



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee

MEDIA RELEASE

Report targets better career advice for students

Career development in Victorian schools is not meeting the needs of students according to the Victorian Parliament's Economic, Education, Jobs and Skills Committee, which today tabled its report on career advice activities in Victorian schools.

The Committee found there was a large degree of inconsistency between schools in how much time and resources they allocate to career development. Students also told the Committee they wanted more time with their school career practitioner.

"Young people told us that they want career guidance tailored to their interests, strengths and circumstances and that they want it earlier in their schooling," Committee Chair Mr Nazih Elasmr said.

"We agree that students should be exposed to a range of careers early in secondary school so they have an idea of the types of jobs that interest them before deciding on subjects and vocational education and training options in their senior years," Mr Elasmr added.

The Committee recommended that schools employ qualified professionals to provide career development services, and that a coordinator at each of Victoria's Local Learning and Employment Networks provide schools with additional support. This support would include connecting schools with employers and industry, and providing advice to students and recent school leavers.

"Schools should view career development as one of their core functions and the Victorian Government should support schools to provide career practitioners with adequate resources to do their job," Mr Elasmr said.

"As the nature of work changes and young people take longer to secure full-time work compared with ten years ago, there is an even greater need for school career development to build students' capacity to manage their transition from school to work or higher education."

During the inquiry, the Committee also heard that regional students and young people facing disadvantage have additional needs and they often miss out on career development opportunities.

"We have recommended that the Victorian Government support students facing disadvantage to access career development opportunities, which will broaden their horizons and help them make a successful post-school transition," said Mr Elasmr.

The report is available from the Committee's [website](#).

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