

WWHS students excel in new roles

This week's edition features more excellent stories about Wee Waa High School's successful School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships program, also known as its abbreviation SBAT.

school-based apprenticeships and traineeships are a great way for students to set themselves up for the career they want while completing their HSC.

This year, 12 WWHS students are participating in the popular program.



Sarah Hamilton is completing a Certificate IV in Beauty Therapy at Visage Beauty and Day Spa in Wee Waa and Narrabri.

Sarah Hamilton

Certificate IV in Beauty Therapy - Visage Beauty and Day Spa

Year 12 student Sarah, who is nearing completion of her SBAT in Beauty Therapy which she began in 2020, is at Visage Beauty.

Sarah commenced her studies in Beauty Therapy in Year 10 and completed a Certificate II in Retail Cosmetics Beauty at Narrabri TAFE.

Once Sarah completes her traineeship she will continue her apprenticeship with Visage Beauty and work out of both the Narrabri and Wee Waa salons.



Zoe Zawada is completing a Certificate III in Business Administration - Medical at the Wee Waa Community Hospital.

Zoe Zawada

Certificate III in Business Administration - Medical, Wee Waa Community Hospital

Year 12 student Zoe Zawada is another example of WWHS' talented young SBAT program participants.

Beginning her SBAT with Wee Waa Community Hospital as an administrative assistant - medical (Indigenous Identified) in Year 11, Zoe completed her Cert. III in Term 2 this year.

All of Zoe's studies have been online which she said has worked well.

"I've had wonderful support from my TAFE teacher who went above and beyond to make sure I had access to the curriculum online," said Zoe.

"She would support me outside of weekly lessons if need be."

WWHS Careers Adviser, Stephenie Blewitt added, "Zoe's dedication and reliability have paved the way for her to begin her studies in Aged Care Nursing at Whiddon aged care in Wee Waa."

Axel Currey

Certificate II in Agriculture - Gleeson Pastoral Company

Year 11 student Axel Currey has a passion and interest in agriculture, which has only grown since he commenced studying a Certificate II in Agriculture at WWHS last year.

Axel's studies are complemented by the regular opportunity for practical knowledge application and skills development in his role working with Gleeson Pastoral Company.

For Axel, his School Based Traineeship is a fantastic way to gain great experience and knowledge while also studying at school.

It's also enabling him to be well placed for work opportunities when he graduates in 2022.



Axel Currey is completing a Certificate II in Agriculture with Gleeson Pastoral Company.

Ashily Williams

Certificate III in Retail Services, IGA Supermarket

Year 10 student, Ashily Williams is the first WWHS student to undertake a School Based Traineeship with IGA, Wee Waa.

WWHS careers adviser, Stephenie Blewitt explained, "I saw our local IGA store as a wonderful workplace opportunity for Ashily."

"IGA around Australia are very supportive of SBAT trainees, so we were really pleased to welcome IGA Wee Waa into this important skills development program."

Starting the work component of her SBAT in June this year, Ashily said, "I am really enjoying the role and the people".


"I am a people person, so I love helping and getting to know our customers.

"I also enjoy being a part of the IGA staff team.

"They have all been really welcoming.

"I am learning register operations, stock fulfilment and how to maintain a hygienic environment.

"This is so important with COVID."

 They have all been really

welcoming. I am learning register operations, stock fulfilment and how to maintain a hygienic environment.



Ashily Williams is completing a Certificate III in Retail Services at IGA supermarket. Ashily is pictured with Sue Hatton and Jennie Fox.

Shortly, Ashily will commence the study component of her SBAT, a Certificate III in Retail Services with BELLEMO Training (Indigenous Identified).

"Ashily's studies will be complemented by working at IGA once a week and during the school holidays," said Ms Blewitt.

"This opportunity will enable Ashily to quickly apply the retail theory she is learning."

Like with many of the WWHS students participating in a SBAT program, Ashily's confidence is growing and the experience she is gaining will enhance her work opportunities after high school.

Hayden Shearin

Certificate II in Agriculture at Merced Farming

Year 11 student Hayden Shearin is another of WWHS' great young School Based Trainees.

Hayden started his SBAT this year at school and it's complemented by his work at Merced Farming.

Merced Farming is providing Hayden with the opportunity to put into practice what he has been learning in the classroom, as well as a great deal of other valuable farming experience.

Hayden has long been passionate about agriculture and said he "really enjoys the opportunity to work once a week, and during his school holidays with Merced Farming".

Hayden will graduate at the end of 2022 and hopes to continue to work in the area of agriculture.



Year 11 student Hayden Shearin is completing a Certificate II in Agriculture, gaining invaluable experience at Merced Farming.

Correction: Last week's edition featured an incorrect photo with Hayden Shearin's profile. Please enjoy Hayden's story in full this week.