

Weekly News for New South Wales

For March 23, 2020

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Open Days & Info Sessions

Cancelled Events

24 March | CSU Explore Day, Albury-Wodonga

24 March | CSU Medicine Info Night, Sydney

31 March | CSU Explore Day, Wagga Wagga

4 April | Endeavour College of Natural Health Open Day – Now a virtual open day on 22 April

6 April | CSU Medicine Info Night, Port Macquarie

8 April | CSU Medicine Info Night, Albury-Wodonga

22 April | Discover Midwifery @ UTS

27 April – 3 May | Sydney Writers' Festival

28 April | CSU Explore Day, Orange

8 May | UNE Open Day – Postponed – new date TBC

21 May | UTS Girls in STEM Day

3 June | UTS STEM Day

10 June | UTS High School Senior Information Evening

ADCET Webinar: World Autism Acceptance Day – Student Panel

2 April 2020, 1:00 pm

Online

During this webinar you will have the opportunity to hear directly from university students on the autism spectrum.

The webinar will explore a number of key questions, including:

- What are some of the challenges students face in their studies?
- What helps a student succeed in their studies?
- What support or assistance does the student's university provide?
- What advice would a student give to others on the autism spectrum who are considering studying at university?

The webinar is free to attend.

Find out more: <https://www.adcet.edu.au/resource/10261/adcet-webinar-world-autism-acceptance-day-student-panel/>

WSU | Hawkesbury Campus Tour

3 April 2020, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Western Sydney University, Hawkesbury Campus

Come and explore all Western Sydney University has to offer. Take one of our guided Campus Tours and see what life at Western is really like.

You'll take a tour of our lecture theatres and teaching facilities, stroll through our campus libraries, take in our various food outlets and have the opportunity to learn more about the various degrees on offer, course selection, living on campus and university life.

Find out more: <https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/student-life/events/campus-tours.html>

Endeavour College of Natural Health | Virtual Open Day

22 April 2020, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Online

Attending a Virtual Open Day is a great way to find out more about the educational institution you are thinking of attending and to ask all the study and enrolment questions you need to.

Whether you're at home, in an office, or even overseas, you can join our Virtual Open Day from wherever you are on your smartphone or computer.

Find out more: <https://www.endeavour.edu.au/events/virtual-open-day-apr-2020/>

ACU | School Leaver and Parent Information Evening, Strathfield

13 May 2020, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus

How does the university application and entry process work? What is the best way to combine work, life and study?

Join us for our School Leaver and Parent Information Evening to:

- hear from parents and current students about their experiences at uni
- get information from UAC about the application process
- explore an expo where you can speak with our team about courses, the path to uni and campus life.

Find out more: <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/events/2020/may/school-leaver-and-parent-information-evening-strathfield>

SCCE | Exchange Information Webinar

14 May 2020, 6:00 pm - 14 May 2020, 6:00 pm

Online

At SCCE, we understand that there is a lot to consider when going on exchange, which is why we are happy to offer these regular online information webinars to teach you all about your student exchange options.

Our online sessions go for approximately 30 minutes. They will guide you through everything from our destinations and program lengths, to what is included in your fees and what you will need in regards to insurance and your Visa.

There is also time at the end of our webinars to ask any questions you may have, so it's a wonderful opportunity to interact with our staff.

Find out more: <https://scce.clickmeeting.com/thurs-14-may-info-session-1/register>

USQ Beyond the Books Online Series

USQ released a series of webinars all about issues relevant to students, such as assessment management, careers, study tips and more.

Even though these webinars are aimed at uni students, they still contain heaps of valuable information for high school students, and can help you decide whether further study is right for you.

Check them out here: <https://www.usq.edu.au/webinars>

Workshops & Courses

National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) 2021

Applications are now open for students who want to be a part of the National Youth Science Forum in 2021.

