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New agreement helps to create a bright future for local students

In a major boost to helping more students secure good jobs in local industry, the Kwinana Industries Council (KIC) has entered into a new formal partnership with 21 local high schools to continue to provide award winning education and training programs.

A new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was this week signed between the Kwinana Industries Council and the 21 schools which sets out ways in which the schools and local industry will work together to provide additional hands-on education and training for students across Perth's southern suburbs.

The unique partnership delivers a range of award winning, practical and industry-based programs that range from VET and university pathways for Year 10 students, known as iPROJECTS, through to two-year Pre-apprenticeship programs for students in Years 11 and 12.

The KIC Pre-Apprenticeships are 2-year programs that students complete during Year 11 and 12, alongside their school students. Students remain enrolled full time at their current school, receive training one day a week at South Metropolitan TAFE and are required to undertake 150 hours of work placement during the 2-year program.

The iPROJECTS provide valuable opportunities for students to further explore what career pathways may be available in the Kwinana Industrial Area. All iPROJECTS include visits to industry.

"The Kwinana Industrial Area is home to many large industrial companies and is responsible for the employment of more than 40,000 workers. Two thirds of these live within 15 kms of their workplace. This partnership is an important initiative to support local students who aspire to work with one of our member companies," said KIC Director David Harrison.

"The KIC would like to thank our 21 partner schools, which stretch across Rockingham, Kwinana and Cockburn, for joining us on this important journey to provide outstanding education and training opportunities for their students, and in doing so, putting them on a path to rewarding careers."

"The KIC Education Partnership continues to develop, grow, and change to meet the needs of industry but also to adapt to the changing interests of local students. The schools are fortunate to have the member companies supporting our students and many of these companies look to then hire KIC alumni to be part of their future workforce," said Rockingham Senior High School Principal and Chair of the KIC Education Partnership Stan Koios.

"The personal growth and development we see in the students during and after our programs is incredible and this gives the students the knowledge and the confidence that they are on their way to a successful career pathway," said KIC Education Development Officer Debbie Hoey.

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