My Big Tomorrow

An initiative of the Centre of Excellence for Equity in Higher Education

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My Big Tomorrow

**What is it**

- New website that features a wide range of career options and acts as a one-stop-shop for information

- Aimed at Year 9 and 10 students to give them informed options ahead of the HSC and subject selections for senior years, but can be used across most Stages.

- The site also integrates literacy and numeracy throughout the content, videos and scenarios for each career

- Subject suggestions are listed for careers and the pathways that can be taken after school to give students an idea of their options
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How it came about

• Need identified to improve the literacy and numeracy skills of students to prepare them for tertiary education

• Gap identified with Year 9 and 10 – this year group didn’t seem to receive as much information as seniors and often received information too late

• Application submitted to the Government and Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program funding awarded to develop a digital resource

• Discussions then began with external providers, internal staff and a range of school partners to gather information on what the resource should look like

• Also undertook research on resources that already existed, what they offered and opportunities for improvement
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The process

• Designed by students for students

• Focus groups with students and educators from four high schools throughout the entire project:
  o Brisbane Waters Secondary College
  o Callaghan College
  o Kurri Kurri High School
  o Irrawang High School

• Engaged two local creative providers to carry out the build – Newism and the Village of Useful

• UON staff engaged to develop content and educational components

• Established students were after good bits as well as bad bits of a job. Wanted information on subjects, pathways and a day in the life of a career

• Suite of 86 films were purchased from the ABC, an additional 7 were created to fill the gaps of popular careers identified by the focus groups
The making of My Big Tomorrow
My Big Tomorrow

The outcome

- mybigtomorrow.com.au

- A free resource that features 93 different careers and is device responsive with various entry points to career information

- Educational components created to enhance curriculum outcomes and show the relevance of what students are learning in the ‘real’ world. Can be used in class or as a homework task

- Information such as suggested HSC subjects and pathways after school

- Program to be developed that can be taken into partner schools with AIM HIGH and a Unit of Work that can be downloaded from the website

- Still a work in progress. Education components will continue to be added so check back regularly. Aim is to eventually replace them all with tailored scenarios across each career and to add Units of Work for teachers

- Would also like to add to the careers featured but that will depend on future funding and resources

- Almost 20,000 unique site visits since launching

- Nominated for a Net Award
Feedback

“I volunteer at a local high school once a week with Northern Settlement Services helping refugee and migrant children with their homework, CVs etc. Many of these kids come from refugee camps and such places that leave them (and their parents/guardians) with little or no knowledge about careers, a career path, educational requirements for different jobs in Australia. This is a fantastic tool for these kids! I’ve already used it with one of the students here to research his desired careers and subjects he might choose for years 11 & 12.”

“Brilliant idea”

“I really appreciate you allowing our school to be part of it. The students involved have had an invaluable experience.”

“Since my husband came across the My Big Tomorrow stand… he has been checking out the site and watching all the videos because he is thinking of a career change himself.”

“Awesome”
How to explore My Big Tomorrow
thank you

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No.1 UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA UNDER 50 YEARS OF AGE**

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* Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2014 and QS World University Rankings 2014
** QS ‘Top 50 under 50’ 2014
*** Hobsons Good Universities Guide 2015 (socio-economic equity and generic skills)