% State: 81.3%  
*(2007 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development data)*

### Percentage of young people completing Year 12 who enter University

Gippsland: 31.2%, Non-metro: 33.7%,  
Metro: 51.4%, State: 47%  
*(2007 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development data)*

### Percentage of young Koorie people who stay on at school from Years 7 to 12

Koorie: 44.1%, All Gippsland: 68.5%  
*(2007 Department of Education and Early Childhood Development data)*

### Early school leavers

One in ten Year 10-12 students leave school without a meaningful education, training or employment destination.

A number of schools, TAFE, ACE and community organisations offer programs that support young people to re-engage with education and training. However, these programs are not always connected to local planning.

Local communities do not always have agreed ways to work together to deal with young people at risk of dropping out.

## Where do we want to be by 2010?

All secondary colleges in partnership with industry and community organisations providing a broad curriculum that supports the individual learning needs of all young people aged 15-19.

Achieve Victorian Government goals of 90% of young people successfully completing Year 12 or its equivalent.

At least 95% of young people aged 15 to 19 engaged in education, training or meaningful employment.

Increased number of young people participating in education or training programs that are linked to regional skill shortage areas.

## What did we say we would do in 2009/10?

We will continue to foster new partnerships to develop new and innovative ways of engaging all young people in meaningful learning experiences.



We will work with industry to design and implement programs in locally identified skill shortage areas.

The programs will include:

- Themed Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCALs)



- Trade Taster programs in local skill shortage areas



- Establishing a Bairnsdale Tip Shop – Community Enterprise

- Establishing a Cert II in Building and Construction in Wonthaggi



HoL - Hands on Learning will be offered to 40 young people at Lowanna College, Sale College, Yarram Secondary College, Kurnai College and Traralgon College.



## Additional highlights

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## What did we do in 2009/10?

**All secondary colleges in Gippsland are now working in partnership with industry and community organisations to increase the education and training opportunities for all young Gippsland people aged 15-19.**

Industry and employers have worked with schools in the planning and delivery of programs that support local skill shortage areas. In particular they have supported the implementation of the VET/VCAL plan, the establishment of Trade Training Centres and the development of School Industry Gateway programs.

The provision of themed VCAL will be considered by the Local Area Provision Groups. The implementation of themed VCAL, in identified local shortage areas, will be progressively implemented as the Trade Training Centres become operational.

The provision of Trade Taster programs were delivered in civil construction and engineering. More will be offered in identified skill shortage areas through the School Industry Gateway.

This enterprise has been established and has provided one on-going job for a young person. It further has provided a structured workplace learning opportunity for young people from Changing Lanes and East Gippsland Specialist School.

The program was established and 12 students participated.

A total of 90 students participated at Lowanna College, Kurnai College, Sale College and Traralgon College. HoL provides meaningful applied learning contexts to encourage young people to remain in school. The program uses artisan - mentors who work with students one day per week.

- 35 young Koorie people attended a Year 10-12 celebration at Monash University, an event held to encourage young Koorie people to remain in education.
- 19 students participated in students @ work, a program in Orbost to provide students with work place opportunities. This program involved a range of partners including Orbost Secondary College, Orbost Regional Health, Kilmory Uniting Care and School Focussed Youth Service.
- 8 high need students from South Gippsland Specialist School participated in a work related skills office recycling training program. The program was partnered with Murray Goulburn.



# Everyone's Responsibility

# Supporting achievement

All young people provided with appropriate support that enables them to complete Year 12 or its equivalent.

## Where did we start in 2007?

Most students aged 15-19 have Managed Individual Pathway plans (MIPs). However, there is variation in how the plans are developed and monitored.

## Where do we want to be by 2010?

All young people aged 15 to 19 to have personalised transition plans.

These plans should inform the planning and provision of education, training and support programs.

All Gippsland education and training providers work collaboratively with youth support agencies in formally tracking young people through their education, training or employment.

## What did we say we would do in 2009/10?

The development and trialling of appropriate transition support for all young people will be the major focus of the Transition and Re-engagement Reference Group in 2009.

We will continue to improve the transition for young people by:

- developing the regional framework for transition support for all young people
- developing best practice transition planning for young people with a disability
- trialling the regional framework for transition support in at least one Local Government Area
- further expanding the mentoring programs for young people to Korumburra, Foster and Sale
- mentoring for our Students (MFOS) - A pilot project for 60 students and 30 mentors to encourage participation in maths and science
- the Koorie Reference Group continuing to work with the Regional Wannik reference group to develop Individual Education Plans for every Koorie student in Gippsland



## Additional highlights

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## What did we do in 2009/10?

