



ganbina

Building future pathways

Welcome to the August edition of *Focus*. This month, we celebrate the many opportunities taken up by our participants to build on their confidence, develop practical skills, explore future pathways, and see what is possible for their education, employment and leadership journeys.

Across each program and experience, it has been inspiring to see everyone step forward with curiosity, resilience and pride. By embracing new challenges and continuing to grow their skills, knowledge and confidence, they are strengthening their future pathways and making a positive impact in their communities.

Ganbina 2026 Achievement Awards

The Ganbina 2026 Achievement Awards recognise and celebrate the dedication, growth and achievements of participants and young people who are working towards their goals and making a positive impact in their community.

Award applications will open on 14 September 2026, ahead of the Awards Presentation Night on 13 November. This special evening is an important opportunity to celebrate achievement, growth and the ongoing commitment shown by participants across Ganbina programs.

Employer Partnerships

ANZ Traineeship Program

We are delighted to be partnering with ANZ to deliver a Traineeship program for our participants. This is an incredible opportunity to gain hands-on experience, professional development, and the chance to build a rewarding career in banking and corporate services.



ANZ values the important work Ganbina does in supporting our participants and are proud to work with us to support our participants achieve their career goals. If you would like to learn more about traineeship program based in Shepparton or Echuca, please call Tracy and the team to continue the conversation further.

Want to learn more about ANZ First Nations careers - [First Nations career opportunities | ANZ](#)

Spotlight Drivers Program

Take the wheel and drive your future with Ganbina's Drivers Program. Our professional partners support participants to gain their driver licence, helping build confidence, independence, and essential life skills. Having a licence can open doors to education, training, employment, and stronger community connections.

Jordan Hamlyn, Artie Tannah Lewczuk and Shakira Cuzner successfully completed 10 driving lessons, achieving their Probationary Licence. This important milestone has increased their independence and opened new opportunities for education, employment, and staying connected with family and community. Our participant's achievement reflects commitment and highlights the positive impact of Ganbina's Drivers Program in supporting young people to build confidence, develop life skills, and reach their goals.



Industry Tours

Year 9 - Discovering future pathways tour

A day of discovery took Ganbina Year 9 participants from Greater Shepparton Secondary College, Notre Dame and Kyabram P-12 on an inspiring journey through La Trobe University, GOTAFE and Coles. The tour provided students with a valuable glimpse into future study and career opportunities, reminding them that their future is full of possibility and that every step they take in learning can open doors to meaningful careers and brighter futures.

Throughout the day, participants represented Ganbina with pride, showing respect, curiosity and enthusiasm as they engaged with presenters and explored different pathways. From higher education and vocational training to employment opportunities, the experience broadened horizons and left students with new knowledge, motivation, and a greater understanding of the exciting opportunities that await them in the future.



LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY

gotafe

coles

“ It was so good to see what is available outside of school. ”



Year 8 - Career options tour

Ganbina's year 8 careers option tour provided Ganbina participants from Greater Shepparton Secondary College, Notre Dame and Kyabram P-12 with valuable opportunities to explore a range of industries. From creating a cleaner environment at FOOTT and earning extra pocket money to further education and employment career options.

Participants learned about the diverse range of roles available within different businesses, the importance of customer service, teamwork, and workplace expectations. The experience gave participants a better understanding of the skills and attributes needed to succeed in a range of local sectors. The career options tour highlighted how pocket money can be made from waste, as well as how part-time employment can provide valuable experience, build confidence, and develop transferable skills for future careers.

It was a successful and inspiring day, leaving participants with new knowledge, motivation, and a greater understanding of the exciting opportunities that await them in the future.

An excited participant said:

“ I can't wait to get a casual job at Coles for after school and weekend work. ”

Year 7 - Discovery Tour

Ganbina's discovery tour offered participants a structured introduction to learning beyond the classroom. Our participants took part in real-life experiences to discover the many career, education and training pathways available within their local community. These visits encourage participants to connect what they learn at school with practical workplace experiences, build their understanding of different industries, and see the skills and opportunities that can support their future success. By meeting local employers, education providers and workers, participants gain confidence, broaden their aspirations and begin to imagine what is possible for their own further education and employment journey.

The tour focuses on building relationships, developing leadership and teamwork skills, and supporting a smooth transition into secondary schooling through engaging and age-appropriate experiences. The participants have the opportunity to tour Shepparton Art Museum, Kmart and Shepparton Magistrates Court.



sam
Shepparton Art Museum

Kmart

MCV
MAGISTRATES' COURT
OF VICTORIA

Youth Leadership Program

Unique Experience 2 - Cairns

Participants stepped outside their everyday environments and engaged in meaningful cultural, educational, and personal development experiences. The program is designed to broaden students' horizons through cultural learning, exposure to different career pathways, and opportunities to build connections beyond their local communities.

"Today I learned that the community is very different from Shepparton, they have more culture activities."

Over the course of five days, our participants developed greater independence and strengthened their understanding of Aboriginal culture and identity. Cultural learning was central to the program, with students gaining firsthand knowledge of Aboriginal traditions, storytelling, hunting and the connection between culture and country.

