

# skillset. senior college

YOUR FUTURE  
OUR FOCUS

## INFORMATION PACK

- ✓ *Need your RoSA?*
- ✓ *Want a learning environment that caters for YOUR needs?*
- ✓ *Need a School that understands that life is NOT always easy for young people?*



It's school, just not as you know it!

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## Our Purpose at Skillset Senior College

*Skillset Senior College is a registered and accredited non-government school – an independent & private senior college that aims to offer all eligible young people the chance to complete their school education. We especially aim to include those whose lives may be complicated, challenging or require a particular understanding in order to achieve success.*

### **AIM**

Our Aim is to educate young people of the Bathurst region who may have been unable to find success in a conventional senior school environment. We will work with young people in a more adult learning environment to prove that their potential is endless and they can succeed in an environment that is designed specifically for their inclusion.

### **MISSION**

To provide new educational opportunities for young people through a framework that supports and understands their needs, in a real world context.

*Make choices about your future - make choices about your education*

### Did you know?

#### The more you learn the more you earn!

The ABS recently released information that tells us that if a student finishes Yr. 11 their average weekly income is about \$496, if they finish Yr 12 it will be about \$671 and if you achieve a Cert III or IV after that it can go up to \$896!

The higher the qualification, the higher your wage is likely to be.

*A school that provides greater support to those who need it, so that they can finish their education*

### So why not finish school?

#### If you finish school there are long term benefits...

Not just that you finished school, regardless of how well you do. Research says that finishing school means that you are likely to have a better job, be less reliant on government benefits, have better health and less likely to get into trouble with the law. All that – just from finishing school!

Early school leavers are **3 times more likely** to be unemployed than those who complete their secondary education.



### So why not finish school?



Skillset Senior College is an ALESCO school, a Latin term that means '*growth and maturity*' or '*I am growing*'

It means that our students are not just learning, but they are growing and becoming successful members of our community.

Sources: ABS, *Education and Training Experience (2009)*, Cat. No. 6278.055.HYPAF Report 2010

## So, what is Skillset Senior College?

### It is:

- An **independent** secondary senior college registered with the Board of Studies NSW.
- An **education institution** that offers a holistic support approach for young people starting Year 10 in 2015.
- **Flexible** - we work with students to accommodate their needs and understand their differences.
- **Understanding** - an individual approach to understanding that not all young people succeed with the conventional approach to learning and that barriers to education may be faced.
- **Supportive** - smaller class sizes, professional teachers and access to youth support services makes us ready to support student needs holistically.
- **A private school** - there is an eligibility criteria and application procedure to determine who can attend.

## Let's bust some myths

### The college isn't:

- **A behavioural school** - this isn't a school that offers one on one behaviour intervention or high levels of behaviour modification.
- **We aren't going to tolerate everything** - in fact sometimes, learning in an adult environment can be more challenging as the expectations for self-responsibility can be higher.
- **This isn't the easy option** - the school work is the same, following the same curriculum; it's the delivery method and environment that is different. Students who don't want to work may not find success at Skillset Senior College.
- **We won't accept everyone** - we select students carefully through an application and interview process. It's about working together and wanting to succeed, so dedication is a must!

## School Information

Skillset Senior College is part of Skillset Ltd. We've been in Bathurst and the Central West of NSW for 31 years, and currently provide vocational training, apprenticeship and sustainability services to 8 towns across the region. We have a long and proud history of helping thousands of young people access great careers through apprenticeships and traineeships. Our new Senior College just means that we can start helping at an earlier stage, providing school education that could lead to work, an apprenticeship or further study at TAFE or University.



### ***“Skillset Senior College is like being half way between school and TAFE”***

It is an education option designed for students aged 16-18 years who may not be in traditional school and who may not be ready for TAFE. Skillset Senior College offers our students exactly the same school curriculum as found in any NSW secondary school, it is not an equivalent – it is identical. The difference is about **how** we deliver education to our students.

We are different from other alternative education settings as we have a focus on delivering our program in an adult education approach. Mutual respect, choice, independence and accountability are important features.

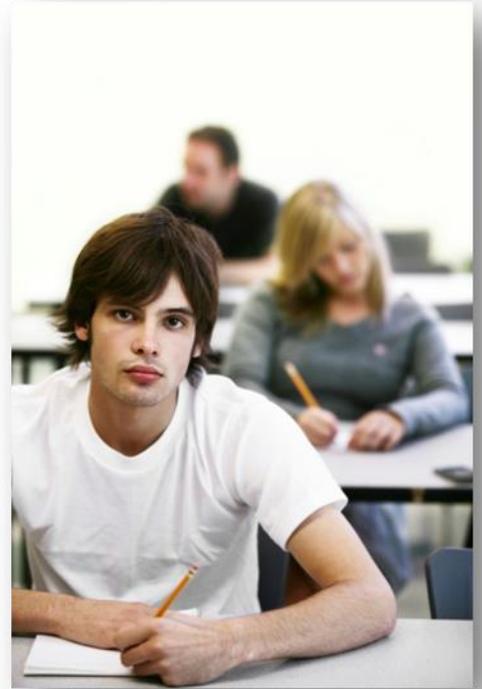


We have smaller class sizes than many schools (approx. 15 students per class) and also have access to full time Youth Support Services to work with students who feel that this would help them achieve.

