

Class of 2025 Destinations



Figure 1: Y Schools QLD Year 12 students on graduation day

This report celebrates the journeys of Y Schools Queensland's Year 12 Class of 2025, capturing where our alumni are today and the diverse pathways they are forging in their first year beyond school.

Prepared by Dr Lakmali Jayarathna and Nomxolisi Malope-Rwodzi
May 2026

Contents

Introduction.....	3
QCAA Year 12 Qualification Results	3
Post-School Destinations: Survey Results.....	5
Primary Post School Focus	6
Employment.....	7
Studying	7
Apprenticeship/Traineeship	8
Not in Employment, Education, or Training (NEET).....	9
Experience at Y School	9
Learning experience at Y School	9
Experience of Staff and Teachers at Y School.....	10
Overall Experience at the Y.....	11
Feedback.....	11
Message to Y Schools.....	12
Growth, new opportunities, and extended education	13
Pathways and aspirations	13
Connection and reflection	14
Alumni Net Promoter Score	14
Appendix A – Experience of Staff and the Teachers at Y School.....	15

Introduction

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the post-school destinations and educational outcomes for the Year 12 cohort of Y Schools Queensland in 2025, aiming to support strategic reflection and informed decision-making regarding student pathways and post-school support.

The findings draw on two primary data sources: official data from the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA), which capture formal academic results and certification outcomes, and survey data collected directly from students in March 2026, three months post completion of their studies. Together, these sources provide both a broad statistical picture and a more personal insight into where our 2025 alumni have chosen to go, whether that is further vocational education and training (VET), employment, or other further study.

It is important to note that while QCAA data reflects the full Year 12 cohort, survey responses represent a subset (42%) of the student population. As such, destination findings based on survey data should be interpreted with this context in mind, and efforts to improve future response rates are encouraged to strengthen the representativeness of future reports.

QCAA Year 12 Qualification Results

According to the 2025 QCAA data, a strong proportion of alumni from Y Schools completed their final year with a nationally recognised qualification, meaningfully enhancing their post-school pathways and broadening their employment opportunities. In 2025, the highest qualification completed by the greatest number of Year 12 alumni was the Certificate II (97 students), followed by the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) (35), Certificate I (34), apprenticeships and traineeships (26), Certificate III (9), and Certificate IV (1) (see Figure 2 below).

Of particular note, is the continued and significant growth in the number of Year 12 students awarded a QCE. In 2025, a total of 35 students received this qualification, representing 21.4% of the cohort. This marks a remarkable upward trend when compared to previous years; 3.1% in 2022, 10.7% in 2023, and 13.5% in 2024, reflecting the sustained and growing effectiveness of Y Schools' academic support and student engagement strategies over time.

The full scope of vocational achievements across the Year 12 class of 2025 is presented in Table 1, offering a detailed breakdown of qualifications attained across all Y Schools sites.