The NYSF Year 12 Program is a 10-day residential program designed to give students a broader understanding of the diverse study and career options available in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to encourage continued studies in these fields. At the NYSF Year 12 Program run in January each year, participants will:

- visit science and technology related laboratories and facilities,
- go on site tours,
- listen to lectures,
- take part in workshops,
- go to social events, and
- participate in group activities that improve communication and presentation skills.

Applications are open until Sunday 14 June.

Find out more and apply here: <https://www.nysf.edu.au/programs/year-12-program/>

Online Dance Classes

Wanting to learn how to dance but feeling a bit embarrassed about doing it in public? Groove Therapy have released a series of dance courses you can complete online, in the comfort of your own home.

The courses are perfect for beginners, meaning you can jump right in even if you don't have any dance experience.

Find out more here: <https://courses.groovetherapy101.com/>

Learn to Code with Scratch

Have you ever wanted to make your own games or animations? Scratch is a great free online resource that you can use.

You don't need to know any coding to start – it works using a “block” principle rather than writing lines of code.

Find out more here: <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Google Applied Digital Skills Workshops

Google's Applied Digital Skills Program offers a series of free videos where you can learn all about digital programs and skills to help you navigate the online world.

Their videos include a variety of topics from data analysis to research and communication.

Find out more here: <https://applieddigitalskills.withgoogle.com/en/digital-training>

Competitions

Enter SmartFone Flick Fest

SmartFone Flick Fest is Australia's international smartphone film festival for filmmakers of all ages. They are a world-wide festival open to anyone with a smartphone or tablet and a great idea for a short film.

SF3 provides a platform for budding, emerging and professional filmmakers to bring their ideas to life and have their films seen by a global audience, without the need for lots of fancy equipment or a big budget.

You can submit your movie any time before Saturday 1 August.

Find out more and enter here: <https://sf3.com.au/>

Techgirls Competition

Registration for the 2020 Techgirls Competition is now open.

The program combines problem-solving through a social, business and technical lens, producing high-quality business plans, pitch videos and working app prototypes.

Girls aged 7-17 are invited to participate in teams of up to 8 students.

Team registration closes on Saturday 25 April.

Find out more and enter here: <https://www.techgirlsmovement.org/competition/>

Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards

Entries to the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards are now open for 2020.

Students in all years from kindergarten to year 12 can enter.

This year the theme is "We Used to Live There."

Entries are open until Tuesday 30 June.

Find out more and enter here: <https://www.dorothea.com.au/How-to-Enter-awards>

MobileMuster Film Competition

Do you have a passion for film making and the environment?

MobileMuster want you to create a one minute film encouraging your community to recycle their old mobile phones. The theme for the 2020 competition is "Small actions. Big Impact".

You don't have to be an experienced filmmaker to take part – all you need is an idea, imagination and motivation.

Entry is free and is open to all primary, secondary and tertiary students in Australia.

Entries are due Monday 21 September.

Find out more and enter here: <https://www.mobilemuster.com.au/competition/>

Further Learning

Business Cadetships Program

For Year 12 students who are interested in business and/or technology, why wait until you finish university to launch your career? Apply for a cadetship under the Business Cadetships Program.

Business Cadets combine study at the university of their choice in Sydney with paid work at **UBS**, a top-ranking global bank. Cadets may choose from a wide range of degrees, including economics, commerce, business, computer science & technology, actuarial studies, mathematics and the humanities.

The Business Cadetships Program has been running for thirteen years. Cadets are placed in a range of business areas at UBS, including Group Technology. As a cadet, you have the opportunity to work alongside world-class professionals and are well remunerated.

By studying and working at a leading company from the start of university, cadets earn a competitive advantage over students who delay work until after university. Only current Year 12 students can apply so this is your once-in-a-lifetime chance to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity!

Applications for the Business Cadetships Program are currently open to students intending to study and work in Sydney. Applications **close on 13 May 2020**. By this date, both your Application Form and School Assessment are due in.

To apply, go to www.businesscadetships.com.au

Top 5 Online Course Providers

If you're stuck at home but don't want to fall behind on your learning, or are just looking for something different than watching Netflix all day, there are heaps of online providers that offer courses and education resources.

