

Frequently Asked Questions - SCHOOLS

HOW IS HANDS ON LEARNING DIFFERENT?

There are three main ways Hands On Learning is special:

- Preventative – targeted intervention before Year 9
- On site – a unique in school option that keeps students connected
- Quality Assurance – ongoing training and professional development of artisan-teachers by Hands On Learning Australia

WHY IS HOL EFFECTIVE?

Student engagement increases through the development of strong long term relationships that cultivate a sense of belonging and authentic learning opportunities that offer the opportunity to experience success.

WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE THAT HOL WORKS?

Hands On Learning has been consistently reported as an example of best practice to boost student retention and target students most in need by leading academics and evaluated by external organisations including Deloitte Access Economics, the Australian Council for Education Research, the Australian Research Council and the University of Melbourne, Victoria University and the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD).

WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS?

Your school will become part of network of Hands On Learning schools across Australia. Hands On learning Australia helps schools run HOL providing induction and ongoing training, and professional development for artisan-teachers and assistance to schools to identify potential HOL hut sites and suitable projects. HOLA also provides access to a dedicated support line and access to an artisan-teacher discussion forum to share ideas and experiences with colleagues at other schools.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON THE REST OF THE SCHOOL?

Weekly concentrated care for the most support intensive students has tremendous flow on effects across the entire school. Building the foundational social competencies of vulnerable students relieves pressure on student wellbeing, year level coordinators and APs, transforms classroom dynamics, helping to lift academic outcomes across the school so that everyone benefits.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Schools must fund Hands On Learning from their existing budgets. The salaries of the two staff members comprise more than 90 per cent. Costs vary according to the number of days a week schools run HOL, ranging from \$29K - \$120k to support 12-50 students per year.