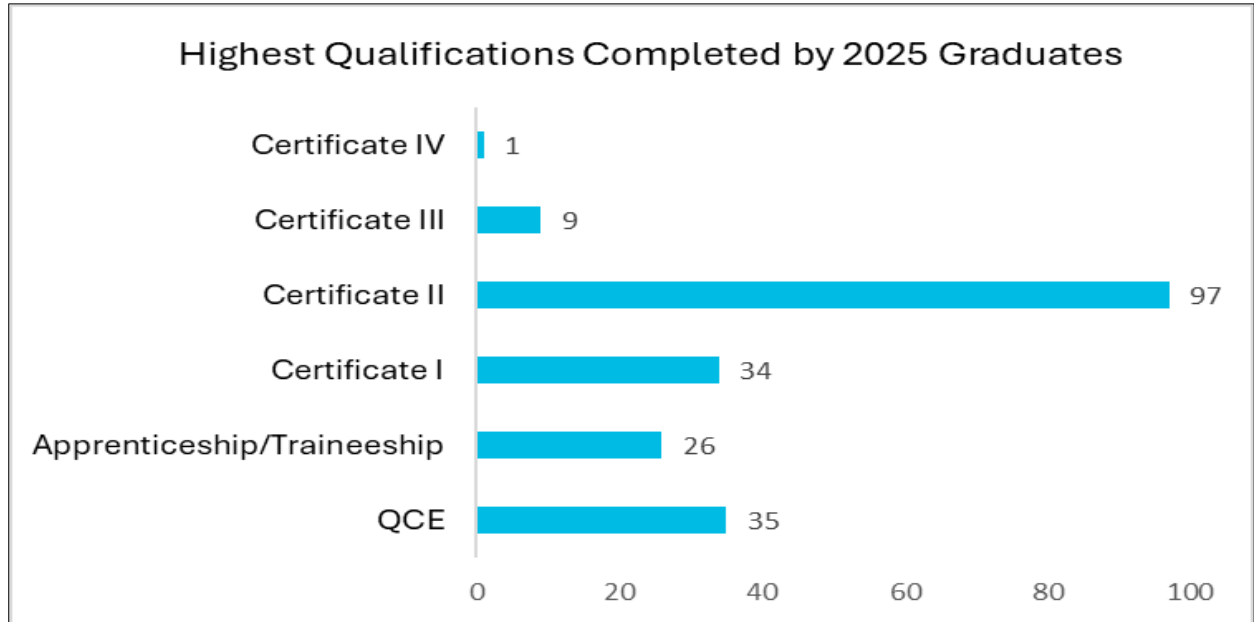


Figure 2: Highest Qualifications Completed by students by the end of Year 12, in 2025

Table 1: 2025 Cohort Summary, Y Schools – QCAA

	Brisbane South	Ipswich	Logan	Moreton Bay	Redlands	Bundaberg	TOTAL
QCE	4	3	18	1	9	0	35
Apprenticeship & Traineeship	5	3	5	3	9	1	26
Certificate I	2	8	10	4	8	2	34
Certificate II	16	20	26	8	17	10	97
Certificate III	2	1	2	1	3	0	9
Certificate IV	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Table 1 summarises the educational outcomes for students across Y schools in 2025, comparing standard secondary graduation (QCE) with various vocational pathways. There is a strong emphasis on practical qualifications, particularly Certificate II, which had the highest participation rates among students. Overall, Logan and Redlands lead in QCE attainment, while Brisbane South is the only school to report a Certificate IV.

Post-School Destinations: Survey Results

The Destinations Survey is distributed annually to all alumni of the previous Year 12 cohort, now in their first-year post-school, to gain meaningful insights into their activities, pathways, and experiences following the completion of their studies. In 2026, the survey was sent to alumni from all six Y Schools, with 42% of the 2025 Year 12 cohort responding (n=70 out of 166), providing a solid foundation for the findings presented in this report.

Of the 70 respondents, 57% identified as female, 35% as male, and three students identified as non-binary. In terms of background and diversity, 15% of respondents identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, 6% as culturally and linguistically diverse, and 23% indicated they have a disability, reflecting the diverse and complex needs of the Y Schools community.

Additionally, 17% of respondents indicated they are currently receiving government support, including JobSeeker (n=6), Youth Allowance (n=4), and the Disability Support Pension (n=2). These figures serve as an important reminder of the socioeconomic context in which many Y Schools alumni are navigating their post-school transition.

Figure 3 below presents the distribution of survey responses across each of the six Y Schools.

