



MEDIA RELEASE

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Joseph's chasing his dreams with TAFE North

Unemployed and unable to read or write just one year ago, Home Hill resident Joseph Dargan is now helping his son with his homework and has plans to start his own business.

Joseph, a Kalkadoon man, credits his dramatic transformation to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training funded Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) at TAFE Queensland North.

Joseph left school at 15 before he completed year 10, and has always struggled to find regular work. Joseph was given a second chance when he was referred to SEE by his jobactive. Since commencing his studies, Joseph's reading and writing skills have improved significantly. He will soon complete his Certificate II in Skills for Work and Study (year 10 equivalency).

"When I started SEE at TAFE, I didn't know how to do any reading or writing. I was unsure about the work and if I could even do it," he said.

At 28, Joseph is finally confident about the future.

Joseph's long-term goal is to become a tattooist and open his own business. It is a goal that his TAFE Queensland North teacher Natalie Hyde is keen to see him achieve.

"Joseph is a talented artist, but he understands that he has to learn how to read and write if he wants to have his own business.

"Now that his reading and writing have improved we're focussing on the next step: helping him secure a job to support his family. I'm really proud of how far he's come," Ms Hyde said.

And the feeling of respect is mutual.

"My teacher Natalie and my tutor Kim have really helped me to understand the work and taught me how to read and write. It has helped me to read books to my son and help him with his homework, which I was never able to do," he said.

SEE offers registered job seekers the opportunity to acquire new skills for a new life, TAFE Queensland North SEE Manager Jennifer Taylor said.



An Australian Government Initiative



“Through SEE, TAFE North is able to support early school leavers like Joseph to improve their literacy and numeracy skills. These skills help our students get a job, start their own business or continue on to further study,” Ms Taylor said.

“Joseph now has control of his future”, she said.

For more information on SEE, contact TAFE Queensland on 3244 5488 or visit www.tafeqld.edu.au/see

ENDS

About the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE)

SEE offers up to 800 hours of FREE training to help participants secure a job or participate in further training. SEE provides language, literacy and numeracy training in a contextualised learning environment for eligible job seekers aged 15-64. For more information on SEE, visit www.education.gov.au/skills-education-and-employment

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