Skillset Senior College is not always the easy option that students think it will be; they can't misbehave or disrupt other learners here; we will not tolerate violence or bullying of any kind; participating in class is essential.

**Skillset Senior College works for those students who are ready to finish school, but want to do so in a smaller setting.**

In total our whole school will only have 30 students in year one of operation, 2015.



Skillset Senior College is also a legitimate pathway where young people can finish school. It's not a time out program, where they get comfortable and then are sent back to 'mainstream'. Many of our students will leave the traditional school environment to enrol with Skillset Senior College until they finish their RoSA at which point they may feel ready to attempt their HSC at another school or TAFE, or may wish to continue on at Skillset Senior College.

***“Skillset Senior College works for students who want to be treated as an individual.”***

Our students become a part of our college and a part of our community. Some of our students will be with us for 3 years and they get to finish school in a small environment and are ready to face the world at the end of their school journey, with new skills and renewed confidence.

***“Skillset Senior College works for students who want to be treated as young adults.”***

## Courses on Offer

### Year 10.

We offer the opportunity for students to enter into Year 10 and complete the Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

In addition to this school outcome, Skillset Senior College has a strong background in **Vocational Education and Training** and provides all students the opportunity of consistent **work experience** teamed with a nationally accredited qualification that may lead to employment or further study.



### Years 11 and 12

Skillset Senior College proposes to offer Year 10 from 2015, Years 10 and 11 in 2016 and Years 10 to 12 in 2017, allowing interested students to complete their entire secondary schooling with Skillset Senior College.

## Subjects / Curriculum

At Skillset Senior College we have the ability to tailor a student's program to their capabilities.



We are registered and accredited to offer students either General Curriculum Subjects, Generic Life Skills or a combination of both programs, depending on their needs.

We offer students the opportunity to gain accreditation in a NSW Board of studies ROSA just as they would in any other traditional school.

GRADE	Year 10 ROSA
Duration	12 months
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• Maths</li><li>• Science</li><li>• PDHPE</li><li>• Geography</li><li>• History</li><li>• Design &amp; Technology</li><li>• Community and Vocational Studies including Work Experience</li></ul>

## Hours of Operation

### OUR PROGRAM

Hours of operation are **Monday to Friday**.

The College operates 8.45 am – 3.00pm\*

\*this includes any work placement opportunities  
for Year 10 Students



### College Fees

There is a Resource Fee of **\$40** per term

### Term Dates

Skillset Senior College terms generally correspond to NSW secondary school term dates. There are some variations according to which grade and orientation dates, exam dates and graduation etc. For specific details please contact the College directly.

**Students will be notified of Pupil Free Days, Staff Development Days or School Excursions throughout the year as they arise.**

**Skillset Senior College always provides written information when the regular school hours may be changed.**

## Campus Information

We are located right in the heart of the Bathurst education precinct, with TAFE 100m to our Northern border and Charles Sturt University just across the road. School busses stop right at the door for both our William Street and Havannah Street entrances.

Skillset Senior College  
The Flannery Centre  
Skillset Ltd. Bathurst  
390 Panorama Avenue  
Bathurst NSW 2795  
Ph. 6330 1400  
[ssc@skillset.com.au](mailto:ssc@skillset.com.au)

**Maximum Enrolments for 2015: 34.**

**Students per class: approx. 17.**

### Proposed Staffing:

Principal

Head Teacher, full time

Teacher, part time

Teacher, part time

Administration Officer, full time

Principal:	Mr Craig Randazzo BA (Psych., Ed.); Adv. Dip. Mgmt., AIMM
Head Teacher:	TBA
Teachers	TBA
Other staff:	TBA



## How to Enrol

All enrolments are received via an “*Application for Enrolment*” form and an interview process.

Contact Skillset Senior College on the number on the front of this brochure if you require an application for enrolment to be sent out to you or download one from our website

[www.skillsetseniorcollege.com.au](http://www.skillsetseniorcollege.com.au)

After we receive your application it will join the list of students waiting for intake. At certain times in the year we will contact students on the list to check they still want to apply. Students are then offered an opportunity to attend an interview. There are approximate dates for these intake times which are;

ROUND ONE: Year 10 Program	Mid December in the year prior to enrolment
ROUND TWO: Year 10	Mid-January in the year of enrolment

Students will not be enrolled at Skillset Senior College without attending interview. Parents or Carers are welcome to join their student for the interview but it is the student that we are most interested in talking to.

We will ask questions about their previous schooling and why they want to attend Skillset Senior College. We will ask about any relevant health history or behavioural incidents. We may also ask about their support networks or peer networks. People who participate in the interview with an openness and willingness to embrace change have the best chance of gaining a position within the school.

We may have more young people on the list than we can accept so we remind you that an interview is not a guarantee of enrolment.

The Skillset Senior College selection criterion looks at 8 key areas...

- Social disadvantage or isolation
- Age
- Academic level
- Financial disadvantage
- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (ATSI)
- Learning difficulties / disabilities
- Behavioural difficulties / disabilities

**Success relies on the  
individual's desire to  
make it happen.**