

Opportunities for Students from Special Schools

At Substation33 we understand that the requirements of some students are not going to be met by mainstream work experience. We have long been a safe place for special school students to come and work at their own pace while still experiencing a real work environment. Gaining this work experience provides flexibility for the student to pursue activities they enjoy without fear of failure or disappointing others. It also informs them of what they do not want to pursue if their experience is different to what they imagined. This ultimately builds their skills and confidence, preparing them to try new things as opportunities arise in the future.

While students are at school:

Students can visit Substation33 in a group or individually with their support teachers.

On the first day all students and their support teachers will complete a workplace induction and tour of Substation33. This takes about 15 minutes. They will then be logged into our system and every time after that when they arrive they will log in and log out when they leave.

Students can spend as little or as much time at Substation33 as is suitable. At first they may need shorter visits but these can become as long as is practical for their needs and the school schedule. Students are welcome to bring their morning tea or lunch along too.

When students leave school:

Many students continue to attend Substation33 after they leave school as it can help provide a familiar and safe transition into life beyond school.

Some bring their support workers/carers and some are able to come without because they have become familiar with the environment and are able to cope with minimal support from our staff. Either way, many students find purpose and enjoyment in coming to do volunteer work at Substation33 as many times per week as suits them.

Substation33 has many types of volunteer work and school leavers can explore these different areas and learn new skills to suit their abilities. It is a safe space to try new skills to learn and grow.

We have some volunteers who started attending Substation33 while they were in year 10 at a local special school and they still come in multiple times each week six years later!

You are welcome tour Substation33 to see what we have to offer your students and school leavers.

For further information and support please call or email Substation33:



07 3826 1533



info@substation33.com.au



www.substation33.com.au/



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What skills might be developed?

Area

Skills

General Workplace

- Attending work on time and time management.
- Completing agreed volunteer hours.
- Presentation skills – attending in uniform (if required), wearing WH&S appropriate clothing and footwear and appropriate personal hygiene.
- Building relationships with supervisors and other volunteers.
- Understanding workplace appropriate language and behaviour.
- Working with volunteers from diverse backgrounds including age, ability, culture, sexuality, gender and class.
- Develop communication and interpersonal skills.
- Working as part of a team, resilience, adaptability, self-confidence and self-esteem.

Recovery Tables

- Manual disassembly of electronic e-waste.
- Decision making and processing via sorting e-waste for recycling – plastics, wires, metal, copper, fans, batteries, motherboards etc.
- Dexterity, fine and gross motor skill development.
- Exploring how electronic items are built and how they are disassembled.
- Gaining an understanding of recycling methods and the circular economy.
- Development of communication and interpersonal skills, including teamwork.
- Developing an understanding of and learning to respect differences including age, ability, culture, sexuality, gender, and class.

Our facilities:

The factory floor is wheelchair accessible where most volunteer work takes place.

Kitchen

- fridges for lunch storage
- microwave
- kettle
- toaster
- free tea, coffee and milo

Bathroom

- 2 gender-neutral toilet stalls
- toilets are not very disability friendly - participants and carers are advised to check the facilities for suitability

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