You can study almost any subject you can think of, and many of them are free as well.

Here are some of our top picks:

- edX – <https://www.edx.org/>
- TED-Ed – <https://ed.ted.com/lessons>
- FutureLearn – <https://www.futurelearn.com/>
- Open Learning – <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/>
- Coursera – <https://www.coursera.org/>

Work Experience

[InsideSherpa Virtual Work Experience](#)

Build experience and skills with InsideSherpa's company-backed Virtual Work Experience Programs.

Virtual Work Experience Programs are online programs built and endorsed by leading companies. They contain a series of resources and tasks designed to simulate the real-world experience of starting a career.

Virtual Work Experience Programs are open access for everyone, and are free.

[Learn more](#)

Resources

[7 stay-at-home resources](#)

Stuck in quarantine, or school's been shut down because of the recent Corona Virus outbreak? Here are some useful activities and resources you can access without stepping foot outside your front door.

1. [Build yourself a Portfolio](#)

Portfolios are a really great way to record all your achievements from studies, skills, and activities to references, in the one spot.

You could take some time to get organised, ensuring you never lose important dates and details again.

You'll even be able to share items or the whole portfolio in PDF format, add references, and set reminders to update your portfolio down the track.

Plus when you're ready to apply for a job, course, or tertiary institution, all the information is ready to go and creating a customised, professional resume will only take minutes.

2. **Win some stuff**

Taking part in competitions can be really good fun, and there are thousands out there to choose from, so you're bound to be able to find something that floats your boat.

Aside from the fun aspect, some competitions have seriously cool prizes and could even earn you some \$\$\$'s.

Plus, taking part in competitions (even if you don't win) counts towards your lifetime achievements and teaches you new skills, all of which looks great on your resume.

Here are some of the [competitions](#) that we've found.

3. [Set some goals](#), and then kick them

If you're not convinced that you should bother setting goals, why not have a read of our [blog](#), it could change your mind.

Perhaps you've already set goals but your struggling to keep track of them?

Just a few minutes spent on our [Goal Generator](#) could help you narrow down the goals that really matter to you, set milestones and a timeline that could help you stay accountable. You can download your personalised goals, print them out, pop them in your calendar or stick them up on your wall for motivation.

It could be a bit of fun to do with the rest of your family too.

4. Research [Higher Education Providers](#)

When you're busy at school and running between activities, there's probably not much time to consider your post-high school options, let alone have a search through the institutions and see what they offer.

But if you're having an enforced period of couch time, why not start doing some research?

Our [database](#) lists 95 universities and other tertiary institutions, with links to their official websites, it could be a simple place to get started. You can search by state, qualification level, or career field to help narrow down your options.

Remember you can also check out the universities FAQs section, call to speak to an advisor in future students, or ask questions by email or in chat sessions.

Worried your Year 12 results won't get you into the course you want after you've done your research, then you can also check out the [alternative pathways](#) offered by the education provider you're interested in studying with.

And if you're considering [vocational education \(VET\)](#) including an apprenticeships, traineeships or other TAFE courses as a pathway to the career you'd like, then our dedicated page has loads of information and options that could interest you.

5. Save money with [Scholarships](#)

When you're thinking about your future, most people will be thinking about money – how much will the course cost you and how you can afford to live while you study.

Take some time to read up about scholarships, they're literally giving money away.

Sure you have to submit an application for most of them, but an application won't take too long (the more you do, the faster you'll get), and it would be time well spent.

So if you're interested in a particular career pathway or institution, why not see what financial boosts are available to you. You could start your search on our [scholarships database](#).

6. Join in via the virtual world

Thankfully in the modern world of technology, we're never really isolated, so if you're craving some interaction or you'd like to spend some time productively, you could sign up for online courses, webinars, online information sessions, tedx talks, and more.

7. Prioritise yourself

Take some time to look after yourself, your physical and mental health.

You'll stand the best chance of warding off illnesses when you're in great shape, eat healthily, stay hydrated and get lots of sleep. But your mental health can also impact on how well your immune systems functions.

