

Student Referral Form

This form will provide you with the information you need to make an appropriate referral for your student/young person to the Operation Newstart program.

*This document remains the property of the Department of Education and is exclusively utilised by Operation Newstart staff.

We greatly appreciate your support in completing this application form.
It will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

* Indicates required question

Referring Staff Role

The success of students in the Operation Newstart (ON) program is reliant on a holistic team approach. It is integral that ON program facilitators and referring school staff work together to support the young person/people that are taking part in the program. The following is a description of the role that referring staff will need to undertake as part of the program. Please ensure that you are aware and understand the role before submitting an application/s.

Pre-Program

- Inform the student and family/carer of the "Operation Newstart" Program. To assist in this process, you can visit the ONN website and watch the video with the student and family <http://www.opnewstart.org/>
- Ensure parents/carers are aware of the expectations during the program and are willing to support the young person and attend required sessions
- Assist in organising an appropriate time for an interview between ON program facilitators, the student and their family/carer and/or yourself

Start-Program

- Notify teachers of your students acceptance into the ON program and what that entails such as modified work plans and adjusted attendance

During-program

- Assist in arranging and being involved in goal setting and IEP meetings between the student and the program facilitators. These meetings are held on the day(s) students attend their referring school
- Notify program facilitators of any concerns or issues that arise on the day(s) students attend their referring school. This includes; attendance, behavioural concerns, in particular where a student is suspended

End/Post-Program

- Attend graduation to show support for your student and celebrate their achievements
- Attend a final review and transition meeting with the student and program facilitators
- Share your student's successes with their teachers
- Ensure teaching staff are aware of your student's full time return to school, including transition plan and IEP
- Contact ON program facilitators at any time for support and assistance with the young person
- Assist with attendance data collection of student for 6 months

1. I agree that I have read and understand the 'Referring Staff Role' as outlined above. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No *Skip to question 1* *Skip to question 1*

Other: _____

Referring Staff/School Contact Info

2. Applicant's School: *

3. Name of referring person: *

4. Position:

5. Email: *

6. Direct contact number: *

7. School Principal (and email): *

8. Year Level Manager (and email):

9. Applicant's Student Welfare Contact (and email):

10. Other staff (emails) requiring progress reports

Selection Criteria

Operation Newstart provides early intervention programs for young people at risk of disengagement from education and/or not working at their potential. We provide an intensive personal development program which operates 3 days a week for a seven or eight week period and concludes with a formal graduation ceremony. The program is delivered by education, and youth work staff with the support of Engage, YSAS and headspace. Students are supported during and post program as required.

Facilitators work closely with students, their school, and their families. An individual plan is formulated according to the students needs. We utilise the development of character strengths through adventure activities, vocational training, community work, personal development, narrative, and solution focused therapy to guide each student through their journey. Goal setting, emotional regulation and self-efficacy are major focuses throughout the program.

** Referrals are only taken from the secondary colleges who financially support the program. Each school is welcome to make referrals each term, based on need, availability, and the school's financial commitment to the program. Preferably both a male and female student can be referred each term to allow us some flexibility with group dynamics and ratios.

Through years of experience our facilitators have found that best results for all participants involved are achieved with mixed gender groups, at ages 15 or 16 years. Studies show Year 9, and 10 students have a higher capacity and willingness for change at this stage in their lives, which will aid students to achieve their best possible outcomes.

It is important to be strategic and realistic when making a referral. Each student place is valued at over \$6000, although our referral cost is currently \$1200. Please note we are an early intervention program, who focus on new or recently arising difficulties in the school setting. Additionally, referrals with third party or external agencies, can be seen as later intervention. Our staff consider group structure as a crucial element for participant success, and once we develop team ethos, expectations, and group rules in week one, we find it very challenging and disruptive to the group dynamics to replace participants. Our aim is to help students make positive changes in their lives before they escalate. Our program is not designed as an "exit strategy" or "behaviour reform program" for young people with severe behaviour issues or at the edge of being 'expelled'. Taking these students generally results in poorer outcomes for that young person and the rest of the participants in the intake. ON wishes to empower each student that participates in our programs and set them up with the appropriate foundation to achieve their best outcomes.

If a student fails to follow instructions and we consider their behaviour is extreme or dangerous and/or to the detriment of the group, then we will have to suspend that student or ask that student to leave.

ON is a physically demanding program, therefore you should give consideration regarding the student's fitness levels and interest in the tasks undertaken.

