

## Moreton Bay Youth Connections

### Moreton Bay Youth Connections

The Youth Connections program has proven to be extremely successful in the Moreton Bay community. In 2010 Worklinks and their partners provided support that led to meaningful outcomes for 342 young people that were in some way disengaged from school and sometimes from the community as a whole - some for several years, and others more recently. The vast majority of these young people have complex histories and family lives that require care, consideration and understanding.

This year Youth Connections has already linked in with over 250 young people who were previously considered disengaged or at extreme risk of becoming disengaged from school. This important work has consisted of connecting with and educating these young people, as well as helping them to overcome their barriers. Worklinks' ability to provide accredited training to many of our participants means they are able to link back into learning and are assisted to open up opportunities for their future that they would not otherwise have been exposed to.



For more information  
on this valuable  
program, visit our  
website:

[worklinks.com.au](http://worklinks.com.au)

Alternatively, you can  
contact Worklinks'  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Jan Robinson, on  
0458 990 169.

### Testimonials: Participants

*"Youth Connections is different because there's more one on one. Instead of just telling you what to do they'll (the staff) help you. The best thing about coming to Youth Connections is that it is stress free, no bullying. It's just friends who work well together. It's a good balance."*

Patrick – Youth Connections  
Participant

*"Youth Connections allowed me to work on my Grade 10 which I don't think I would have been able to do at school. Because the staff are understanding and easy going I've been able to stay with the program. If Youth Connections was not available I have no idea what I'd be doing."*

Jack – Youth Connections Participant

*"Youth Connections is the place to go if you've left school and want to finish Grade Ten. School is something we need in life, and the people at Worklinks are the type of people we need to help us with our schooling. Youth Connections is the place you go when you need help and want to find a job."*

Olivia - Youth Connections  
Participant

## Moreton Bay Youth Connections

### Testimonials: Education Providers

*"The Moreton Bay Youth Connections Program has proven to be an invaluable resource when working with young people aged between 14 and 18 years, who have become disengaged from the school system for a wide variety of reasons, including exclusion, home problems, learning difficulties and social issues.*

*Being able to reconnect these students to a series of programs that provide learning opportunities, social engagement and job skills is essential in maintaining their self esteem and opportunities to participate meaningfully in society. Without The Moreton Bay Youth Connections Program, we would have an increase in disengaged young people with little or no chance to enter the workforce and learn skills to take them to the next phase of their lives. Having these programs in the young peoples' local area increases the chance of participation and remaining committed to completing the courses."*

Jan Fedrick and Sara Tochterman  
Acting Senior Guidance Officers  
North Coast Region Murrumba

*"A component of the National Partnership Agreement for Youth Attainment and Transitions is the Youth Connections Program. It is essentially about re-connecting young people with a learning, training and employment pathway to improve their future prospects. Worklinks operates a Youth Connections Program across the Moreton Regional Council area. They have forged strong partnerships with local youth community groups to successfully deliver tailored services to the young people of the area."*

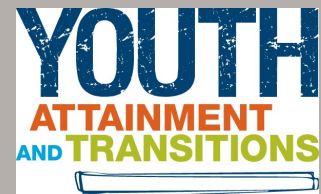
Ian Griffith  
Senior Phase Officer (Performance & NP - YAT)  
North Coast Region, Nambour Office



### Testimonials: Parents

*"It's been huge for my son as it's given him a lot of confidence. He was struggling with school and I could not get him to go. Also, having moved interstate he'd found it difficult to find friends who understood his situation. But since he joined Youth Connections he has made a lot of friends and he has grown in confidence. Without Youth Connections I don't know how he would have been able to complete his grade 10 studies."*

Vicky – Mother of a Youth  
Connections Participant



*"I believe that if my son had not attended Youth Connections he would not have achieved anything and would be living on benefits. The program provided him with self-paced work and the support he received from the staff was crucial to him completing his Grade 10. It was an absolute Godsend to have a program like this locally."*

Heather - Mother of a Youth  
Connections Participant