

## SEPLA-CON18



### **"Yes We Can" A Innovative Collaboration Between School and Business to Develop the Work Skills of Students with Moderate to Severe Intellectual Disabilities**

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This presentation will focus on how schools can partner with business to enhance work experience programs for our students. It explores the partnership that Caroline Chisholm has created with Envirobank recycling to enhance work related skills of the students in Secondary programs.

"Yes we can" is not just a catchy name. It's an attitude and vision that our students can achieve and develop a wide range of work related, communication and social skills. This partnership has come about as a response to the NSW container recycling scheme to which Envirobank operate a bulk container recycling plant at Revesby

The secondary students at Caroline Chisholm have been involved in cleaning a range of local parks as a part of the community access programs. Furthermore the parents and community regularly send in bags of recycling. Students are responsible for sorting, bagging, loading and taking the containers to the recycling centre.

This presentation will look at the impact the program has had on student outcomes as well as successes in building a greater sense of understanding of the needs of people with an intellectual disability to the wider community.

Discussion will look broadly at activities in the Work and Community curriculum offered at Caroline Chisholm and the direct impact that they have in preparing students for post school. Examples include: Travel training, Shopping for home, Gardening, Fruit and vegetable shop, Shredding, Pizza lunch orders, Furniture refurbishment, Recycling, Art/Music therapy and more.

This interactive presentation will encourage participants to share successes and ideas that they are using in their own settings to promote skills in this area. Resources will be provided to delegates to "dream big", review current programs, share and plan for the future.