**The focus of the Transition and Re-engagement Reference Group in 2009 has shifted to ensure Local and Regional initiatives for Youth Transition Support align with the State and Commonwealth Governments new Youth Transitions policies and initiatives.**

A draft framework was developed but further work postponed until the consequences of the implementation of new national and state policies are clear. Meanwhile a Network Students @ Risk program has been trialled which includes an aim to improve transitional outcomes.

A draft best practice transition time table was developed with the Futures for Young Adults planners from the Department of Human Services.

This has also been postponed until the consequences of new national and state policies are clear.

The program did not expand into Korumburra and Foster but has been maintained.

The pilot was completed with 94 students and integrated into other support programs

The work has commenced across networks and a revised Koorie reference group has been established.

- 33 students participated in the Positive Pathways for Young at Risk, a program partnered by Kilmarny Uniting Care, South Gippsland Bass Coast LLEN, Bass Coast Foundation and the Gardiner Foundation.
- 70 young people @ risk were supported to stay at school by Plan IT Youth mentors.
- 1200 year 9 students from across East Gippsland participated in the Action Careers expo hosted by Catholic College Sale & supported by 55 exhibitors.
- 65 young people with their families participated in a future options expo to assist with transition planning for young people with a disability.
- 40 young people participated in the Learning Experiencing Appreciating People (LEAP) program.
- 12 students participated in "Stuff of Life", a career planning program for at risk students, partnered by Orbest Secondary College Gippsland Lakes Community Health, Orbest District Health and Moogji Aboriginal Council.
- A Koorie VCAL program was established with GippsTAFE, initially with 8 students.

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# Connecting to opportunity

Young people have access to successful pathways to further training or employment.

## Where did we start in 2007?

The "Regional Skill Shortage Survey, Gippsland", reports employers are still having difficulty in finding suitably qualified and skilled employees.

Student destination data indicates that Gippsland has:

- low numbers of young people enrolling in university
- high numbers of students using a deferral year as a financial strategy
- relatively high rates of entry into apprenticeships
- relatively large numbers of young people aged 15 to 19 not in any form of education and training

*(On-Track data, 2007)*

The region has declining participation in Maths/Science programs in Years 10, 11 and 12.

## Where do we want to be by 2010?

More young people entering meaningful post school destinations including:

- more young people entering apprenticeships, especially in areas which address regional skill needs
- improved entry rates into higher education at university and TAFE
- improved participation in courses involving Maths/Science

Closer links between schools and industry to ensure young people are engaged with industry in exploring a wide range of career opportunities.

## What did we say we would do in 2009/10?

We will continue to develop partnerships that have a particular focus on providing learning opportunities that are directly linked to local and regional economic development.

This will be achieved by a range of strategies that include:

- ✓ Implementing the recommendations of "Getting it Right Together".
  - ✓ Implementing strategies identified by the Maths/Science Reference Group.
  - ✓ Implementing the Gippsland Access and Participation (GAP) Project to improve Maths/Science participation and improve Koorie access.
- \* GAP is funded by the Department of Education and Employment and Workplace Relations, and implemented by Monash University, Gippsland.*

### School Industry Gateway

Trialling a regional School Industry Gateway in the industry areas of: Community and Health Services, Energy and Agriculture/Horticulture and Food Processing.

- ✓ Establishing industry tours in East Gippsland in the areas of Civil Engineering and Construction, and Agriculture.

### Koorie Apprenticeships

Apprenticeship Group Australia employing six young Koorie apprentices.

### Inspiring Young People

Expand the Inspiring Young Women program to include young men and young people from other localities including Sale, Yarram, Maffra, Lakes Entrance, Mallacoota, Cann River, Orbost and Swifts Creek.



## Additional highlights

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## What did we do in 2009/10?

"Getting it Right Together" recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been implemented. Recommendation 5 will be one of the priorities considered in developing the Local Area Provision Plans for 15-19 year olds.

