

Trades training centre for school students built at Chisholm Dandenong

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An artist's impression of the DREAM training centre

A TRAINING centre being built at the Dandenong campus of the Chisholm Institute will soon offer secondary students hands-on trades experience.

The Dandenong Regional Educational Alliance Model (DREAM) Centre will train students from five schools in trades they may wish to pursue after finishing school.

Students from Dandenong High School, Carwatha, Lyndale Secondary, Nazareth and Minaret colleges will take part in training programs in building and construction, plumbing, engineering and hairdressing.

Chisholm youth and regional partnerships director Nigel Hill said specific trades had been chosen to fill needs across south-east Melbourne.

"The program will be a component of the students' study and will feed back into their school work," Mr Hill said.

"If they wish to proceed with a trade, this will go as a credit towards their apprenticeship."

The programs will be for year 11 and 12 students first, with a view to expanding to give year 9 and 10 students one-day vocational "taster" workshops.

"The aim of the DREAM is to ensure that young people in the Dandenong region have the broadest possible range of education and training options to choose from," Mr Hill said.

DREAM students would also have access to the new Centre for Integrated Engineering Science and Automotive Centre at the TAFE.

The five schools formed a consortium with Chisholm and received funding for the project under the Federal Government's Trade Training Centre Initiative.

Chisholm will oversee management of the centre and contribute to running costs.

The \$9.5 million trade training centre is due to open next year.