

VELG TRAINING eNews



Issue 47 | February 2026



This newsletter was developed with AI support, under full human direction and approval.





DON'T MISS OUT TODAY!

BEYOND TAE WEBINAR: LEARNING THEORY IN PRACTICE | 4 MARCH

Join Tony Kirton on March 4 to explore powerful, evidence-based learning strategies every VET teacher needs.

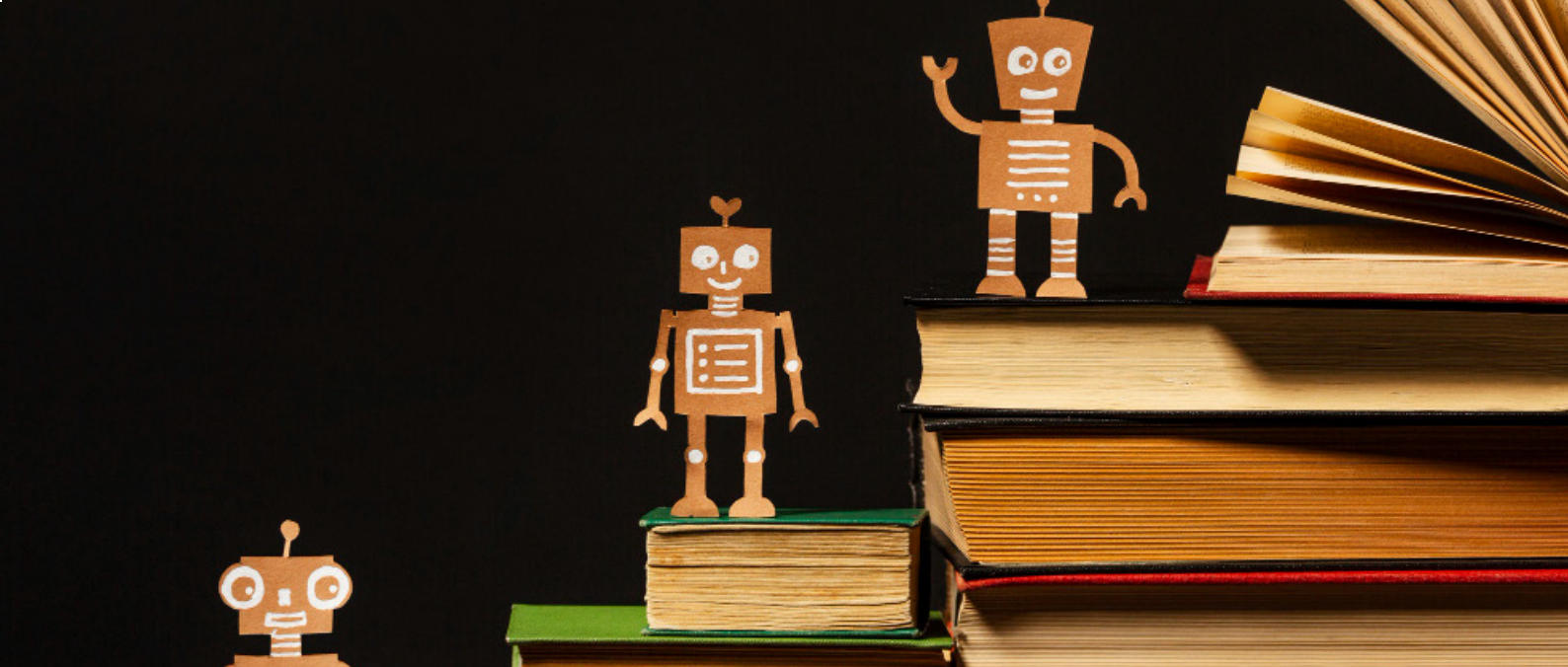
Discover how thinking modes and working memory shape student engagement — and gain practical techniques you can use straight away.

The clock is ticking and times running out!

CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE



GUIDANCE, INSIGHTS, AND REAL ANSWERS — THIS IS WHERE IT ALL STARTS.



WHAT STUDENTS WANT FROM AI IN EDUCATION: CLEAR RULES, SMARTER USE

"If I can't explain my work to a professor without AI's help, then I didn't actually learn it."

Artificial intelligence is no longer a future issue for education - it is a present reality being navigated daily by students. The Digital Education Council's [Student Voices on AI: An Actionable Guide for Institutions and Faculty](#) brings together insights from students across multiple continents, offering institutions a practical roadmap for responding to AI adoption in 2026.

