HELP!

I’M STARTING TERTIARY STUDY – NOW WHAT?

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June 22, 2019
Acknowledgement of Country
Background to the Research Project

▪ Project title:
  ▪ The impact of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) organisation on student success and study or employment pathways

▪ Outline:
  ▪ Three year study of Certificate III and Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care students in the northern suburbs of Adelaide
Project outline

- **Phase 1**
  - Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care students
  - Three critical points during 1 year course

- **Phase 2**
  - Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care students
  - Four critical points during 2 year course

- **Along the way**
  - Interviews with VET Teachers, Managers and Support Staff
  - TAFE SA and private training organisations
Making a start…

- Talking to the students
- ‘Listening’ to the students
  - What was said
  - What was unsaid
So, what are the broader influences?
Emerging themes

Information  Relationships  Time

Student
Starting before they start…

- **Making an informed choice**
  - Counselling
  - Online/printed course information
  - Information sessions
  - Who do I know?
  - Application process
    - LLN assessment
So, how did the students make informed choices?

- Pathways to information
  - Information sessions...
  - Pre-counselling
  - Online/printed course information
  - Uni didn’t work out – what now?
    - “I didn’t even know there were other options...”

- Who do I know?
Congratulations! You have been offered a place…

- Information overload
  - I don’t know if I’m ready to enrol
  - Now I get to see the timetable
    - I have to organise child care
    - I thought I could do this part time
    - I need to work to support myself/my children/my partner…
Can I start now?

- And this has all occurred before the student has even stepped foot into the classroom...
Once in the classroom…

- This is where the three themes – Information, Relationships and Time – change, while remaining critical
Relationships

- Family, children
- Peers and fellow students
- The teacher...
- Others?
Information

- Valid
- Sufficient
- Current
- Authentic
Time

- To organise...
- To build trust...
- To consolidate...
So what now?

- Building on the early steps for impacting student success
  - Relationships
  - Information
  - Time
Thankyou

References:


- Smith, E. (2018). Teachers and trainers are vital to the quality of the VET sector, and to the success of its learners. The Conversation.


Acknowledgements

- University of Adelaide, School of Education
  - Dr. John Willison
  - Dr. Brendan Bentley

- TAFE SA
  - Margie Fixter
  - Kerry Daly
  - Dawn Benjamin
  - Early Childhood Education and Care program staff and students