

School Newsletter Article:



Staying in Education: Increased Minimum Education and Training Leaving Requirements from 2020

Tasmanian students are staying in education and training for longer, assisting them to achieve a qualification that significantly improves their life chances and choices. The progress made over the last four years is clear to see in this graph showing [Tasmanian Education Retention and Attainment](#).

The changes made by the *Education Act 2016* will help us to keep improving, with increased minimum education and training requirements to apply for students who are in Years 11 and 12 in 2020 (and students in earlier school years).

This change will apply to students who are currently in Years 9 and Year 10 in 2018 and support the growing community expectation that education does not end in Year 10 – in fact, Years 11 and 12 are two of the most important years of school. They might be a student's last years at a school but they are the first steps into their future.

Times have changed and the vast majority of today's jobs require a Year 12 or higher qualification. Employers are looking for people who are able to show they are flexible, adaptable and willing to learn new things.

What young people [need](#) to complete their education is not a 'one-size fits all' solution. The new education and training leaving requirements recognise the need to have an option for everyone. High school students should talk to their teachers about their options and what will best suit their needs. This will help them make informed choices about what will work for them.

[Your pathways: Where to from here](#) is a great place to start looking at the many options available. Education and training participation pathways may include:

- senior secondary study at a college or a school offering Years 11 and 12, or being home educated
- undertaking vocational education and training (VET), including through a registered training organisation, a Trade Training Centre or an apprenticeship or traineeship, including an Australian School-based Apprenticeship.

In certain circumstances, a young person may be eligible for an exemption, including where they have secured full-time employment (35 hours a week).

It's not always easy to stay in school – but [anything can happen](#) when you finish school.