



From young people:



In your traineeship you learn lots of information and good skills for work and also you make good friends.

My family were happy and proud about me getting the bus to my work. At first they wanted me to call when I got to work but they don't need me to do that now. Mum says I'm confident.

I would like to tell students and parents that work can be really fun and interesting and they shouldn't be nervous about them. If I could get to all schools and tell them about Ticket to Work I would.

Because of this I won't miss any days at work or school because I like it so much and I will keep working and doing my book work for the training.

I was sad about leaving school but now I feel positive about the future because I am sure I will get a job after I leave school because I know what working means

I like using the whipper snipper, the ride-on mower and I am so much more confident using them now and I've enjoyed learning about new plants

Learning to manage my time has improved a lot because I've learnt not to go too slow as we need to get to the next job and this was learnt by not having to make everything 100 per cent perfect. It is making me feel more confident and less scared at work

There is a supervisor at my work and he gives me the confidence and if I continue working it will give me more confidence and I won't need a supervisor in life.

Yes I'm really pumped about finishing school, school has been great but I'm ready to move on. I'm confident about finishing my traineeship and excited. It could lead to really big things!





From employers:

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Ticket to Work introduced us to young people that are enthusiastic, productive and grateful for the opportunity'

Both the students we had as trainees are now employees of the business.

You'd be crazy not to offer a traineeship to students with disability! There is so much energy because they feel so adequate about what they are doing and they are so motivated so that creates a positive energy and you can utilise their motivation to the businesses' advantage!

Our trainee student takes a work load off other staff members, he's been a real help.

It has benefited the business because with the Ticket to Work trainees have been so productive. They are so enthusiastic about their training and the work they do so it brings a level of productivity to the whole team.

It puts a smile on my face, when they are given a task and we work hard on it and finally they can do it on their own and get it done! Just magic.

School based traineeships are economical labour, with our trainee assisting in basic tasks this saves me time.

Ticket to Work meant I was able to employ an enthusiastic and reliable worker.

There was great support from the Ticket to Work network, I always felt supported and could call someone if I had any questions.

We found it helpfully to have someone from Ticket to Work learn the tasks that could support and teach our trainee. It saved us time and allowed us to continue running the business knowing we had that support.

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From parents:



I'm writing this as a very proud mother who has watched her son battle adversity for years and seen him come out on top, a 'winner'. Jayden would say his biggest achievement was being offered a commercial cookery traineeship through his school's involvement in Ticket to Work. After 18 months Jayden was then offered an apprenticeship in commercial cookery ... The transition to full-time employment is hard for any young person leaving school and for Jayden it has meant learning to cope with change (working shift work), reading social cues and working as part of a team in a pressured environment ... The journey for Jayden has not been without its ups and downs but thanks to the dedication of his school and others, Jayden now has a fabulous support network

Ticket to Work has been a very positive move. My son wasn't enjoying school like he used to and Ticket to Work is helping him gain more knowledge and experience in the workforce.

I'm sure the traineeship will help my son in the future. We were quite concerned whether he would fit in at work as he withdraws quite a bit and internalises everything, but we are seeing this change because he is being supported to be more open at work.

I wouldn't know what to do without Ticket to Work because it's helped my son a lot. I was worried he won't get a job in the future or be independent but with this program I now feel more confident he will.

It's made him more confident and social, and he is motivated to go to work. He's willing to learn about the products that he is working with and he is taking it upon himself to learn about the products, off his own volition. They are also offering him extra hours to work so that has given his self - esteem a boost.

I'm really happy with the Ticket to Work process and how it's handled. The way the school has worked with the DES and I haven't been left out of it – a real partnership approach. My daughter wasn't just popped into any old work – there was the lead up, the work trial, the learning process throughout and the paperwork.





From schools:



Ticket to Work has successfully broken down barriers with employers and parents concerned about the employment of students with disability and the success of Ticket to Work is generating a lot of community interest.

Ticket to Work has been great in a way I did not expect, the Grade 7 students want to do the jobs the older students are doing, because they heard about them working and know they get paid for it so they are a great role model for our students.

For a long time special schools dwelled on developing 'life skills' but now we say 'work', 'careers' and 'inclusion in the community' is the main thing we do. These are the words we use in Ticket to Work meetings and now we are all using those words with our students, and the students are using those words with us too.

From Ticket to Work partners:

Collaboration between providers of different services has been beneficial in creating a network that is able to better support young people with disabilities to take up an employment pathway.

Through the hard work of Ticket to Work partners, we have developed a model to improve the job prospects of youth with disability in the region.

Being part of Ticket to Work has given us the confidence to tackle the naysayers, who think these kids cannot work.

Proving young people with disability to gain access to employment needs to be our social contract, and we need the wider community to understand that they can play a key role in supporting youth with disabilities.