Drawing on lived student experience and their recommendations, the guide identifies five priority areas for institutions.

First, clear and consistent AI-use guidelines.

In the absence of explicit direction, many students report using AI discreetly, guided only by personal ethics. They call for course-level AI expectations, transparent disclosure statements, and reduced reliance on detection tools.

Second, differentiate AI policies by discipline. Students believe courses should allow varying levels of AI integration aligned to learning outcomes. Fields with a strong emphasis on critical thinking may require clearer boundaries, while STEM and business disciplines may support more integrated AI use reflecting professional practice.

Third, redesign assessments around process, not output. Students express concern that overreliance on AI can undermine the development of core skills. Suggested strategies include grading drafts, reflections and decision logs, and requiring students to explain how AI contributed to their work.

Fourth, teach output evaluation, not just prompting. Rather than focusing solely on generating responses, institutions should embed guidance on verifying sources, identifying bias, and critically evaluating AI-generated content.

Finally, adopt a positive, structured approach to AI literacy. Students already use AI as a "thinking companion" but report uneven and informal learning. They advocate for intentional, institution-led AI literacy embedded as a core academic expectation.

To access the Guide, click [here](#).



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MANUFACTURING APPRENTICESHIPS: WHAT'S DRIVING COMPLETION RATES?

Australia's manufacturing sector is at a critical juncture, with workforce growth and national industry priorities placing renewed pressure on apprenticeship pathways. The [Better Manufacturing Apprenticeship Outcomes](#) report by the Manufacturing Industry Skills Alliance highlights both encouraging progress and persistent challenges.

Drawing on NCVER data, a national literature review and consultation with 111 stakeholders, the report provides a sector-wide analysis of manufacturing apprenticeship completion rates. Encouragingly, apprentices commencing in 2019 recorded an average completion rate of 60%, above several comparable industries. However, performance varies significantly across training packages, with completion rates ranging from 34% to 79%, demonstrating that targeted action is still required.

The report identifies three primary drivers of non-completion:

- **Employment-related factors (69.6%)**, including poor supervision, workplace culture issues and lack of career clarity.
- **Personal-related reasons (18.9%)**, such as health and family pressures.
- **Training-related factors (7.7%)**, which were less frequently cited but still relevant.

A consistent finding is that a positive on-the-job experience underpins completion. Quality supervision, structured mentoring and alignment between workplace tasks and the

training plan are critical. Small employers, who host nearly half of manufacturing apprentices, often face resource constraints that impact supervision and training consistency.

The report also highlights workplace culture and safety concerns. Apprentices reported feeling unsafe, unsupported or excluded, with some raising issues about poor relationships and inadequate protective measures. These challenges were more significant for priority cohorts. Employers acknowledged the issue, noting more work is needed to improve inclusivity, especially in male-dominated trades.

System-level challenges further impact retention. Low wages, particularly for mature-aged apprentices who now comprise over half the cohort, remain a significant pressure point. Training package currency, access to modern equipment and inconsistent approaches to Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and competency sign-off also require ongoing reform.

The report outlines seven targeted recommendations focused on strengthening supervision, improving employer education and monitoring, enhancing industry exposure, and addressing system-wide barriers.

For more specific details, you can read the full report [here](#).



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SEE YOU ONLINE!

