

The Insider

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Western Vocational Association Inc.

A word from Brian.

Hi all, we are nearly at the Easter Holidays already. The last time I looked we were just coming out of the Christmas holidays, how time flies!

Jobs West is glad to let our clients and their families know, that our Star Rating which was a three(3) and our Performance, was good enough for the Department of Social Service to grant us another two (2) years of continuing to provide a service to the people of the North Western suburbs. Jobs West intends to continue to support its clients for at least the next two years, and hopefully beyond this time frame as well.

Developing your Skills

'Developing your skills at work makes sense for a number of reasons:

- helps you do your job better
- keeps your skills up to date
- may help you move into a new position or job in the future.

The first step is to ensure you have a current job description or work plan so that you understand your work responsibilities. Identify areas where you may need to develop or learn new skills. These may include technical or job specific skills such as ability to use a database or operate machinery. You may also identify general skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, project or time management that apply in any workplace.

With your supervisor, discuss and agree on a plan for developing your skills in the areas you have identified. You may be able to build skills through 'on the job' training and assistance from your co-workers or in other cases external training may be most appropriate. It is helpful to agree on a timeframe for your plan and ensure it is realistic and specific. After a period of time, review your plan to assess the progress you have made.'

http://jobaccess.gov.au/Jobseekers/Thriving_at_work/Developing_your_skills

Jobs West would like to thank the following companies for their support:

Safeway - Williamstown

Alan Mance Motors - Footscray

Metropol Hotel - Melbourne

Coles - Burnside

KFC - Niddrie

Coles - Taylors Hill

Melbourne University - Parkville

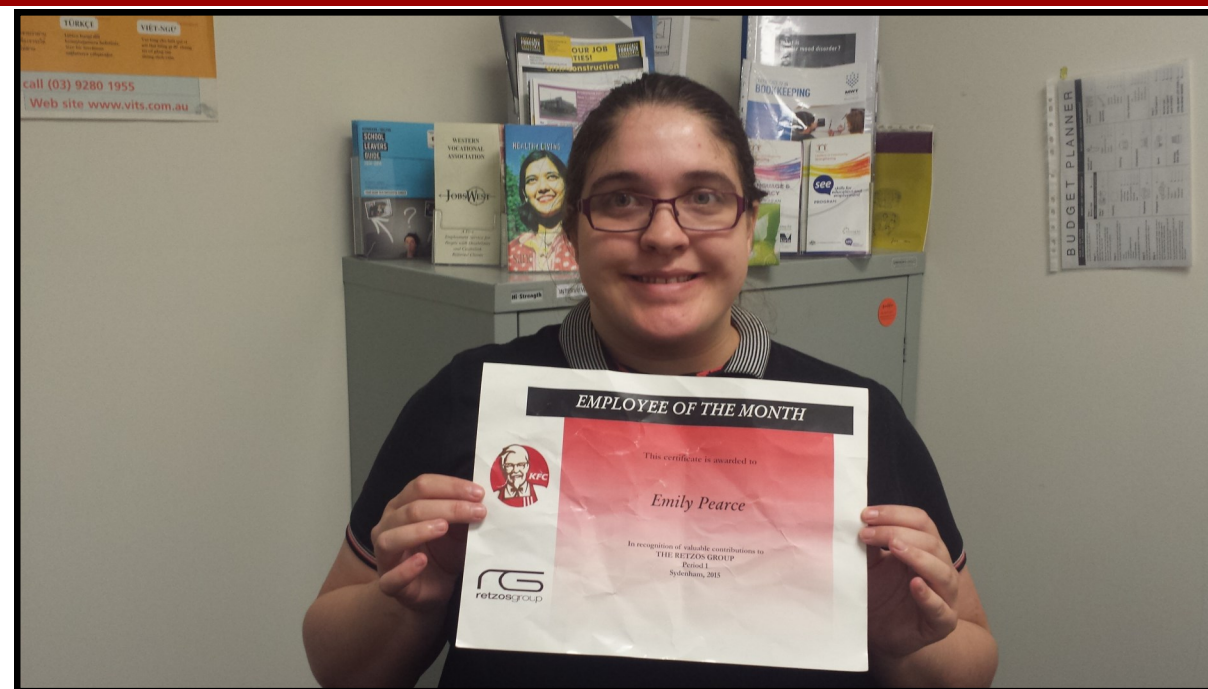
Palm Place Nursery - Greenvale

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EMILY



Emily holding her Employee of the Month Award

Emily is employed at KFC Taylors Lakes. Emily is one of the most dedicated employees at KFC, which is why she has been awarded Employee of the Month! In addition to receiving her certificate, Emily also received a Coles Myer gift Card voucher in recognition of her outstanding effort.

Working for KFC is Emily's first paid job, she works 3 days a week and has now been working for KFC for around 18 months. Emily is a hard worker and loves her job. "Shift supervisors at KFC have said that she is punctual and is always on time." Emily never lets her team down, that is why she is a valued member to her team at KFC Taylors Lakes.

Jobs West would like to congratulate Emily on her exceptional achievement in being presented with this award and her consistent effort that she has been putting in at work. Jobs West would also like to sincerely thank the management and staff at KFC Taylors Lakes for their most valued support of Emily.

MYTHS

Myths about people with a disability and work

Myth: BASIC JOBS ONLY

'Employers may have a misconception that people with disability can only work in simple or base grade jobs. This is not the case as people with disability work across occupations, including in apprenticeships and traineeships, and at all levels of competency:

- 19 per cent of employees with disability work in professional occupations
 - 15 per cent of employees with disability are clerical sales and administrative workers
- 15 per cent of employees with disability are technicians and trade workers (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2009).'

<http://jobaccess.gov.au/content/Myths-about-disability>

DISABILITY SERVICE STANDARDS

Standard 5: Service Access

Finding and using services is fair.
You can access the services you need.



Standard 6: Service Management

Disability services should be managed well.



BITS AND PIECES

The skills of people with a disability, a higher standard.

In a recent article titled; 'Technology, the key to changing the culture of disability' by Lisa Visentin, in The Age newspaper, Dr Mark Bagshaw shares his views on what people with disability can bring into the workforce.



Dr Mark Bagshaw states; "As an employer, one of the key things I would look for are people who can solve problems. People with a disability have developed those skills, generally, to a much higher level than the average person."

"There is nothing remarkable about a person with a disability having a successful career. Dr Mark Bagshaw insists. "It's not the disability that's the problem here. It's incredibly challenging for people with a disability to be dealing with a world that doesn't expect very much from them."

Part of the messages that Dr Mark Bagshaw shares with us, show us that giving people with a Disability a fair go, giving them an opportunity in a workplace can be a smart move for an Employer.

Quotes from : <http://www.smh.com.au/business/technology-the-key-to-changing-the-culture-of-disability-20150130-130wv5.html#ixzz3QXhEsiSr>

FACTS

Facts on types of disability

Fact:

1. Around 668,100 Australians have intellectual and/or development disorders
2. 10% of the population has dyslexia. That's more than two million Australians.
3. Almost 90 per cent of disabilities are not visible

<http://www.and.org.au/pages/disability-statistics.html>