



ASPIRE

MUSIC DANCE DRAMA

WORK EXPERIENCE WORK PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ASPIRE IS LOOKING TO SUPPORT STUDENTS INTERESTED IN GAINING EXPERIENCE WORKING BACKSTAGE OR WANTING TO COMPLETE WORK PLACEMENT HOURS

Interested students please contact Luke Baker Production Manager Aspire at luke.baker@mn.catholic.edu.au or Aspire via email aspire@mn.catholic.edu.au

Brief Overview for Students

Aspire is the Catholic Schools Maitland-Newcastle creative and performing arts program. With an emphasis on fostering creativity, Aspire provides a variety of projects developing students' skills in Drama, Music, Dance, Design and Production. Aspire creates an original production each year. Students can audition to be a part of dance, design, drama, vocal, stage band and production ensembles. Other program opportunities for students include scriptwriting, songwriting, choreography creation and artistic developments. Aspire also provides support and professional development to staff in schools in our region.

What we can offer

The Aspire Team can offer opportunities for interested students who are looking for work experience. Experience will include either working backstage or providing administrative services for one of our current programs. Students will be supervised by the Aspire Production Manager and will receive set tasks that include working backstage, working front of house and as an usher, and completing tasks for business and administration services.

For VET Entertainment Students, Aspire is also able to provide Work Placement opportunities through our additional projects and events for students completing their mandatory work placement hours. Students will be supervised by the Aspire Production Manager and will be provided with set tasks that include working backstage, working front of house and as an usher, and completing tasks relating to business and administration services.

Non-VET Entertainment Industry students –
Work Experience
Ages 15-18 (Years 9 and up)

For students who:

- Are wanting work experience in theatre and the Entertainment Industry.
- Have an interest in working backstage in a theatre.
- Have excellent communication skills.
- Can work in a fast paced, team environment.
- Can demonstrate independence when completing set activities.

VET Entertainment Industry Students
Stage 6 students
Work Placement Hours

For students who:

- Can work similarly as the Non-VET Entertainment Industry students.
- Are enrolled and are completing the VET Entertainment Industry Course.
- Are looking for work placement hours that need completing in line with enrolment requirements.

Note: VET Entertainment Industry Students completing the application process may require an interview as part of the selection process, as this will be subject to limited places available for certain programs.

ASPIRE WORK EXPERIENCE/WORK PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES KEY INFORMATION

Additional information

Due to the nature of the entertainment industry, work experience and work placement hours may require students to be available days and/or evenings as suited to the assigned projects/events. Students will need to ensure they are able to travel to and from venues safely. Students who can travel by driving their own vehicle may need to complete a separate application form provided at the initial meeting with the Aspire Production Manager.

Uniform and Equipment Requirements

Production Ensemble students are required to supply and wear the following:

- Long black protective pants (no ripped jeans or shorts, no leggings).
- Black long-sleeved shirt, no logos.
- Black Socks.
- Water only (no energy drinks)
- Black safety boots
- A pocket torch. Note: Phones may not allowed in the backstage area. Therefore, phone torch apps are not an acceptable form of backstage work light.
- Pens/Pencils/Highlighters

Flow Chart of Procedures:

Choose the following column that is applicable to the student regarding the application process:

Non-VET Entertainment Industry students – Work Experience Ages 15-18 (Years 9 and up)	VET Entertainment Industry Students Stage 6 students Work Placement Hours
Complete the application Aspire Work Experience/Work Placement Application Form – Fill out form	Initial Conversation with VET Entertainment Teacher, Leader of Learning VET and/or Careers Advisor.
Student to receive contact from Aspire Production Manager. Student will receive the Work Experience Pack.	Notify Aspire Production Manager of intention to participate in a project/event. Luke.baker@mn.catholic.edu.au
Student to meet with Aspire Production Manager regarding Work Experience to discuss the schedule and duties. All relevant paperwork to be completed.	Aspire Production Manager to contact Entertainment Teacher, Leader of Learning VET and/or Careers Advisor for feedback.
Student attends Work Experience. Aspire Production Manager to supervise student and support the completion of Work Experience.	Student to receive contact and Work Placement Pack to complete. Student to meet with Aspire Production Manager regarding Work Placement to discuss the schedule and duties. All relevant paperwork to be completed.
Feedback provided to student and school regarding Work Experience progress.	Student attends Work Placement. Aspire Production Manager to supervise student and support the completion of Work Placement paperwork.
	Feedback provided to student and school regarding Work Experience progress.

