



An Invitation to Join the Hands on Learning Program

Dear Parent/Guardian

Your child has shown an interest in joining the Hands on Learning (HOL) program which is currently operating at Somerville Secondary college.

Hands On Learning - Explained

Hands On Learning (HOL) allows students to participate one day a week in various practical projects, which may be within the school or outside in the local community.

Some HOL activities planned include creating a hut, building boats, constructing fences, paving, painting, sculpture, bricklaying, landscaping and horticulture.

The group will consist of up to 10 students ranging from years 7 to 10, girls and boys.

There is a weekly cost of \$5 per student which covers food for the day.

Clothing

Students come out of uniform in comfortable, suitable 'work' clothing. Work boots will be available from Bata in Mornington at the discounted cost of \$20.00, these boots will remain the property of the student.

Why we are doing it

We designed this program to provide an opportunity for students to learn new skills by doing and experiencing.

Popularity of the project

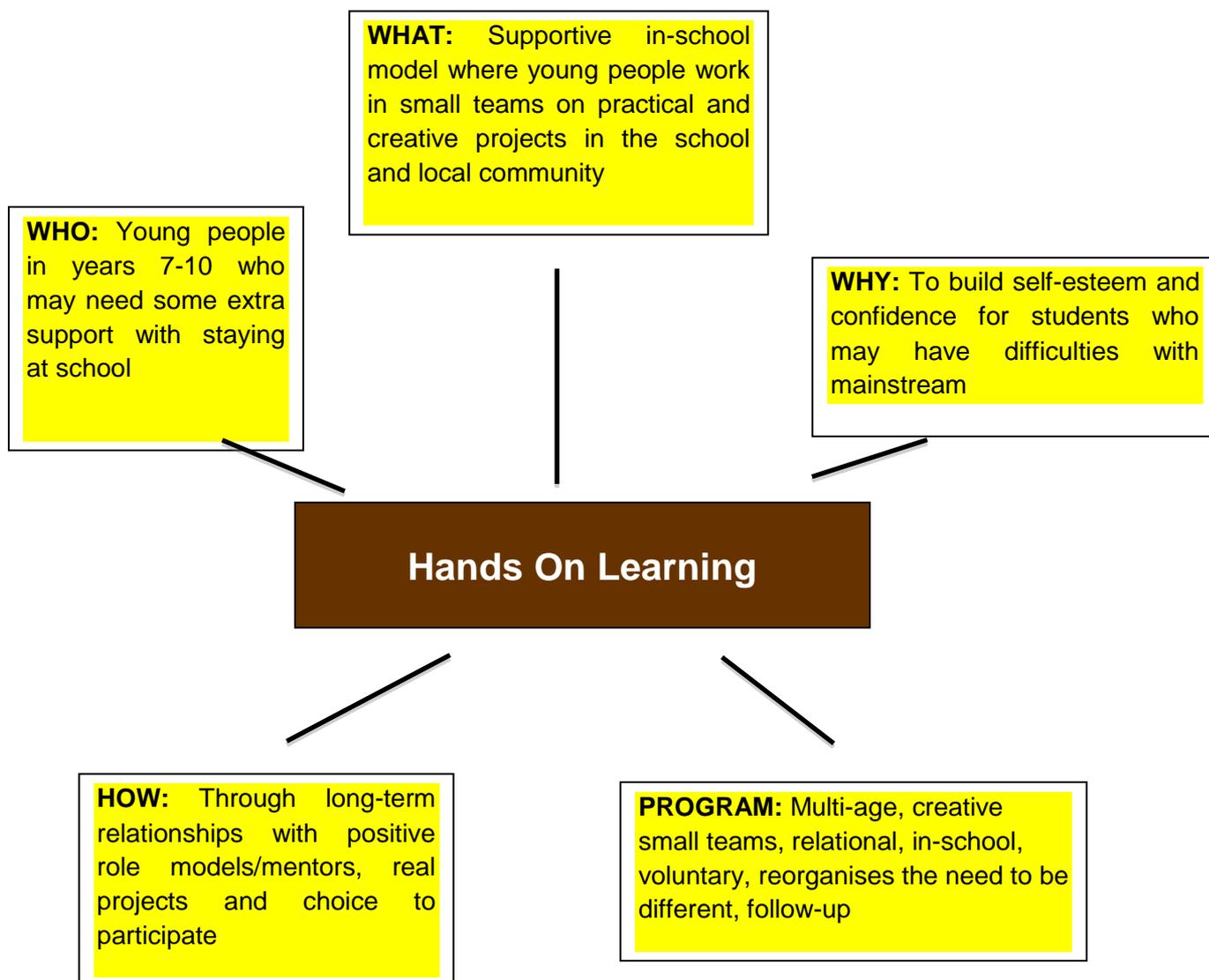
It is a privilege for students to have an opportunity to be in the HOL. We have limited places, and a waiting list exists of students wishing to be involved. This is not a program for students who want a day out of school. HOL helps students maintain a positive attitude to school, and they really look forward to their day's involvement.

What next

If you would like more information please contact the School to come in and have a chat.

If you think that the HOL program would suit your child ask them to advise their form teacher. We provide you with some forms and when these have been completed and returned to us, we will have an informal interview with your child to see where they might best fit in to HOL.

Hands On Learning Staff: *Liam Kelly 5973 1016, Russ Davidson 5973 1019*



Hands On Learning is a one-day a week in-school early intervention model that significantly increases attendance and retention of students in the middle years most at risk of becoming early school leavers.

Small groups allow students from across years 7-10 to form meaningful relationships with other students and adult role models.

Building a safe learning environment encourages students to examine how they work together and treat each other, and promotes a predictable routine and structure, respect, trust, a calm and relaxed atmosphere and a feeling of protection. For the students to take a risk and learn something new they need to be able to trust the people around them.