

# Volunteer Mentor Role Description

## BACKGROUND

Youth unemployment is a global issue and the inner north of Melbourne is not immune from this growing trend. Significant long term research and investment by the European Commission continue to highlight that entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial skills are important for young people in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Therefore, the Youth Enterprise Hub has evolved from the commitment of INYET – Inner North Youth Employment Taskforce to address youth unemployment in the inner north.

## INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

In 2019 and early 2020, the Youth Enterprise Hub with local innovators and teachers co-designed **the New Economy Enterprise Curriculum** for VCAL students in Year 11 at the Intermediate Level which is a systemic response to enable teachers, local councils, innovators and young people to research, create and develop social and environmental innovations for their local community.

Teachers will be delivering this unique and exciting course– the first of its kind. It is a course that requires the students to explore who they are, to understand local issues and to develop environmentally responsible and socially inclusive services and products that will contribute to the regeneration of their local community.

The Youth Enterprise Hub has roles available for caring business leaders and entrepreneurs from the local community who are keen to collaborate with four dynamic schools, teachers and Year 11 and 12 VCAL students in the development of student’s prototypes.

## POSITION PURPOSE

Volunteer as a mentor to help a small group of VCAL students (from 2-4) build their confidence and the entrepreneurial capabilities through their micro-enterprise project. Share your life and work experience and knowledge or experience of the emerging New Economies and/or purpose driven business models.

## OUTCOMES

Students will learn:

- Self, Leadership and Teamwork and the Importance of Soft Skills
- Social enterprise and sustainable business practice in their local community
- Real life application through excursions, incursions and guest speaker events
- Prototyping processes for product and service ideation and creation
- How to pitch to the wider community at the conclusion of the course.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

- Adhere to the Youth Enterprise Hub, Vocational Mentoring Exchange (VME), and Inner North Local Learning and Employment Network (INLLEN) policies, procedures, and code of conduct.
- A firm commitment is requested for the program duration with students and an additional 1 hour session at the conclusion of the program for the evaluation.
- Volunteer Mentors must be able to commit to the specified day and time of the sessions for the vast majority of the semester (or 14 weeks), leading up to and including the Pitch Event at the end of October and support in the development of student’s pitch.

## ATTRIBUTES/SKILLS

- A positive attitude towards young people and education
- Good communication skills - competent written and spoken English
- Demonstrate positive behaviours such as respect, patience, maturity and reliability
- Willing to share personal work and life experiences
- With work and life experience, in addition to business creation and development would be desirable. Where possible, we are seeking business leaders and entrepreneurs that have a commitment to sustainability and value led business practices.
- Empathy and understanding of the challenges experienced by school-aged adolescents
- Commitment to the project
- Local community business connections (desirable)
- Entrepreneurial and/or business leadership skills (desirable)

## ROLE LOCATION

- One of the following schools in the Cities of Yarra, Moreland and Darebin:
  - Northern College of the Arts and Technology,
  - Fitzroy High School,
  - Sydney Road Community School, or
  - Concord Special School.

## DURATION AND TIME COMMITMENT

- 20 hours over a four month period from mid-July to late October 2021

## TRAINING, SCREENING AND ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- Volunteers must be over 18 years old
- Eligible to live and work/volunteer in Australia
- All volunteers will be required to have a Working With Children Check Card (WWCC).
- All volunteers are required to complete two training modules and school induction prior to commencing the role. Training is planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> weeks of June, 3 hours per module.
- Mentor screening will include an interview and reference check.
- Throughout the project, mentors will be expected to attend supervision and debriefing sessions with a final one hour focus group discussion at the conclusion of the project.

For enquiries regarding the Youth Enterprise Hub and New Economy Enterprise Course, please contact YEH Manager, Viv Sercombe on 0433 305 433 or [vsercombe@inllen.org.au](mailto:vsercombe@inllen.org.au)