ASPIRE WORK EXPERIENCE/WORK PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES KEY INFORMATION

Current Opportunities offered by Aspire for 2026

Here is an extensive list of opportunities for students in our diocese regarding work experience and or work placement.

Name of Program/Event:	Dates:	Location:	Assigned Roles/Activities:	No. of positions available
Song Competition Performance Evening	Thurs 14th May Time: 8am until approx. 8:30pm	Trinity Catholic College, Adamstown	Bump in/out Stage Crew Microphone Technician Lighting Operator	2 students
DioSounds 2026 (Technical Rehearsals Mon/Tues/Wed) (Matinee and Evening Performances Thurs 4th June)	Mon 1st June until Wed 3rd June Time: 8am until approx. 4pm Thurs 4 th June Time: 7am until approx. 10pm	Civic Theatre Newcastle	Stage Crew Microphone Technician Bump out	8-10 students
Celebrate! Choirs at the Civic Theatre Concert 1 & 2	Mon 29th June and Tues 30th June Time: 8am until approx. 9:30pm	Civic Theatre Newcastle	Bump in/out Stage Crew Microphone Technician	4 students
Battle of the Bands Performance	Tues 11th Aug Time: 7:30am until approx. 9:30pm	Warners Bay Theatre	Bump in/out Stage Crew Microphone Technician	6 students
Young Actors Program Production Week	Tues 8th Sept until Fri 11th Sept Times: TBA	Performing Arts Culture Cessnock	Bump in/out Audio Tech & Operator Stage Crew	4 students
Junior Theatre Makers Performance	Thurs 17 th Sept Times: 8am until approx. 8:30pm	Warners Bay Theatre	Bump in/out Audio Tech & Operator Stage Crew	2 students
LAKES Young Scriptwriters First Draft Staged Readings	Thurs 15th Oct Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Warners Bay Theatre	Bump in/out Audio Operator Stage Crew	2 students
CENTRAL & NORTH'S Young Scriptwriters First Draft Staged Readings	Mon 19th Oct & Tues 20th Oct Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Playhouse, Civic Theatre Newcastle	Bump in/out Audio/Lighting Tech & Operator Stage Crew	2 students
MANNING Young Scriptwriters First Draft Staged Readings	Thurs 22nd Oct Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Flett Studio, Manning Entertainment Centre	Bump in/out Audio/Lighting Tech & Operator Stage Crew	2 students

Aspire WORK EXPERIENCE/WORK PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES KEY INFORMATION

Momentum – Dance Showcase	Mon 2 nd Nov Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Civic Theatre Newcastle	Bump in/out Stage Crew	4 students
Vivace Performance	Tues 3rd Nov Times: 8am until approx. 9pm	Newcastle City Hall	Bump in/out Stage Crew	2 students
Manning Creative Arts Project (Technical Rehearsals Mon/Tues/Wed) (Matinee and Evening Performances Thurs 5th June)	Mon 9th June until Wed 11th June Time: 8am until approx. 4pm Thurs 12th Oct Time: 8am until approx. 9pm	St Clare’s High School, Taree Manning Entertainment Centre	Bump in/out Microphone Technician Stage Crew	4 students
LOWER HUNTER Young Scriptwriters First Draft Staged Readings	Tues 17th Nov Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Performance Arts Culture Cessnock	Bump in/out Audio/Lighting Tech & Operator Stage Crew	2 students
UPPER HUNTER Young Scriptwriters First Draft Staged Readings	Thurs 19th Nov Times: 8am until approx. 7:30pm	Denman Memorial Hall	Bump in/out Audio Operator Stage Crew	2 students
Senior Theatre Makers Program Performance	Wed 2nd Dec Time: 8:30am until 3pm Thurs 3rd Dec Time: 8:30am until approx. 8:30pm	Playhouse, Civic Theatre Newcastle	Bump in/out Lighting/Audio Operator Stage Crew	2 students