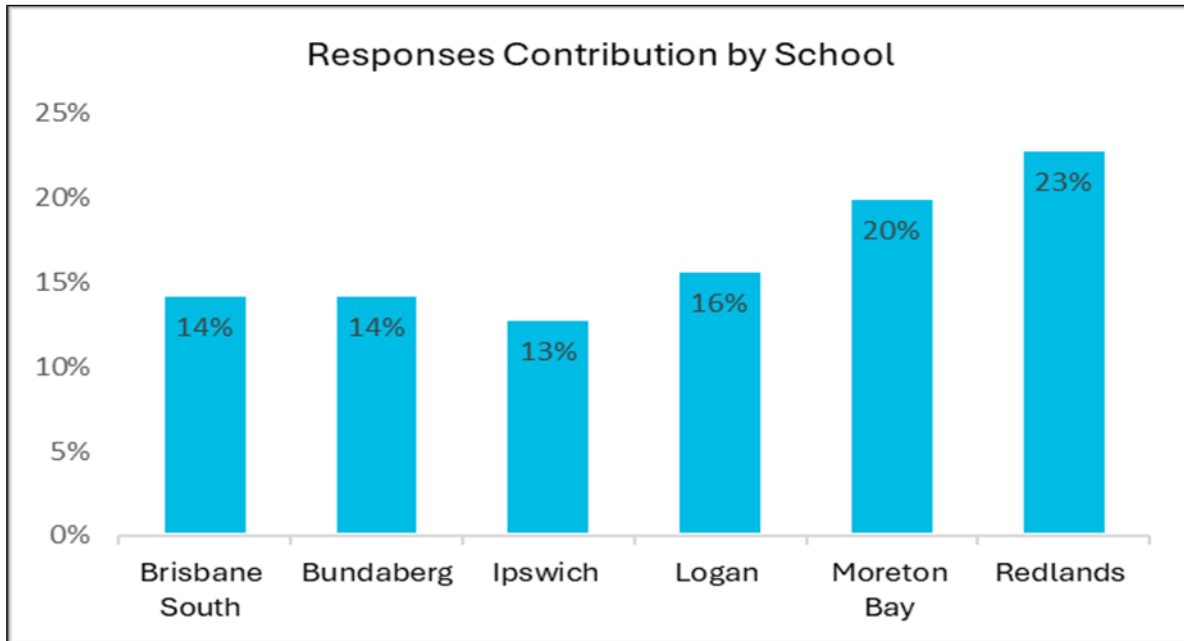


Figure 3: Survey responses across the schools

Primary Post School Focus

Respondents' most common post-school focus was employment, followed by studying, apprenticeship and traineeship (see Figure 4). Additionally, 11% of the respondents indicated they are not engaged in any after-school activities, while 20% were uncertain about their plans after school.

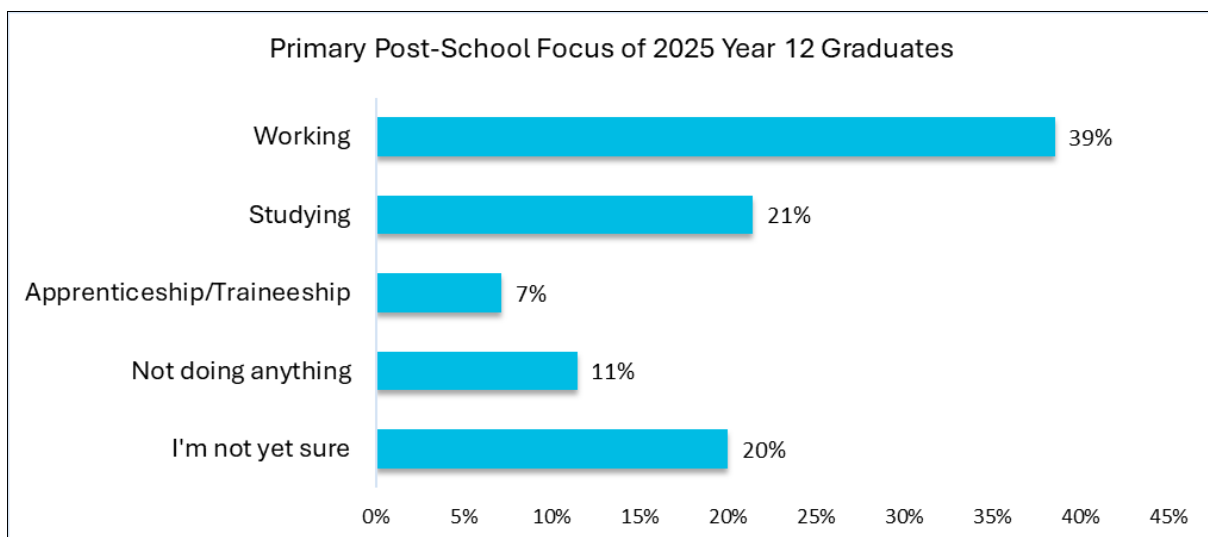


Figure 4: Primary post school focus

Employment

According to Figure 4, a total of 27 alumni, which represents 39% of the respondents, indicated that their primary focus this year is employment. Among them, 38% are in casual roles, 29% are working part-time, and 12% hold full-time positions. The most reported industries where these alumni are employed include *food services* (21%), *education* (12%), and various other sectors (15%), such as *hospitality, logistics, bar and gaming, factory work, and TV technology*.

Most employed respondents (89%, or 24 individuals) indicated that they hold only one job, while 11% (3 individuals) reported having multiple roles. One of these alumni also plans to volunteer at a local museum this year. Additionally, these respondents shared their perspectives on their feelings about the meaningful work, as illustrated in Figure 5.