LEARNING STATIONS IN VET WEBINAR | 15 APRIL

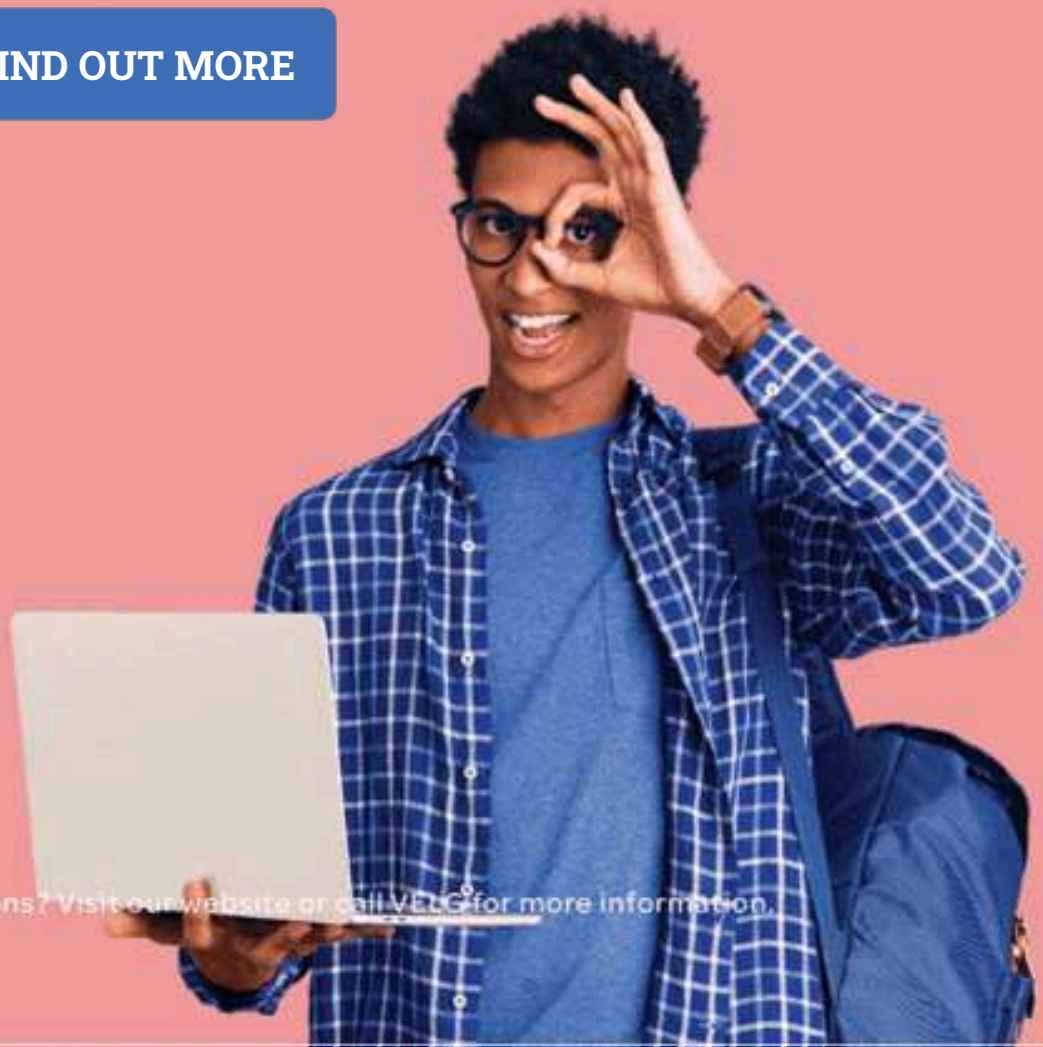
Join Kay Schelsingers in her upcoming webinar and experience five dynamic stations from a learner's perspective. Gain practical, ready-to-use strategies that build language, problem-solving, prioritisation, and reflective skills through engaging, hands-on activities..

Click now to explore the stations and see self-directed learning in action!

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)



Questions? Visit our website or call VELG for more information.



UPCOMING WEBINAR!

QUALITY SYSTEM – A PEEPO ANALYSIS WEBINAR | 29 APRIL

In our upcoming webinar with John Price, discover how the PEEPO framework (People, Environment, Equipment, Procedures, Organisation) can help you dig deeper and strengthen real self-assurance – not just paperwork.

Ready to put your system to the test? **Click the button to learn more!**

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FSO CONDUCTING ECONOMY-WIDE AI CONSULTATION AND REPORT FOR THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

Future Skills Organisation (FSO) is conducting an economy wide consultation on AI skills development on behalf of the Australian Government and will deliver a report summarising insights and implications under the National AI Plan.

FSO CEO Patrick Kidd OBE OAM welcomed the opportunity to lead this work, a critical step towards building a shared, economy-wide understanding of AI skills as adoption accelerates.

The consultation was announced by Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy, The Hon Dr Andrew Charlton MP, [in his keynote speech](#) at the UTS Human Technology Institute Symposium on Regulatory Certainty for AI Adoption in Australia.

The consultation aims to:

- Build a clearer picture of current AI skills and capability across the economy
- Draw together existing research, initiatives and evidence on AI skills development
- Identify where capability is emerging, where gaps persist, and where further attention may be needed
- Inform future policy and system decisions to build workforce capability.

“The risk for Australia isn’t that AI is advancing too quickly, it’s that AI capability is spreading too slowly. If skills remain concentrated in only a few pockets, the productivity gains will concentrate too,” Mr Kidd said.

“This consultation builds naturally on our existing work and Jobs and Skills Australia’s [Generative AI Capacity Study](#), supporting



coordinated action across the skills system to lift AI capability across the economy.”