So why not read some tips on wellbeing, take the opportunity to change implement some healthy new habits and embrace the enforced break from all your usual routine.

If you're not sure where to start we've lots of posts and blogs that you could check out on our [wellbeing page](#).

8. Adult like a boss

While you could happily binge watch Netflix and make Tik Tok videos for a few weeks, spending some of your time a bit more wisely could be a great investment for your future.

Plus, your initiative and motivation will be bound to impress your parents and school, and there's no such thing as "too many brownie points".

Tour the World's Most Famous Museums Without Leaving Your House

Museums and galleries can hold some incredibly interesting things – but a lot of them are all the way on the other side of the world.

Google has teamed up with some of the world's most famous museums to create virtual tours, meaning you can explore their collections without even having to leave the house.

Check it out here: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner>

Real Insurance Real Wishes Survey

Real Insurance has recently surveyed over 5000 Australians, asking them about their wishes and career aspirations, and what they hope to achieve in the coming year. There are some interesting statistics, including:

- 70% of Australians concerned about their careers and wanting to feel confident in their job security.
- 68% of Australians want to update their skills or retrain to learn new skills
- Over 60% of Australians hope to see an improvement in employment opportunities.

You can read the full report here: <https://www.realinsurance.com.au/news-views/unlocking-the-2020-real-wishes-australians>

Stuck at home?

Cabin fever and boredom can be responsible for some really bad moods and unhelpful head spaces.

A good way to combat those feelings, is to stay busy.

You might think that's not as easy as it sounds if you're in lock down, but there are loads of resources already out there, with more popping up every day.

Here are some of our top suggestions:

Get "out" without leaving your house

- [Take a virtual tour of 12 of the best museums around the world](#)
- Trawl through [Australia's Natural History collections](#)
- [Explore the world](#)
- Take part in [live streaming ballet classes available to all](#)
- Listen to podcasts – they're free and there are thousands out there to choose from.

Here are some lists to scroll through and inspire you:

[The 40 Best Educational Podcasts in 2020](#)

[Top 10 Career Podcasts To Listen to This Year \(2019\)](#)

- Watch some [Ted Talks](#) – there are over 3000 to choose from
- Get an opportunity to see the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra live on YouTube, or watch the [Vancouver Symphony Orchestra](#) on livestream
- Find other [livestreams and virtual concerts](#) from some of your favourite artists and performers
- Take free [online art lessons](#)
- Do home [workouts](#), sign up for free trials, or search for live streaming exercise classes you can take part in
- Learn new skills and eat delicious meals by [signing up to online cooking courses](#) – some are free, some you'll have to pay for others though, find one that suits your budget
- Sign up for [virtual Open days](#) at universities you're interested in attending
- Attend a [Twitter Conference](#)
- Find out what online services your local library offers, you might be surprised at their range of online offers.
- Alternatively sign into other libraries and borrow ebooks for free, then read until your hearts content:

[Open Library](#)

[National Library of Australia](#)

[Project Gutenberg](#)

[Google Books](#) – search the name of the book you’re after & if it’s on the library start reading without downloading or signing up

Research [careers](#) and pathways that get you excited

Time is one thing that we always seem to be short of, so if you’re stuck at home then why not take advantage of it to explore all the careers out there.

Then, if you find something that appeals to you, delve a little deeper and find out how to go about making that career a reality for you.

