

# Warragul Community Centre and Buchan Neighbourhood House

## Drones: The New Literacy Pilot Project.

Through the successful Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board's Capacity and Innovation Fund (CAIF 10) allocation, Learn Local organisations Warragul Community House and Buchan Neighbourhood House have partnered together to develop a course in pre accredited training using drones for the purpose of teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Education and Maths) for young people in Gippsland. This course aims to explore the real-world application of drone technologies.

The Drones: The New Literacy program concept came after identifying a need to develop an interaction with industry need, regulatory requirements, educators and participants interested in upskilling or reskilling but particularly for those participants who obtained pre VCE education.

We want to bring the excitement of using drone technology into the training room to make learning enjoyable and relevant. To engage the learner with tools that will entice and reinvigorate their learning aspirations.

Employment opportunities using drones are the future with a prediction that this is one of the future growing industries for employment and covers many different industries including film sets, inspecting assets, photography, search and rescue, construction mining, manufacturing, medicine, space and deep ocean exploration, agriculture and drone racing.

Drones: The New Literacy is a 60-hour course with the aim to introduce digital literacy to drone technologies and their software attributes and include compliance and regulatory obligations.

Each week learners will be exposed to aspects of drone education. They will complete a workshop/ task and then play with drones, leading up to building and flying in a drone team. Each session will be made of 5 hours twice a week over six weeks (60 hours total).

There will be 2 courses delivered, one in West Gippsland and the other in East Gippsland. Learners will create documents for reference, experience hands-on interaction and have input into an e blog. Participants will also develop a video log of their experiences.

Pathways for this course include

Commercial UAV Pilots Licence,

Foundation Year (Science / Engineering)

Certificate IV in Photography/Video

Employment opportunities- Software Developer/Technician/

Operators/Tourism/Business Marketing /Professional Drone Racing

Further training with Learn Local in Language, Literacy or Technology

We have developed the course session plans and teacher resource materials and are currently trialling the course in Warragul which been a great success so far.

Skill sets that have been identified to deliver this course have included

- A teacher or teachers that are proficient in maths and physics and /or has experience is operating drones. STEM and Literacy and Language
- Filming, Sound and video. Using Movie Maker
- Drone Operation
- Desirable: Certificate IV in Training and Assessment – TAE40110 (Learn Local teachers are not required to have a teaching certificate or a certificate in education)

The Warragul course is currently using 3 teachers, each of which have one of the specific skills. Teachers attend the sessions as identified in the session plans with one or two teachers often working together.

Our learner cohort for this course are:

- people who have been marginalised and have not accessed education, training and employment
- people who have experienced barriers to education in the past and need intensive support to re-engage with learning
- people who have limited access to learning opportunities e.g. rural
- Young people who are at risk of disengaging in education.
- Early school leavers

We are now planning for the delivery of the next course in East Gippsland with the possible venue being either Lakes Entrance or Bairnsdale in term one 2019.

I am looking for people who may be interested in being a part of this teaching team who may have one or all of the above skills and who would be available during the 2 days per week for six weeks and interested in teaching. There is also time for preparation and learning the curriculum as well as teaching resources. We will be offering teacher training in the future to give teachers the opportunity to strengthen their skills in the use of the technology, STEM and adult education.

If you are interesting in working with this project or know of anyone who may, please contact us at Buchan Neighbourhood House.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Evelyn Schmidt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'E' and a long, sweeping tail on the 't'.

Regards  
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