

VCAL Program

THE VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF APPLIED LEARNING

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (Foundation) (VCALFND001)

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (Intermediate) (VCALINT001)

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (Senior) (VCALSEN001)

PERFORMANCE REPORT | MARCH 2020



BENDIGO KANGAN INSTITUTE



Our Bendigo Kangan Institute “KanBe”

- Our strategy is designed to unite Kangan Institute and Bendigo TAFE to make us the best we KanBe.
- The best we KanBe for our students, who are at the heart of everything we do.
- The best we KanBe for our people, as without them we are a just a collection of campuses, infrastructure and information.
- The best we KanBe for industry, because that's who we serve.

Our Mission

To empower people and industry with the skills to create a bright future.

Our Vision

To be acknowledged as a leading educator and trainer in work and life skills, making a real difference for students and industry across the communities we serve.

Our Strategic Statement

By 2025, Bendigo Kangan Institute will be a nationally renowned education institute, equipped to adapt to the requirements of the future.

Bendigo TAFE and Kangan Institute

Bendigo TAFE and Kangan Institute merged in 2014 to form Bendigo Kangan Institute. Bendigo Kangan Institute is the group entity for Bendigo TAFE, Kangan Institute, VETASSESS and eWorks. For our students we are either Kangan Institute or Bendigo TAFE.

Our Values and Behaviours

Our Values underpin the behaviours expected of all employees at Bendigo Kangan Institute.

They also reflect those expected of every employee in the Victorian Public Sector in order to uphold community expectations. All employees are expected to live these values daily, in all our decisions and actions.



VCAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Bendigo TAFE offers the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) to young people who wish to commence or continue, re-engage in their VCAL study in a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) environment.

VCAL is designed to prepare students who are interested in pursuing pathways into Technical and Further Education (TAFE) or move into Vocational Training courses or an Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

Schedule 8 of the Education and Training Reform Regulations 2017 requires all education providers to operate in a manner consistent with this set of Australian democratic principles.

Australian society is defined, among other aspects, by a belief in elected Government; by a commitment to the rule of law, to equal rights for all before the law; and by a belief in freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom of association. Our society is also tolerant of a range of religious, political, social and cultural beliefs and values in the context of the fundamental principle of our democracy.

The VRQA Minimum Standards for Registration to provide an accredited senior secondary qualification includes a standard concerning Bendigo TAFE's adherence to Australian democratic principles and practice. This standard is as follows:

In accordance with the Regulations we will deliver our programs and teaching in a manner that supports and promotes the principles and practice of Australian democracy.

This includes a commitment to:

- Elected government
- The rule of law
- Equal rights for all before the law
- Freedom of religion
- Freedom of speech and association
- The values of openness and tolerance

Bendigo TAFE is committed to creating and maintaining a learning environment that is reflective of an egalitarian and socially cohesive Australian society. We take seriously our obligation to stand for equality of opportunity, fair play, acceptance of diversity of cultural or socio-economic background within a values based public education training system. Our principles, processes and practices support the development of effective Australian citizens who have an awareness of the elements which underpin Australian democracy specifically:

- An appreciation of the cultural heritage and experiences of Indigenous people
- An appreciation of Australia's diversity as a multicultural society endeavouring to support intercultural understandings
- Awareness of how Australia's democratic system of government, law and civic life aims to contribute to a fair and just society
- A capacity to critically examine local, state, national and global rights and responsibilities of citizenship and civic life.
- An understanding of the ways in which individuals and governments can contribute to future environmental sustainability at a local and global level.

Through its policy and procedural framework, Bendigo TAFE strives to protect and help learners to actively contribute to a democratic society that is comfortable with and respectful of difference, rejects violence and negative forms of discrimination and is compassionate toward those in need.

AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

Bendigo TAFE's VCAL programs promote and support the principals and practice of the Australian Democracy. We will demonstrate an understanding and be consistent with social values, community standards, government policies and legislation in the following way:

Bendigo TAFE's VCAL programs will be free from discrimination and apply to all students whatever their race, gender, disability, language, religion, political or other opinion, nationality or place of birth, age or other status and reject such discrimination explicitly and implicitly.