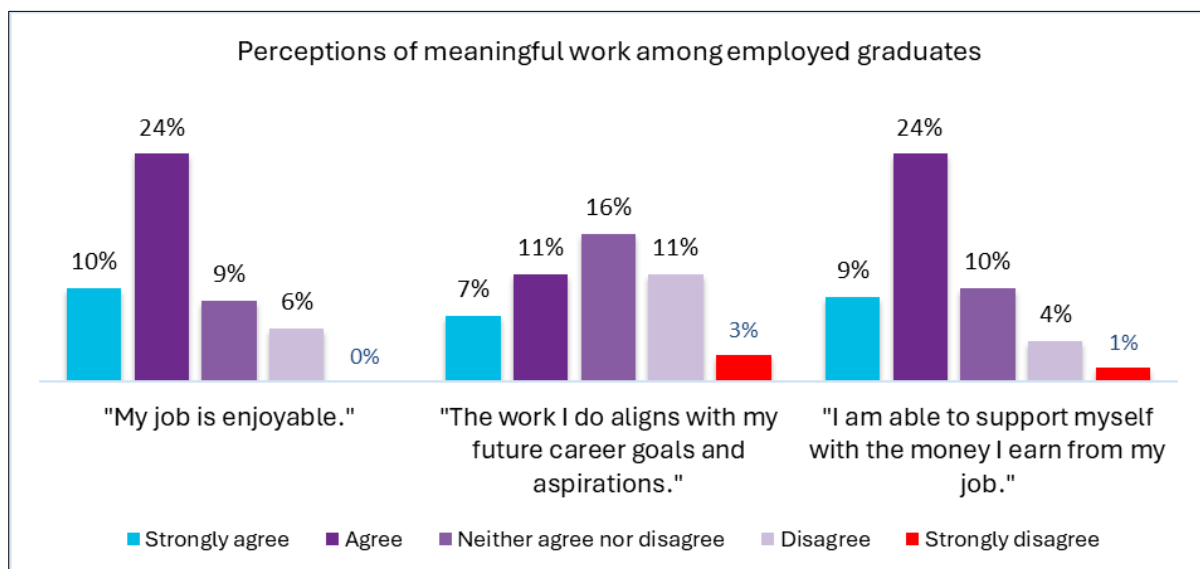


Figure 5: Perceptions of meaningful work

Studying

15 (21%) respondents indicated that studying is their primary focus for the year. Of these, 40% (n=6) are enrolled part-time and 60% (n=9) full-time. The most common qualifications being pursued are:

- Certificate III (40%) n=6
- Diploma (27%) n=4
- Certificate IV (13%) n=2
- Certificate II (13%) n=2
- Certificate I (7%) n=1

Nearly half (40%) of the students reported that they are also engaged in paid employment alongside their studies.

Apprenticeship/Traineeship

Five alumni reported that they are currently engaged in an apprenticeship or traineeship, spanning a diverse range of industries, including *legal, furniture making, beauty, construction, and automotive and mechanics.*

Notably, two of these alumni are also enrolled in formal study alongside their apprenticeship or traineeship, both undertaking diploma-level qualifications, demonstrating a commendable commitment to building their skills across multiple pathways simultaneously. One graduate is also volunteering in addition to their apprenticeship, further reflecting the group's broad community engagement. Among those combining work-based training with formal study, enrolments were evenly split between part-time and full-time study loads.



Figure 6: Y Schools QLD Year 12 Alumni at graduation

Not in Employment, Education, or Training (NEET)

Eight respondents (11%) indicated that they are not currently engaged in any form of work, study, apprenticeship, traineeship, or volunteering. Encouragingly, five of these alumni have expressed an intention to seek employment in the future, with interests spanning hospitality, nursing, and airport-based roles. One graduate plan to undertake a Certificate IV in Nursing, demonstrating a clear sense of direction toward a future career pathway. Additionally, three alumni have indicated plans to volunteer with local animal welfare organisations, including the RSPCA, Horses, and Red Collar Rescue, reflecting a strong sense of community spirit and purpose among this group.

Experience at Y School

Alumni reflected overwhelmingly positively on their time at Y Schools, highlighting meaningful experiences across their learning environment, relationships with staff, and overall sense of support. A recurring theme throughout responses was the value placed on personalised, individualised learning, an approach that many alumni identified as central to their success and wellbeing during Year 12. Alumni also consistently acknowledged the significant role played by staff and teachers in supporting them throughout their journey (see Appendix A).

Learning experience at Y School

When asked about their learning experience, alumni responded with overwhelmingly positive sentiment, with words such as "Amazing" and "Supportive" emerging as the most prominent descriptors (see Figure 7). Many alumni highlighted the nurturing, low-pressure environment fostered at Y Schools, where teachers are readily accessible and genuinely invested in student success. *They described these as the conditions that allowed them to thrive and develop essential communication and life skills.*

While a small number of respondents noted that they would have welcomed greater academic challenge or a broader curriculum, these responses were very much in the minority. The vast majority described their time at Y Schools as a fun, eye-opening, and highly positive experience that effectively responded to their individual needs and circumstances.

attention to quiet students, a better understanding of student mental health, and improving school lunches.

