

Wheatbelt & Beyond Youth Mentoring Inc



Thank you for considering joining the Wheatbelt & Beyond Youth Mentoring (WBYM) program. We greatly appreciate your willingness to help Wheatbelt students through what can be a tough time for young people, adolescence, finding future directions for training and employment and often changing schools/leaving home.

WBYM is a mentoring program designed to inspire and empower our young people attending District High Schools in the Wheatbelt and beyond. The inception of WBYM in 2019 ensured the continuation of a very successful mentoring program developed for Bruce Rock DHS. It is a simple, successful, flexible and cost-effective program that now has evaluated data and years of feedback from mentors, mentees and parents to prove it is sustainable and effective. An evaluation of the Bruce Rock program completed by RDA Wheatbelt in 2018 has confirmed valuable gains that the students made when compared to others in the Wheatbelt, which were directly attributed to the mentoring program. If you would like to read the evaluation, please feel free to contact me and I will send you a copy.

We are very pleased and proud to introduce you to this valuable program through WBYM. Please also see attached the Program Outline and forms required for your application to enable you to see information about the day to day running of the program and the ways you can become involved to ensure you and your mentee gains the greatest possible benefit. ram.

Aims of the program are:

- a. For students to be inspired by a young adult mentor to investigate a wider variety of jobs and career pathways than they are exposed to in Bruce Rock
- b. One on one friend, confidante and support to provide young people with a sense of the broader world.
- c. To provide another layer of psycho-emotional support to promote positive wellbeing as young people transition from adolescence to adulthood.
- d. To inspire and support students to achieve their goals and dreams.

Monitoring of the program is ongoing throughout the year, however at the end of the year Karen spends significant amounts of time personally speaking to mentors, mentees and their parents to collect feedback so we can monitor the program and look at ways to continually improve it.

The feedback is very positive from all parties. I have listed a summary of the benefits of the program that are repeatedly reported by mentors, mentees and their parents:

Student summary:

- Communicating with someone older than you who understands what we are going through
- Someone to talk to who has recent experience with school, moving to life after school and getting into work.
- Someone outside of Bruce Rock who I can trust to discuss issues and opportunities with
- Someone to look up to
- Meeting people I wouldn't otherwise meet up with
- Been life changing

- I can talk about things that I wouldn't normally talk about to others

Parent Summary

- The global view of the world it gives the kids
- The mentors are a good role model and provide an outside view of Bruce Rock
- An adult, outside of the home, to go to and discuss things with
- Someone for the students to aspire to be like and realise they can be successful

Mentor Summary

- Meeting students and families from Bruce Rock and watching the students grow and mature
- Really enjoy making a difference to a young person's life, sharing experiences, knowledge and advice
- Being there for a younger person, being an outside influence and support person
- Getting them to reflect on their own lives, think more nationally/globally
- The commitment is flexible and manageable enough to fit in with my studies/work and personal life
- Seeing such good kids and being a part of their life
- Benefits me as well as the students

I have included the Policy and Procedure Plan to enable you to see information about the day to day running of the program along with forms that need to be completed if you choose to join the program.

If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact me by email or through the website.

Yours sincerely

Janine Dayman

WBYM Secretary/Treasurer

Chairperson: Karen Strange
karenstrange@bigpond.com
Phone: 0429 619 160

Secretary/Treasurer: Janine Dayman
WBYMentoring@gmail.com
Phone: 0428 611 290