



# Engagement Programs

## Monterey Secondary College

**SUPPORTING DISENGAGED STUDENTS TO IMPROVE CONNECTION TO SCHOOL AND THEIR ENGAGEMENT WITH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

*"The reason why I started this program is because I found it hard to be good in class and I was always distracted and hardly ever did my work. I was always getting in trouble and I missed a lot of class because of that ... I've learnt how to regulate myself, I've learnt how to meditate and learning how to control my actions and wanting to go school more"*

Monterey Engagement student



## WHO ARE WE?

*We are a team of teachers, therapeutic workers and education support staff who aim to improve students' education and wellbeing outcomes in a holistic and trauma-informed way.*

## WE WORK WITH

*Students enrolled in Monterey Secondary College who may find mainstream classroom settings challenging, require Social and Emotional Literacy and Self-Regulation skill building, require support to improve attendance or feel isolated and/or disengaged from school, with a history of prolonged absence.*

## HOW WE WORK

*We establish a safe learning environment to foster connection for students and their family through our strong practise of trauma informed positive education. We work in partnership with mainstream teachers and other agencies to provide holistic support for the individual needs of each student. Through the use of positive participation, we build students feelings of success and readiness or desire to be at school.*

## WHAT WE DO

*We run an individual and flexible learning program through a Trauma Informed Positive Education Practice model. We work with students and families to create flexible timetables, provide 1:1 or small group classes, focus on building students' executive functioning skills, set goals, and build student capacity to improve attitudes to education. We meet students where they are at and create individualised options to suit their needs.*

*The Engagement Programs were founded by Monterey Secondary College in partnership with The Brotherhood of St Laurence and we would like to recognise their contribution to the development of our Classroom Connect and Outreach Programs.*



## PATHWAYS

- Offers a flexible and highly differentiated curriculum, designed to engage students through activities that incorporate literacy and numeracy at a pace suited to their individual needs.
- Helps students build strong academic foundations while keeping them motivated and connected to learning.
- In addition to academic support, the program helps students identify potential educational or career pathways they wish to pursue after completion.
- Specifically tailored for students who have previously been disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from school.
- Students participate in small groups of up to 14, allowing for personalised attention and the development of both academic and social-emotional skills.
- Rolling intake, ensuring continuous opportunities for students to join as needed.



## MONTEREY CONNECT

- Small group learning with modified and differentiated curriculum
- Engaging curriculum, tailored to each student's unique learning needs, focusing on literacy and numeracy
- Up to 14 students per group, providing personalised attention and a supportive learning environment.
- Focuses on developing social emotional skills essential for school and life.
- Designed for students who are disengaged or at risk, fostering a renewed sense of belonging and connection to school.
- Runs Mon - Thurs with continuous enrolment to allow students to join and receive support when needed.



## RISE AND THRIVE

- Provides students with a predictable routine each morning where students are able to transition into their classes in a highly supported manner
- Development of social and emotional skills
- Goal setting and reflection
- Runs Period 1, Monday to Friday with participation reviewed term by term



## OUTREACH

- For students who have been unable to engage in a school environment consistently or require additional support in the community before transitioning into other Engagement Programs or mainstream
- Students and families are supported with a Teacher and Therapeutic Worker on a collaborative engagement goal plan
- Regular check-ins for wellbeing and learning support at school and/or in the community
- Participation reviewed term by term



## ACTIVATE

- Small group support to supplement the mainstream learning environment
- Students engage in individual project-based learning on a topic of interest to spark enthusiasm in learning
- Co-curricular activities run by mainstream teachers in small groups such as Art, PE, Music, STEAM and Design Technology



## CLASSROOM CONNECT

- Classroom Connect aims to build student learning and capacity in SEL (social-emotional learning) to enable students to better access mainstream classes
- Students are exposed to a variety of learning subjects including STEAM, Art, Cooking, Design Technology and Sport
- Students are given the opportunity to start on a modified timetable that increases at a supportive pace up to 4 days a week 10:00am-3:00pm to build learning stamina and feelings of success in education
- Students and families are provided specialist support from two Teaching staff and a Therapeutic Worker
- Students are supported to transition from Classroom Connect into the next step in their learning journey through small steps of supported integration
- Program supports up to 10 students
- Participation reviewed Term by Term for up to a year



## URBAN FARM

- Students build practical skills in living off the land including gardening, building skills, maintenance, and outdoor design
- Students are supported to develop social-emotional capabilities including self-regulation, teamwork, and stamina
- Urban Farm runs onsite two days a week with two groups consisting of 10 students