

## **Ray Williams MP**

**Member for Castle Hill** 

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

5 July 2022

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY SKILLS TO BOOST HOSPITALITY

Young people across Castle Hill are set to benefit from fee-free hospitality training during the winter school holidays to help them get the skills they need for the jobs they want.

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams MP said the hospitality industry offers incredible opportunities and this initiative will give students aged 16 and above a great head start in the industry.

"By giving local students a foot-in-the-door, they'll gain practical experience and build industry connections, which in turn supports their ongoing education and employment pathways and help businesses meet demand for workers," Mr Williams said.

Courses available include Statement of Attainment in Hospitality Skills, Statement of Attainment in Espresso Coffee and Food Safety Supervisor.

Minister for Skills and Training Alister Henskens said 1,000 free training places are up for grabs as part of a new NSW Government initiative.

"We want to provide more opportunities for young people to get the skills they need for a first job, a new job or a better job, and this program is another great example of that," Mr Henskens said.

Since February, the NSW Government has delivered 10,000 fee-free Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) courses.

Minister for Hospitality and Racing Kevin Anderson said the hospitality sector supports more than 300,000 jobs across the State and now is the perfect time for students to gain their free qualification and enter the industry.

"These free courses will help young people get jobs at local cafes and restaurants, which will support hospitality businesses who are in need of staff," Mr Anderson said.

Training will be delivered during the July and September school holiday periods (4-15 July 2022 and 26 September–7 October 2022) and are available through TAFE NSW and other registered training organisations.

For more information, visit <u>skills.education.nsw.gov.au/initiatives/school-holidays-hospitality-skills</u>.

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