

Natasha's Story

Natasha is 21 years old and has spent two years attending the Interchange Outer East Prep4Work program. Utilising NDIS School Leavers Employment Supports (SLES) funding, the Prep4Work program provides opportunities for young adults to prepare for employment and other roles where they can actively contribute to their community.

Natasha has been involved in a wide range of educational and work opportunities and has enjoyed learning more about the workplace and expectations for employees. She has enjoyed being part of a workplace, meeting the staff and going through the motions of working life. During the first year of the program Natasha worked at St Kilda Mums in Clayton as well as Yarra Valley ECOS, a community organisation committed to ecological and social sustainability.

Aside from practical work training, Natasha has also completed a basic first aid course; an essential skill in work and life. Prep4Work is also about gaining vital life skills and independence and Natasha said she has learnt about speaking up for herself as well as her rights and responsibilities; important skills for any young woman as she becomes more independent.

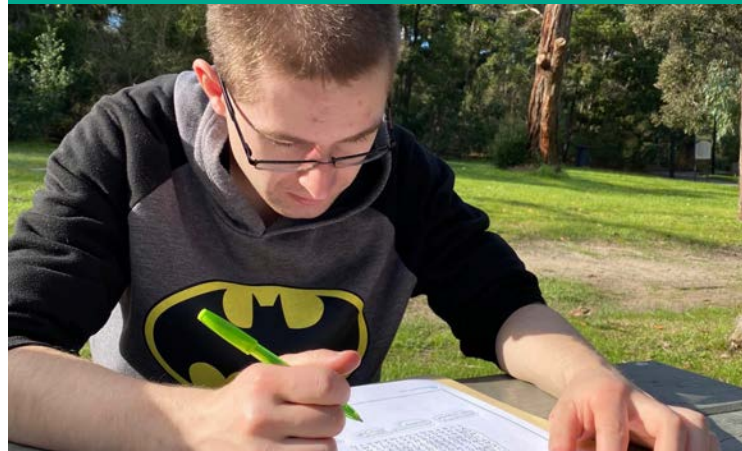
As she moves to the completion of the two year Prep4Work program, Natasha has proudly commenced a part time paid role at Gloria Jeans after successfully completing a barista course. She has also been learning to use public transport independently so that she can make her own way around more and more.

Contact

For more information on Prep4Work or SLES, contact Interchange Outer East on 9758 5522 or ioe@ioe.org.au

Information is also available on the IOE website:

www.ioe.org.au



Prep4Work

School Leavers Employment Supports (SLES)



Providing experiences and opportunities to prepare young people for employment

Utilising NDIS SLES funds, we work closely with participants and their families during this two year program focusing on developing skills and building capacity to be work and life ready.

Interchange Outer East

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Your local NDIS registered service provider

Prep4Work - SLES

We take a holistic approach to self development, growth and learning – with 'hands on' experience in open employment. Our Aims:

To support each participant to discover their gifts, skills, strengths and passions.

- To provide an environment where participants can learn, grow and feel safe.
- To offer individualised and tailored learning with a focus on employment.
- To build skills that can be used at home, in the community and in the workplace.
- To source roles for participants so they can actively contribute to their community
- To meet new people and have fun.

“It’s a good opportunity to be out in the community and learning new skills. The program has helped him move onto the next phase of his life.”

- Rita, IOE Parent

Our Areas of Focus

- Staying safe in the community and workplace.
- Knowing your rights and how to self advocate.
- Exposure to a variety of workplaces and volunteering opportunities.
- Time management, organisational and travel training skills.
- Resume development and interview practice.
- Team work and how to be a positive team member.
- Communication and social skills.
- Healthy relationships and work/life balance.

Program Structure

We offer small group and individualised supports for participants.

Our SLES program runs across two weekdays.

One day typically focuses on group work and training whereas the second day is tailored to practical work experience and volunteering in the community.



“Tim has really enjoyed the SLES - Prep for Work program. We have seen great improvements in his communication, social skills and motivation. This program works with families and participants to create learning opportunities that we choose and it has helped Tim to mature into his adult life”

- Jen, IOE Parent

NDIS Program Costs

Prep4 Work/SLES is a fully funded NDIS program offered across a two year timeframe.

You will need the following line item included in your NDIS plan to access the program:

SLES 10_021_0102_5_3

This is a set price program.

NOTE: There may be occasional out of pocket fees/ costs for external training e.g. barista course.

This will be discussed prior and charges invoiced directly to families if agreed upon.

“We have seen a massive boost in confidence and motivation. Dan has enjoyed making new friends and is more eager to be involved with social activities. He always looks forward to attending SLES - Prep for Work program”

- Nikki, IOE Parent