*“I wish there was more advertising about this, so I knew about the school sooner”
(Brisbane South)*

“Unlike my experiences in public schooling, I feel like the Y is genuinely making a good effort to try to help kids through this difficult period in their lives.” (Brisbane South)

*“Your commitment to improving the education of young people is amazing. Please expand your teaching to everywhere in the world; we all need your incredible support. Maybe there could also be a Facebook group for former classmates to reunite with.”
(Redland Senior)*

“Some staff need to learn how to ask instead of assume, as different people require different supports” (Ipswich Senior)



Figure 9: Year 12 alumni in 2025

Message to Y Schools

The survey invited alumni to share updates on their lives since leaving Y Schools, and the response was encouraging; 56 of 70 respondents (80%) took the time to provide a personal update. The key themes emerging from their responses centred around growth and new opportunities, pathways and aspirations, and connection and reflection, painting a broadly optimistic picture of life after Y Schools.

However, it is important to acknowledge that not all alumni have found the transition straightforward. Two respondents reported ongoing difficulties securing employment, with one indicating they may withdraw from their current studies. Both expressed a desire for continued support from Y Schools beyond graduation, which may be worth considering as the School Leadership Team reflects on post-school support structures and alumni engagement strategies.

Growth, new opportunities, and extended education

This theme captures personal development, confidence, and the transition to adulthood. Year 12 alumni are exploring their identity, taking on new responsibilities, and celebrating milestones such as securing jobs, obtaining licences, or starting independent lives.

“I have a job with a steady paycheck” (Moreton Bay Senior)

“More focused on my career since I left” (Redland Senior)

[...], “I’m still trying to figure out what to do with my life. I think I’ve discovered that at this age, you aren’t trying to find what you enjoy doing, but trying different things to find what you don’t. I was thinking about going to Uni after I get my diploma this year, maybe going down the path to doing medicine” (Brisbane South)

“I’m starting at JMC Academy in June, and I’m very excited” (Redland Senior)

“The family business has been blowing up” (Moreton Bay Senior)

Pathways and aspirations

Many are pursuing further education, training, or work in fields aligned with their passions, often inspired by their experience at the Y. This includes everything from youth work and support care to creative industries and the trades.

“I’m going to TAFE to be a Youth Worker!” (Logan Senior)

“I’m working on getting my forklift license.” (Brisbane South)

“I have received my certificate in security operations, first aid” (Brisbane South)

“I have completed a Cert 1 in construction and am about to do an apprenticeship”
(Logan Senior)

“I am now studying a dual diploma in beauty therapy, and I’m set to graduate in December” (Redland Senior)

Connection and reflection

The Year 12 alumni expressed gratitude for Y Schools, especially for the community they have built, and for the supportive staff. Their reflections show how impactful their time at the Y was.

“I miss the community at the Y but I am enjoying my current routine :)” (Redland Senior)

“[.....] the staff members let me know they’ll always be around to support me in ways they can which was reassuring” (Bundaberg)

“Missing everyone” (Bundaberg)

“I miss school” (Moreton Bay Senior)

“I miss the chaos that would happen in class every single day. Those memories will always hold a special place in my heart.” (Ipswich Senior)

Alumni Net Promoter Score

The Net Promoter® Score (NPS®) is a metric used globally to measure customer engagement and advocacy levels. It establishes the likelihood that a customer will recommend your product or service. The score is calculated by subtracting the % of detractors from the % of promoters. This returns a score between -100 and +100, which is your NPS®. An NPS score above 30 indicates that a company is doing well and has far more happy customers than unhappy ones. Feedback regarding Y schools indicates very high student satisfaction. On average, students gave the school an NPS score of 85.44, with 57% rating it a perfect 100%.

