



Providing new opportunities for young people

12 Hall Street, Eaglehawk 3556
Ph: 5446 3477 Fax: 5446 2289
Email: ontrack@employment-bendigo.com
www.employment-bendigo.com

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MEDIA RELEASE

Working through TradeStart

Young people who are not reaching their full potential at school are being given opportunities to learn new skills and commence work through TradeStart.

TradeStart supervisor, David Robinson, said today "Some young people are better with their hands and learn through practical experience. There is a shortage of skilled tradesmen therefore it makes a lot of sense to encourage and provide training in these areas."

"The response from the young people has been positive and they demonstrate that they are keen to learn but it also has to be matched by industry to give these kids a go." Mr Robinson said.

"We are thrilled by the response of one employer, McKern's Steel has taken on two TradeStart students as employees," he said.

Michael McKern of McKern Steel said "I like to give a young person a trial working with a tradesman. I need to turn out work so they have to perform, but at the same time industry has a responsibility to make sure we have tradesman for the future if we are going to stay profitable."

"TradeStart has given me a couple of young blokes who I can mould and train into productive tradesmen over the coming years," he said. "The process was so easy, I didn't have to advertise or go through the time consuming task of choosing some one," Mr McKern added.

TradeStart operates at the Eaglehawk Railway Station and David Robinson can be contacted on 5446 3477.