- Listen to podcasts profiling careers e.g [Working](#) – a series of interviews with Americans about their work life
- Watch [YouTube](#) videos e.g. day in the life of ... (search for careers related content)
- Read [job spotlights](#) and other [career resources](#)
- Take some job quizzes: [FYA](#), [Skillsroad](#), [Free Career Test](#) they might help you if you can’t decide about what to do after high school

Get some things ticked off at home

- Do all your updates on computers, phones and other technology
- Clean out all your files and folders, make room on your devices by removing unused apps, and downloading all your photos
- Organise your digital photos (you’ll end up scrolling through them and having the best time). You could even order prints online, create photo books or create displays for around home.
- Research your next holiday. It might seem cruel with travel bans in place but it’s always fun researching far off places and you could always check out destinations in Australia too.
- Choose an old school skill and work on it – baking, woodwork, fermenting, permaculture are a few examples
- Help out in the garden
- Help out in the house with a deep clean, get into all the nooks and crannies – it could be really satisfying and your parents will thank you for it
- Have a designated movie marathon day
- Catch up with friends and family on the phone or by video messaging, it’ll cheer you up and make their day too
- Get everything out of the games cupboard and challenge your family to play them all
- Have a go at a really challenging jigsaw puzzle – leave it somewhere everyone can have a go as they pass by
- Find out how to fix broken things and then do it
- Rearrange your room

- Plan all the gifts you'll need for the next year – work out your budget, and start doing some online research. You could have your Christmas shopping sorted by the time Easter rolls around.
- Get out the backyard cricket set, or organise a family sports day – the sillier the events, the more fun it could be

Take control of your education

Find topics, subjects and activities that interest you.

Spend time a little time on subjects you struggle with at school, or take some time to try out something brand new that could be the start of a new passion or pathway in life.

ABC Education

Play [cool games](#), [learn things](#), watch [awesome shows](#) and enter [competitions](#) to win prizes. Check out [what's happening in the news](#) and around the world.

Khan Academy

Especially good for maths and computing for all ages but other subjects at Secondary level. Note this uses the U.S. grade system but it's mostly common material.

BBC Learning

This site is old and no longer updated and yet there's so much still available, from language learning to BBC Bitesize for revision. You might not be able to access all the material as some is restricted to UK viewers.

BBC Teach

Free UK based curriculum-mapped videos arranged by subject and age-group; Plus, live lessons presented by top BBC talent and educational campaigns.

Futurelearn

Free to access 100s of courses, only pay to upgrade if you need a certificate in your name (own account from age 14+ but younger learners can use a parent account).

Seneca

Tons of free revision content for high school students, applies to the UK curriculum again but could still be useful. With paid access you get higher level material.

Openlearn

Free taster courses aimed at those considering Open University but everyone can access it, perfect if you're in Year 11 or 12 and considering applying for uni after high school. Delivered at an adult level, but some e.g. nature and environment courses could well be of interest to young people.

Blockly

Learn computer programming skills – fun and free.

Scratch

Creative computer programming

Ted Ed

All sorts of engaging educational videos for students and educators to use.

National Geographic Kids

Activities and quizzes, targeted at younger children but still suitable for middle school students.

Duolingo

Learn languages for free via this free web or app-based learning program. Learning through games, competitions and rewards makes it fun and easy to learn.

Mystery Science

Free science lessons for primary and middle school students, aligned with the US curriculum. It does seem there's a capped number of free memberships though.

The Kids Should See This

A fantastic resource with over 4000 videos about all kinds of fascinating topics, you'll be sure to find something education and fun on here.

Crash Course

You Tube videos on all kinds of subjects, there are sections including games and study skills too.

Crest Awards

Love STEM? Here are some projects that could challenge you from home.

Paw Print Badges

Free challenge packs and other downloads for kids of all ages, but more aimed at younger children. Lots of the activities could be done inside, some sections require payment so bear it in mind if you start loading up your cart.

Tinkercad

A free, easy-to-use app for 3D design, electronics, and coding. It's used by teachers, kids, hobbyists, and designers to imagine, design, and make anything.

British Council

Teaching English, practical resources to use in your secondary classroom.

From full lesson plans to choose from (European curriculum), activities, ideas for using stories and poems and lesson plans dedicated to areas of UK history, literature and culture to help your learners improve their English in engaging, motivating and enjoyable ways.

Big History Project

Journey through nearly 14 billion years of history in this self-guided, six-hour version of Big History. Aimed at high schoolers it's full of great activities to keep you entertained and test your learning.