Bendigo TAFE's VCAL programs are committed to adhering to the VCAA principles, guidelines and procedures in its VCAL programs. These principles provide students with an opportunity for further development of fundamental, underpinning knowledge, such as literacy, numeracy and employability skills.

Bendigo TAFE's VCAL programs promote democratic principals in the classroom through our teaching practices which include a commitment to fair treatment to all during class discussions which value freedom of speech, tolerance of the views of others and open communication. The Institute Student Code of Conduct provides a framework for student behaviour to ensure the safety, comfort and wellbeing of the entire Institute through respectful and appropriate behaviour.

Democratic principles are communicated to students, parents, staff and the community via the Institute website, VCAL Student Handbooks, and the Institute's Quality Management System.

Bendigo TAFE provides Senior Secondary school qualifications across our region for students who wish to complete VCAL Foundation, Intermediate and Senior levels. We are committed to providing an excellent group of courses to re-engage individuals in learning who may not have completed school at the senior level or who need an alternative setting. Bendigo TAFE provides pathway opportunities into vocational education and training as part of their VCAL certificate.

Each year Bendigo TAFE monitors and analyses data related to the VCAL students' participation, completion, outcomes and pathways.

VCAL UNIT COMPLETIONS AND COURSE COMPLETIONS DATA COMPARISONS

Each Year in July, the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) publishes data for the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) from their Assessment Processing System (APS). The data is summarised in a report and is published on the VCAA website. <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au>. The report provides overall data and performance across all of Victoria and so allows the opportunity to compare data.

The VCAA report includes the following: total enrolments by gender, and VCAL study level, total number and percentage of unit completions, and total number and percentage of certificate completions.

In 2020 the VCAL year was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and required to be transformed from a hands on, project based learning environment into an online course with remote learning and support.

Students had a variety of complexities to overcome including access, motivation, isolation. Students ability to adjust to the changes had a number of students who had limited success in completion however, stayed engaged. It should be noted we have had a number of students, returned to class after the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and demonstrated a high level of drive to complete assessments. Student success is demonstrated by our increased partial completion rate.

Strategies applied to support students during the year included:

- Provided a system for students to borrow laptops and dongles
- Workbooks resources were produced and mailed out to students
- Online resources were quickly developed and made accessible to students through BKI 'My Learning' platform.
- Teachers used Facebook to communicate with students
- Teachers used Microsoft TEAMS to commence scheduled class to provide overview of lessons and attendance
- The timetable routine was consistent
- Teachers and our Student Support team routinely contacted student by phone
- One on one meetings offered by individual teachers and counsellors.

VCAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

The VCAA provides curriculum and assessment programs in Victoria from prep to year 10, as well as the VCAL and VCE.

VCAL students' enrolments and results are recorded in both the VCAA's database (called VASS) and Bendigo TAFE student management system.

Statement of Results and VCAL qualifications are issued by the VCAA. In addition to the information, guidance, resources and student support provided to VCAL students by Bendigo TAFE, students are welcome to visit the VCAA website at <http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au>

The information below provides pathway destination data and our VCAL partial and full completions.

2020 VCAL Pathways

Destination	Number of Students
Continue VCAL 2021	54
Employed Full or Part time	16
Apprenticeship	2
VET Course/Pre-app	12
Relocated	9
Health Issue	4
Returned to School	3
Other RTO	5
Destination unknown	7
Withdrawn	7
Total	119

2020 VCAL Student Commencement

VCAL Level	Number of Students
Foundation	36
Intermediate	40
Senior	43
Total Enrolments	119

2020 Student Full Completion

VCAL Level	Number of Students
Foundation	7
Intermediate	2
Senior	13
Total	22

2020 VCAL Partial completion

VCAL Level	Number of Students
Foundation	29
Intermediate	38
Senior	30
Total	97