"The mob from Cairns truly have such a deep and knowledgeable connection with the land and each other."

Participants also explored future education pathways through a visit to James Cook University and developed a deeper appreciation of Australia's natural environments through visits to Green Island, the Great Barrier Reef, and the Daintree River. Many participants experienced activities such as the river cruise and glass-bottom boat tour for the first time, creating memorable moments that broadened their perspectives and encouraged curiosity.

"The program I learnt how different the welcoming to the land is, and that they used to paint men and women for when they were going into new land so they wouldn't get in trouble as a part of their identity."





Community Dinner

Hosted at the GV Hotel on Friday 19 June, Ganbina hosted our youth leadership group, Elders, community members, partners, and respected leaders for an evening of connection, storytelling, reflection, and learning.

The evening is an important component of the Youth Leadership Program, providing participants with an opportunity to strengthen their understanding of their culture and identity while fostering meaningful relationships within the community.

The evening provided a valuable platform for participants to engage with community members and Elders who generously shared their personal journeys, cultural knowledge, leadership experiences, and advice for the next generation of leaders. Speakers emphasised the importance of maintaining strong connections to culture and community, embracing opportunities for personal growth, and recognising the role young people play as future leaders. Their messages reinforced the significance of the Youth Leadership Program in supporting and shaping Aboriginal youth to reach their full potential.

Participants were privileged to hear from three guest speakers whose diverse experiences offered inspiration, practical leadership lessons, and valuable career insights.



First Aid Training

Our First Aid Training program gave youth leadership group the opportunity to develop practical, life-saving skills they can use to support their families, workplaces and communities. Through hands-on learning and real-world scenarios, participants practised responding to emergencies while gaining a deeper understanding of the importance of staying calm under pressure, working as a team and helping others when they need it most.

“ I feel like I could help someone if they needed me. ”

The training helped participants build confidence, responsibility and teamwork, while reinforcing that First Aid is a valuable skill that extends far beyond the classroom. Participants left with a greater sense of capability and an understanding that being prepared can make a real difference in someone's life.

For many, the program was about more than becoming job ready. It was about stepping up for family, friends and community when it matters most.

“It made me feel proud because these are skills I can use for life.”

By the end of the training, participants felt more confident, more connected and empowered with the knowledge and skills to support those around them.



FIRST AID

“ Working together made it easier to learn and remember what to do. ”



Digital Accelerated Learning Program

(internal)

Our program gave participants the opportunity to learn in a way that felt engaging, interactive and rewarding. Using online learning tools, participants worked through activities at their own pace, built their skills and tracked their progress throughout the program. The pilot was delivered across Terms 2 and 3 as part of Ganbina's journey towards more flexible and accessible learning opportunities.

For participants, the program was about more than completing learning activities. It was about building confidence, developing new skills and discovering what they could achieve when they challenged themselves.

"I liked being able to see my progress and try to do better each time."

"It made learning more interesting because I could see how I was improving."

Participants enjoyed being able to take ownership of their learning and celebrated each milestone along the way. Many became more confident in using technology while strengthening their reading, maths and problem-solving skills.

Our team saw participants grow in confidence as they became more familiar with the online learning platform and took greater ownership of their learning journey.

"It was rewarding to watch participants build confidence and take pride in their achievements."

The digital format also created new opportunities to recognise progress and celebrate success, helping participants stay motivated and engaged throughout the program.

The impact of the program was also felt beyond the classroom, with families seeing growing confidence and enthusiasm for learning at home.

"My child was excited to show me what they had achieved and talk about their progress."

The program was about more than using technology. It was about creating positive learning experiences, building confidence and helping young people develop skills they can use in their education, future careers and everyday lives.

By the end of the program, participants felt more confident, more motivated and prouder of what they had achieved. The pilot showed how digital learning can support young people to stay engaged, reach their goals and continue growing as learners.

“ The program helped us better understand where participants were doing well and where they might need extra support. ”

“ It showed me that if I keep practising,
I can achieve my goals. ”

“ I've seen a real boost in my
child's confidence since
taking part in the program. ”

“ It's been great to see my child enjoy learning
and feel proud of what they've accomplished. ”



**Participants are encouraged to join the Primary
Accelerated Learning Program Celebration on 11 September.**



On the radar

September

Friday 11th	Primary Accelerated Learning Program Celebration
Monday 14th	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Applications Open</i>
Friday 18th	Term 3 Concludes <i>*Dates may differ for independent and Catholic schools</i>
Monday 21st - 25th	Youth Leadership Program <i>Unique Experience Trip 3</i>

October

Monday 5th	Term 4 Commences <i>*Dates may differ for independent and Catholic schools</i>
Friday 16th	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Applications Close</i>
Thursday 22nd - 23rd	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Winners notified</i>
Tuesday 27th - 28th	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Photos</i>

November

Friday 13th	Youth Achievement Awards <i>Dinner Presentation</i>
-------------	--

December

Friday 18th	Term 4 Concludes <i>*Dates may differ for independent and Catholic schools</i>
Wednesday 23rd	Ganbina Head Office <i>(Shapparton) closes</i>

Follow Us

ganbina.com.au



ganbina