The GYC Maths Science Reference Group has facilitated a number of strategies identified by partners. This includes developing a School Industry Gateway Program with Gippswater, promoting the CSIRO Scientists In Schools program, developing the Phillip Island Nature Park Maths Camp for 12 students and running workshops for 83 VCE mathematics teachers

GAP has delivered a range of programs for secondary teachers and students. This includes Meet the Assessor workshops for VCE Science teachers, mentoring of secondary students by University students and new teachers with experienced teachers. A significant activity in 2009 was the Roadshow to East Gippsland, visiting isolated schools in Far East Gippsland with tailored maths and science activities to engage students

105 students participated in these School Industry Gateway Programs developed by the three Gippsland Local Learning and Employment Networks. Additional programs were also developed. (below)

35 students participated in the 5 day Civil and Engineering taster program and 16 students participated in the Agriculture taster program.

Six Koorie apprentices were employed by Apprenticeship Group Australia.

This was significantly expanded with 496 students participating. Programs included Inspiring Young Women (Sale, Latrobe & Baw Baw), Inspiring Young Koorie Women (Bairnsdale, Baw Baw & Latrobe), Inspiring Young Koorie Men (Sale, Baw Baw & Latrobe) and Inspiring Young People (Mallacoota). There were also 8 Straight Talks (Bairnsdale and the 7 Latrobe schools).

- Over 50 young people have been engaged in student engagement activities facilitated by Baw Baw Shire Council with local schools. This includes a Youth Action Committee, a student FReeZa Committee and a Synergy Leadership Breakfast Series for young people.
- 145 students participated in additional School Industry programs developed for Civil Engineering and Construction, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Marine, Energy, Building and Construction, and Multi-media / Small Business Industries. A Water industry program and Food Processing taster has been planned.
- University Enhancement Studies – Monash Gippsland is planning an Enhancement Tutorial Centre for Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics for Year 12 students undertaking University subjects.





## Connecting to opportunity ...

GYC partners commit to connecting young people to future opportunities.



# Gippsland Youth Commitment 2011-2013

In 2008, we agreed that we have a 'collective responsibility' for our young people. We made a commitment to young people that we would work together for the planning and provision of education and training that supports both individual and regional growth. 'Gippsland's youth – everyone's responsibility'.

In 2010, a review of the Gippsland Youth Commitment showed that we are collectively making a difference for many of Gippsland's young people. As the GYC was ambitious by nature and untried, current GYC partners made a formal commitment for three years, 2008-2010.

As we move into the next stage of the GYC we need to continue to demonstrate to our young people that we value them and value their connection to our community and the region's development. We can demonstrate this by:

## **Maintaining our commitment to the Key Principles that underpin the GYC**

- Leadership, innovation and strategic planning
- Mutual respect, privacy and confidentiality
- Collaboration
- Personalised learning
- Building organisational capacity to support young people
- Continual improvement

## **Continuing to develop initiatives that support the - Four Pillars of the GYC**

- Working together
- Meaningful learning experiences
- Supporting achievement
- Connecting opportunity

To seek further information or discuss how you can commit or re-commit to the Gippsland Youth Commitment please contact one of the GYC consultants listed on the back cover.

# Key principles

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Signatories to the **Gippsland Youth Commitment** agree to be guided by the following principles.

1

## **Leadership, innovation and strategic planning**

We will demonstrate a commitment to the GYC to ensure that young people remain connected to education, training and employment.

2

## **Mutual respect, privacy and confidentiality**

We acknowledge that the success of the GYC is based on mutual respect, trust and understanding. This provides the basis for positive interpersonal relationships which create a healthy environment where individuals can live and work responsibly and cooperatively.

3

## **Collaboration**

We will seek to work collaboratively to achieve better outcomes for young people.

4

## **Personalised learning**

We will support and direct service delivery to meet the holistic needs of young people including their learning and training, health, well-being, social and transition needs.

5

## **Building organisational capacity to support young people**

We will endeavour to develop suitable strategies which provide appropriate access to and support for education and training programs for young people.

6

## **Continual improvement**

We will continually monitor our programs, services and strategies to meet the needs of individual young people.

### **Further Information:**

For further information or to discuss how you can support this project please contact a GYC consultant at one of the following locations:

**Gippsland East Local Learning Employment Network:** (03) 5153 1745

**South Gippsland Bass Coast Local Learning and Employment Network:** (03) 5662 5500

**Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network:** (03) 5633 2868

**Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Gippsland:** (03) 5127 0400