



# You're a parent of an apprentice? - What you need to know.

**Congratulations** your young one has taken the first steps to a rewarding career. However, the transition from school to working life can be a big challenge – so here's some helpful tips for you.

## BE HONEST

Work can be physically, emotionally and mentally tough, especially the first 6 months. If your child's finding work hard let them know that it's totally normal. Help them focus on the bigger picture – the value of a trade and the options they'll have once they have finished. The average trade persons wage is about **\$85,000 p.a.** – well above the median full-time wage of **\$62,000 p.a.**

## DO THEY HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION?

It is important your child is prepared to start work. While they need to be accountable and responsible they may need help to get all the right information. Sarina Russo's expert Industry Consultants offer the best advice on over **600 qualifications**.

## THE IMPORTANCE FOR BUDGETING

Low apprenticeship pay rates are out of your child's control. Teach them to budget and to save **10%** of their pay ([moneysmart.gov.au](http://moneysmart.gov.au) is a useful website). They can earn extra money on the weekends by putting their apprenticeship skills to good use. Trade Support Loans up to **\$20k** can be paid over the life of their apprenticeship.

## GET INVOLVED - ASK THEM ABOUT THEIR DAY

Take an interest in what your child is doing. Ask them about what they have learned and get them to demonstrate their new-found skills. Have deliberate conversations with them. Become familiar with their work life and what it feels like for them. A workplace should always feel safe. If they are feeling bullied or harassed our Industry Consultants are trained to deal with such situations and can help them through this if it happens.

## HOW'S THEIR STUDY GOING?

Take an interest in your child's study from what subjects they are doing through to their exam or assessment timetable. Studying as an apprentice is harder than school because of the need to balance work, study and performance. Help them through these stressful times.

## WORKING WITH OTHERS

Each generation thinks they work harder than the other. Below are some workforce tips to deal with Gen Ys, Gen Xs and Baby Boomers.

### Gen Y:

- *Perpetually connected, never without phones & heavily engaged in social networks.*
- *Express individuality but feel it's important to be part of a group.*
- *Sense of entitlement, optimistic & outspokenness – they've grown up in affluent times.*
- *Inability to take harsh criticism.*

### Generation X:

- *Admire being individualistic.*
- *Feedback driven.*
- *Promotion & money are important.*
- *Cool = right attitude.*

### Baby Boomers:

- *Rely on friends for information, more than technology.*
- *Less reliant on technology such as phones & computers. Prefer to speak face-to-face.*
- *Social standing is important.*
- *Value loyalty.*

It's so important you're there for your child through this important phase of their working life because an apprenticeship will deliver your child professional, financial, and personal rewards including being a stepping stone to them *becoming their own boss.*

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