Twinkl

Australian curriculum-based material created by teachers, including Year 7-10. There are free taster packs available, but a fee applies to some of the material. Individual and school memberships are available and they're offering a month of free access to parents in the event

of school closures – you'll still need to sign up. Please check cost details directly before you subscribe.

Scholastic

Providing free daily lesson plans and resources from school age children. What's available in the Grades 6+ section may be good for middle school aged children.

Temporary measures

Just remember, things will get back to normal in the not too distant future.

So try and make the most of any time out and be ready to dive back into your busy life brighter and better than ever.

Job Spotlight

How to become a Social Media Manager

What do Social Media Managers do?

Social media managers represent companies and are responsible for generating, curating (selecting, organising and presenting information), editing, posting and managing social media posts and content.

If you have a great understanding of lots of different social media platforms, you love learning new things and finding out what makes people tick, then this could be a challenging and rewarding career for you.

About you:

- Top-notch communicator and public speaker
- Creative with strong writing and design (graphics and videos) skills
- Customer service focused
- An adaptable and analytical mindset

The job:

- Work with organisations to develop strategies – outlining goals, defining target audiences, and choosing effective platforms, setting and working to budgets
- Manage regular day-to-day activities such as: editing and posting on all social media platforms, responding to comments, creating videos and other images, designing and running paid advertising
- Analyse results across platforms and produce reports on the success of campaigns, implementing changes where required

- Optimise content for Search Engine Optimisation (SEO), converting traffic into sales and generating new leads for the organisation

Social Media Manager salary (average) \$80,000 per year

(Source: au.indeed.com) – this figure is based on Managers with over 4 years industry experience.

Job growth in Social Media Management is strong (source: Joboutlook.gov.au)

How to become a Social Media Manager in Australia

While there are no formal qualification requirements for this emerging career in Australia, employers are likely to require some form of training and will often request a Bachelor's degree in the application criteria.

Step 1 – Study English and Mathematics at school, business, marketing and IT are also useful

Step 2 – Build up your own social media channels and create a portfolio of work

Step 3 – Get work experience (paid or unpaid)

Step 4 – Network with organisations, community members, and people already working in the field

Step 5 – Find courses that interest you and check any prerequisites

Step 6 – Complete your qualification e.g.:

[Social Media Marketing short courses](#) like the one offered at Chisholm TAFE

[Diploma of Social Media Marketing](#) online at TAFE

[Bachelor of Communication \(Digital and Social Media\) at UTS](#)

You could also complete qualifications related to Business, marketing or communications which would make a great foundation for social media management.

Step 7 – Stay up to date, keep learning

Without any formal qualifications you could follow Steps 1-4 and apply for junior positions, then work your way up into management or start your own business once you've got enough experience.

Find out more here –

<https://www.smminstitute.com.au/>

Similar Careers to Social Media Manager

Digital campaign manager

Digital entrepreneur

Digital content producer

Digital marketing specialist
Communications officer
Digital Publishing
Media Strategy and Planning
Public Relations
Copywriter
Market Research
Print/Television/Radio/Photo/Online Journalist
Researcher
Advertising
Media Management Advisor

Find out more about [alternative careers](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

- **What qualifications are needed to be a social media manager?**

A bachelor's degree in areas such as communications, public relations, business, and journalism is often a desirable but not essential. It could help you move through the hierarchy more quickly.

- **How can I get social media marketing experience?**

Set up your own accounts and learn from them. Offer to manage accounts for your school, club, community or charitable organisation. If you have a job, offer to help out with their social media and get involved. Apply for internships and other work experience opportunities.

- **Where do social media managers work?**

As a social media manager you might be based in an office, work remotely, or set your own business and work from wherever you want – as long as you have internet connection.

- **How can I start my career in social media without any formal qualifications?**

Again, you'll want to set up and run your own accounts, do online courses, short courses, and workshops. Attend events and talks about the subject. Read up on the latest news including statistics, algorithms and changes to platforms, to ensure you stay up to date. Get tonnes of work experience, ask around for opportunities, work hard.

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