FSO will work with other Jobs and Skills Councils, industry, unions, states and territories and Australian Government agencies, including the National AI Centre and Jobs and Skills Australia, as this important work gets underway.

FSO has a [substantial body of AI research](#) and a [program of work](#) spanning workforce planning, training product development and capability development across industry and the VET system.

This includes the FSO Skills Accelerator-AI, connecting VET with industry to collaborate, share best practices and expand access to AI skills to vocational learners, educators and administrators. [Learn more and become a Skills Accelerator partner.](#)



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JOBS AND SKILLS COUNCILS & TRAINING PACKAGE NEWS

News Updates:



- [2026 Occupation Shortage List Stakeholder Survey](#)
- [Australian Labour Market for Migrants](#) – January 2026
- [Vacancy Report](#) – January 2026
- [Read more](#) on the JSA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [BuildSkills Welcomes New Industry Engagement Lead for the Water Sector](#)
- [Breakfast with BuildSkills Series Gathers Local Insights Across Australia](#)
- [Civil Construction Review](#)
- [CPP Swimming Pool and Spa Review](#)
- [Formwork Falsework Training Product Review](#)
- [Housing Workforce Capacity Study](#)
- [Insulation Installation & Inspection](#)
- [Minimum Australian Context Gap Training for Migrant Plumbers](#)
- [Urban Pest Management Review](#)
- [Read more](#) on BuildSkills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [2026 Roadshow](#)
- [Audiometry Qualification Review](#)
- [Early Childhood Education and Care Qualification Review Workshops](#)
- [EWYL Consultation Snapshot Report](#)
- [EWYL Lifecycle model](#)
- [Health Administration and Practice Management Qualification Review](#)
- [Impact of Occupational Shortage List and Apprenticeship Priority List changes](#)
- [Read more](#) on HumanAbility's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [BSB Training Package Update: Safe and Respectful Workplaces Unit of Competency](#)
- [Empowering VET leaders with the AI Governance & Adoption Starter Toolkit](#)
- [FSO Future Skills News](#) – 19 February 2026
- [Future Skills News](#) – 13 February 2026
- [Insurance Needs and Gaps Analysis](#)
- [The Institute of Applied Technology – Digital delivers practical AI training to empower staff](#)
- [Uplift Digital Capability](#)
- [Read more](#) on the FSO's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Addressing Heavy Vehicle Driver Shortages](#)
- [Autonomous Train Operations Project](#)
- [Maritime Skills Pipeline Project](#)
- [Revalidation and Recognition of the Current Competence Model](#)
- [Seafarers Welfare Conference 2026: Strengthening Support for the People Who Power Global Trade](#)
- [Skilling Heavy Vehicle Drivers and Licensing Update](#)
- [Stakeholder Engagement Survey 2026](#)
- [Read more](#) on Industry Skills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Better Manufacturing Apprenticeship Outcomes](#)
- [Current Projects](#)
- [Manufacturing Workforce Plan 2025](#)
- [MSM: Precast Concrete Manufacturing Skills](#)
- [Read more](#) on MISA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Public Skills Australia – Workforce Insights Reports](#)
- [Review of Government Investigations Qualifications](#)
- [Review of Procurement and Contracting Qualifications](#)
- [Read more](#) on Public Skills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Essential Meat Processing Skills Project](#)
- [Furnishing Apprenticeship Guidance Project](#)
- [Retail Butchers and Smallgoods Project](#)
- [Rural Operations Project](#)
- [Textiles, Clothing and Footwear Skills Mapping Project](#)
- [Tree Allocation Partnerships Project](#)
- [Veterinary Nursing Review -In person/online sessions](#)
- [VET Workforce Project – Roundtable events](#)
- [Read more](#) on Skills Insight's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Battery electric vehicles \(BEV\) electrical licensing](#)
- [Electrification in mining: Infrastructure, skills and the road to Net Zero](#)
- [Industry Working Groups](#)
- [Member Spotlight February 2026: Queensland Mines Rescue Service](#)
- [The Journey](#) – 19 February 2026
- [The nuances of being an EV technician](#)
- [Read more](#) on AUSMASA's LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Energise Newsletter](#) – February 2026 Edition
- [Foundation for Energy: Literacy and Numeracy for Energy Jobs – Stage 2](#)
- [Join Our Technical Advisory Groups](#)
- [UEE Full Training Product Review](#)
- [Read more](#) on Powering Skills' LinkedIn



News Updates:

- [Creative Arts and Culture: Delivering Connected Guidance Across Creative Disciplines](#)
- [EOI Application – Career Journey Mapping](#)
- [Review of Community Pharmacy Qualifications](#)
- [Review of Culinary Qualifications](#)
- [Review of Hairdressing and Barbering Qualifications](#)
- [Review of Travel and Tourism Qualifications](#)
- [Read more](#) on SACSA's LinkedIn



UPDATES FROM THE REGULATORS



Australian Government
Australian Skills Quality Authority

ASQA

Australian Skills Quality Authority
(ASQA)

News Updates:

- [2026 ASQA Sector Engagement](#)
- [ASQA IQ](#) – 25 February 2026
- [ASQA Update](#) – 23 February 2026
- [Prepare now: the 2026 Annual Declaration on Compliance](#)



WA.gov.au

Training Accreditation Council
(TAC)

News Updates:

- [TAC Registration Standards 2025 Hub](#) - Updated 2 January 2026
- [TAC 2026 Roadshows](#)
- [TAC Update – Issue 115](#) – February 2026



Australian Government
Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

TEQSA

Tertiary Education Quality and
Standards Agency (TEQSA)

News Updates:

- [Changes to fees and charges](#)
- [Cyber security](#)
- [Sector alert: Commercial academic cheating service activities on campus](#)
- [Tuition Protection Service](#)
- [Understanding academic integrity – Download hub](#)



Victorian Registration &
Qualifications Authority

Victorian Registration & Qualifications
Authority (VRQA)

News Updates:

- [2026 Victorian Training Awards](#)
- [Consultation on work-based learning](#)
- [Coregulators urge employers to do more](#)
- [RTO pre-registration information session](#)
- [School reviews and CRICOS renewal](#)
- [VRQA e-News](#) – 1 December 2025

CLICK HERE FOR OTHER NEWS + OTHER MEDIA RELEASES

YOUR VET NEWSLETTERS AND PUBLICATIONS

NEWSLETTERS

- [AAIR Announcement](#)
- [ASQA IQ](#) - 25 February 2026
- [ASQA Update](#) – 23 February 2026
- [Australian Industry Group Newsletter – Edition 45](#) – 23 February 2026
- [Community Education Australia](#) – 11 February 2026
- [FSO Future Skills News](#) – 19 February 2026
- [FSO Future Skills News](#) – 13 February 2026
- [L&D Insights](#) – February 2026 Edition
- [Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance – Automotive Research Bulletin](#) – February 2026
- [Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance – Mining Research Bulletin](#) – February 2026
- [Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance – The Journey](#) – 19 February 2026
- [NCVER Data Support Bulletin](#) – February 2026
- [NCVER News – Edition #622](#) – 11 February 2026
- [Powering Skills Organisation – Energise Newsletter](#) – February 2026
- [Queensland Jobs and Skills Connect](#) – February 2026
- [TAC Update – Issue 115](#) – February 2026
- [TAFE Directors Australia News](#) – 23 February 2026
- [TAFE Directors Australia News](#) – 16 February 2026
- [TEQSA e-News](#) – December 2025
- [VET Student Loans Provider Newsletter](#) – February 2026
- [VDC News - Edition 2](#) - 11 February 2026
- [VRQA e-News](#) – 1 December 2025

PUBLICATIONS

- [AI to Support Neurodivergent Learners in Vocational Education and Training](#)
- [AI's got news for you: can AI improve our information environment?](#)
- [AI transparency in practice](#)
- [Better Manufacturing Apprenticeship Outcomes](#)
- [Commonwealth Bank – Our Approach to Adopting AI](#)
- [Foundation for Energy: Literacy and Numeracy for Energy Jobs](#)
- [Guidelines for inclusive enrolment practices in vocational education and training](#)
- [How Students Are Using – and Misusing – AI in Higher Education](#)
- [Introductory guide – Supporting students with disability in VET](#)
- [PSO – 2025 Workforce Plan State & Territory Report – Northern Territory](#)
- [Report on Government Services 2026 – 5 Vocational education and training](#)
- [State of our TAFE](#)
- [Respect at Uni: study into antisemitism, Islamophobia, racism and the experience of First Nations people](#)
- [Student Voices on AI: An Actionable Guide for Institutions and Faculty](#)
- [Victoria: AI-Driven, Business-Read – The Victorian Government's AI Mission Statement](#)

CLICK HERE FOR AI NEWS AND TOOLS

WE'RE HERE TO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER!

WHY VELG TRAINING MEMBERSHIP?

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Don't miss this opportunity to propel your VET career to new heights!

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Compliance Chats