Suitable students may display some of the following traits or life situations:

- Early signs of disengagement in the classroom
- Early participation in risk taking behaviours

- Low confidence or self-esteem
- Trauma
- Unhappy or disinterest at school
- Anxiety/Depression
- Conflict at home/Family breakdown
- Family illness or death
- Failing to complete/attempt new tasks
- Family is keen to support student with change
- Aged between 14 – 17 years of age (dependent on maturity level)
- Program is designed primarily for year 9 or 10 students

Further information about the program can be found on <http://www.opnewstart.org/>

11. I agree that I have read and understand the 'Selection Criteria' as outlined above. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No *Skip to question 11*

Other: _____

Student Information

This form must be completed in order for ON to arrange a student interview

12. Student name *

13. Date of Birth: *

Example: January 7, 2019

14. Applicant's Age: *

Mark only one oval.

17

16

15

14

Other: _____

15. Gender: *

Mark only one oval.

Female

Male

Non-binary

Prefer not to say

Other: _____

16. Home Address, including suburb & postcode: *

17. Student Mobile #:

18. Student Email:

19. Student USI (Unique Student Identifier):

20. Does the student identify as: *

Check all that apply.

- Australian born
- Indigenous/Torres Strait Island
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)
- Pacifika/NZ
- Not sure
- Other: _____

21. Does the student identify as: *

Check all that apply.

- LGBTQ+
- Heterosexual
- Not sure
- Prefer not to say
- Other: _____

22. Applicant's Year Level: *

Mark only one oval.

- Year 11
- Year 10
- Year 9
- Year 8
- Other: _____

23. Is the student currently attending school? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Other: _____

24. How many days absent in the previous two terms? *

25. 6 month Pre-program Attendance ____% *

26. How many days suspended in the previous two terms? *

27. Does the student have any support plans/programs in place? If so, please provide.

Check all that apply.

- Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- Learning Assessment E.g. WISC-V
- Education Needs Analysis (ENA)
- Cultural Support Plan
- Behaviour Support Plan
- Mental Health Support Plan/Safety Plan

28. If you have ticked yes to any of the above please provide information regarding any additional 3rd party organization that is involved with the student. (Please include name of organisation, worker, when they became involved, and contact information).

29. Disability and additional needs *

Check all that apply.

- Yes
 No
 Possible but not officially diagnosed

30. If you have answered yes to the above question please specify disability and/or expand on any supports that would be beneficial to implement with the student whilst on the program

31. Does the student exhibit any of the following behaviours or mental health concerns? *

Check all that apply.

- ADHD
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Drug or alcohol use
- Eating disorder
- Low self-esteem
- Risk taking behaviours
- Self injury
- Suicidality
- Trauma history
- Violence
- None
- Other: _____

32. If you've ticked yes to any of the above please expand.

33. Are there any other medical or health issues? *

Check all that apply.

- Asthma
- Anaphylaxis
- Allergies
- None
- Other: _____

34. If you have answered yes to the above question please specify medical or health issues and treatment.

35. Does your student have any additional supports in place? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Unsure

36. If you answered yes to the above question please expand. (Please include name of organisation, worker, when they became involved, and contact information).

Parent/Guardian Info - Living Situation

37. Name of Parent / Guardian (best contact): *

38. Parent/Guardian Mobile #: *

39. Parent/Guardian Email:

40. Languages spoken at home:

41. Who does the student live with (mostly)? Tick all that apply *

Check all that apply.

- Biological Mother
- Biological Father
- Step Mother
- Step Father
- Grandparent/s
- Other relative (Aunt/Uncle)
- Sibling/s
- Guardian
- Out of Home care
- Other: _____

42. If you've ticked 'Out of Home care' please give details.

43. Family background. eg, family issues, recent losses, precipitating factors, risk factors

Student Individual Concerns

44. Does your student experience concerns with: *

Check all that apply.

	0 - Rarely	1 - Sometimes	2 - Often	3 - Most of the time	N - Not observed
Self-control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading or writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accepting positive feedback and redirection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Focusing on work or tasks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Remembering instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrating year level academic skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Experiencing mental health concerns or illness (anxiety/depression)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Student Social Concerns

45. Does your student experience concerns with: *

Check all that apply.

	0 - Rarely	1 - Sometimes	2 - Often	3 - Most of the time	N - Not observed
Interaction with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interaction with teachers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interaction with family	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Following instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being a bully	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being bullied	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has anger outbursts with peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has anger outbursts with adults	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Distracting others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical fights with others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Strengths, Needs and Supports

46. Please identify the strengths your student brings to the program *

Check all that apply.

- Leadership
- Patience
- Respect/care for others
- Decision making
- Physical ability
- Creativity
- Communication
- Adaptability
- Honesty
- Dedication
- Resilience
- Other: _____

47. What are your primary reasons for referring? Please identify your student's most significant challenges/barriers impacting their learning. *

48. What are the positive outcomes that you would like to see from the student's involvement in the Operation Newstart program? *

SMART Goals

49. Does your young person have any short or long term goals? If so, what are they?

Schools referring staff will be notified of the progress of their student's application and liaise with ON staff regarding interview times. Students must complete a successful interview prior to the applications approval.

www.opnewstart.org

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