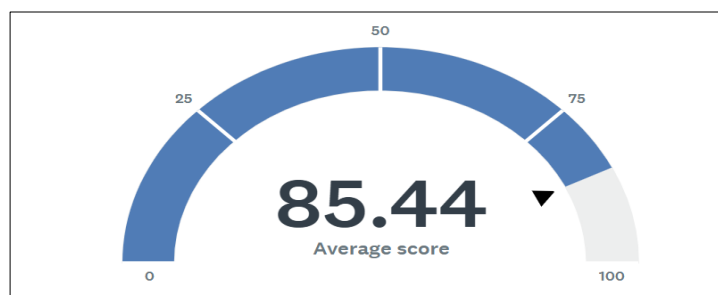


Figure 10: Recommendation of Y school to young people

While the NPS has not been widely applied to the Australian school sector, with only one education research firm noting they were among the first to introduce it as a benchmark for Australian independent schools, it is worth noting that a score above 80 is considered world-class, according to Bain & Company, the creators of NPS.

Appendix A – Experience of Staff and the Teachers at Y School

Y School Attended	Experience of staff and teachers at the school
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Great. I miss seeing them every day, that should be evidence enough of my experience.
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Wonderful. I would definitely say they were more our friends than staff
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Great, easy to get along with the staff
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Amazing
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	It was the best, the teachers and staff was really understanding and helpful
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	I absolutely loved my youth worker, and my pc teacher I had in year 12 and 11, but there were just certain teachers that need their portion re-examined.
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Supportive and friendly
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Fun and easy to get along with.
Brisbane South Senior (Parkinson)	Good, they were all really nice and were helpful.
Bundaberg	Friendly and caring
Bundaberg	They were very lovely and helpful. I built a strong bond with a few of them
Bundaberg	Amazing, I built a genuine connection with the staff members, and they acted as very solid role models, Lou and Steve especially.
Bundaberg	Amazing inclusive attitude from staff and students alike, as well as a deeper understanding for everyone's health, both mental and physical.
Bundaberg	Very good I enjoyed talking to the teachers
Bundaberg	It was amazing all the teachers were very supportive and outgoing, which just makes the day better when there in a happy, outgoing mood
Bundaberg	The teachers were really kind and helped a lot, but again the youth workers only really focused on certain kids.
Bundaberg	they would say they would do something for you and never do it. I currently don't have a job because of it.
Bundaberg	They were lovely

Y School Attended	Experience of staff and teachers at the school
Bundaberg	Great
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	Different staff members were better depending on what kind of support you required at the time
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	They were good, they helped me alot.
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	They were the best teachers I have ever had
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	I loved my youth worker and teacher. My teacher made me feel so comfortable in class and always helped me when I needed it
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	Welcoming
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	The teachers were lovely, kind, and respectful of me
Ipswich Senior (The Villa)	Amazing! Staff are so understanding
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	good
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	10/10 the best staff and teachers in the world, they deserve everything they give their all for their jobs
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	The staff were always friendly, knew what to say and how to treat young people. The youth workers, especially, are what encouraged me to want to work in an industry like this in the future.
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	some good, some bad
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	Very supportive, always there for me when I needed
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	Beautiful, they were all so caring and sweet
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	good
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	Very supportive.
Logan Senior (Kingston/Clem Jones)	It was okay, I guess
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	The teachers were friendly and reasonable.
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	All of them are so nice, I miss them
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Happy
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Good
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Okay
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	I've made many connections with staff and have enjoyed being a student of teachers
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Great

Y School Attended	Experience of staff and teachers at the school
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Amazing, especially the pathway staff
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Good with every teacher
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	GOAT
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Very good
Moreton Bay Senior (Mango Hill)	Amazing
Redlands Senior	The teachers and staff were super nice and kind.
Redlands Senior	My class youth worker, Jess, was so incredibly supportive, nurturing and inspiring. My teachers were also very helpful and supportive. Basically, every staff member I interacted with at the Y, even if only once were extremely supportive, helpful and kind.
Redlands Senior	decent
Redlands Senior	Outstanding everyone was so supportive and friendly
Redlands Senior	Amazing, Ben and coral changed my life for the better
Redlands Senior	The staff were very nice and supportive, helping me with work and making it very easy to understand
Redlands Senior	Pretty much all of the staff and teachers there were amazing. Extremely supportive and helpful
Redlands Senior	Amazing, the staff were what made it worth going. They put up with so much yet still show up and are there for us all.
Redlands Senior	They treated all the students and me with mutual respect and kindness and are great with helping the young people in need
Redlands Senior	It was good the teachers and youth workers were kind
Redlands Senior	Great
Redlands Senior	reasonable
Redlands Senior	I felt very supported and cheered on, through everything even when I thought I didn't deserve their kindness
Redlands Senior	i wasn't interested in finishing school but having supporting teachers and youth workers changed my mind
Redlands Senior	Top tier teaching and compassion I wish all the next generations will receive.