

GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK 2026

AGENDA

Meeting Theme: Responsible AI Use in the Youth Sector

Tuesday 21 July, 9.30-11.00am

Meeting Format: Online

Acknowledgement of Country	9.30am
Welcome and Introduction	9.35-9.40am
Presentation – Responsible AI Use in the Youth Sector <i>Dr. Joel McGregor, Senior Lecturer, Criminology, Swinburne University</i> <i>Dr. Joel McGregor has been leading a research project in partnership with YACVic exploring how artificial intelligence (AI) is currently used, or could be used, in youth work, youth justice, and care services in Victoria. The aim is to understand sector perspectives on the benefits, risks, and ethical considerations of AI, and to use these insights to inform future partnerships, practice guides, and training. The project has been informed by workshops conducted with both youth sector professionals, and with young people.</i> <i>Joel will provide general background information about different types of AI and how they are being used within the youth sector, as well as sharing an overview of the research project and some of the preliminary findings. He will speak about the upcoming Responsible AI Toolkit for the Youth Sector, due to be published in August, and will provide practical tools for youth workers to use in their day-to-day consideration of ethical AI use.</i> <i>Throughout the presentation, attendees will be invited to join breakout rooms to engage in reflective practice and explore how we can promote ethical practice for the use of AI in the local youth work sector. Additionally, attendees will also be asked to consider areas for further learning on the topic of AI that could be explored in future GDYN meetings.</i> Presentation notes: - Risk of AI to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people around bias and racism. - The project aimed to understand how Generative AI is being used across the Victorian youth sector and to co-design a practical toolkit that supports its responsible and youth-centred use. The research combined a review of existing evidence on AI in human services with workshops and consultations involving both youth practitioners and young people. - Gen AI is a family of artificial intelligence systems that can create new content. Chat GPT sits on top of the Large Language Model. - People seem to be sceptical but it's here to stay so how are we supposed to use it. Eg google search is now AI. Unconscious use. YP pushing back on AI.	9.40-10.40am

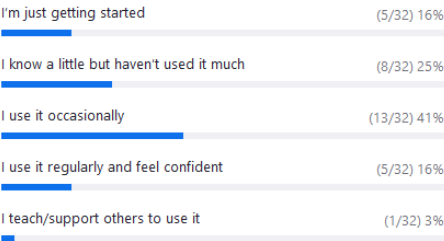
Poll:

Gen AI question 1

Meeting poll ended | 1 question | 32 of 32 (100%) participated

1. Which best describes your current relationship with generative AI (GenAI)? (Single choice) *

32/32 (100%) answered



Breakout Rooms – How are you using GenAI at the moment? What is your organisation’s current position on AI use?

Overview of research conducted so far

Workshop 1 - Participants: 20 staff members who work with young people, representing 13 organisations.

- Practitioners reported that AI tools can be used in day-to-day work and are particularly helpful when administrative demands are high.
- AI was seen as a convenient way to manage time pressures
- Participants expressed interest in more discreet and user-friendly systems that integrate into existing workflows.
- Organisational responses to AI were described as inconsistent. While some organisations are actively exploring AI, others have limited guidance or formal policies in place.
- Several participants noted that their organisations permit the use of tools such as Copilot, but there is limited understanding of how these systems work, particularly regarding what happens "behind the scenes."
- While AI was recognised as a significant time-saving tool, participants also raised concerns about ethics, privacy, data security, and informed consent when using AI in practice.

Workshop 2 - Participants: 15 young people with a different set of questions from their point of view.

- Young people value their relationships with workers and do not want human connection replaced by AI.
- AI may be acceptable for low-risk administrative tasks (e.g. emails, calendars, appointments).
- Transparency alone is not enough; informed consent is essential.
- Young people want to know what information is being shared with AI, how it is being used, and what safeguards are in place.
- They want ongoing conversations about consent and the choice of whether AI is used in their support.
- There is a strong expectation of continual discussion and negotiation about AI use and its impact on them.

Findings:

Practitioners are focused on workload and workflow considerations, while young people place a strong emphasis on trust and safety. Discussion also centred on the disclosure of Generative AI use, with participants highlighting the importance of being transparent about AI tools when working with young people and their families.

Breakout rooms – When do you think disclosure should happen/do you currently disclose using AI and how it might break rapport with young people?

- Can help reduce workload and save time, but there are concerns about how young people may perceive or respond to its use. - Potential use in grant applications is recognised; however, there are questions about whether disclosing AI assistance within an application could be viewed negatively by funders or affect how the application is assessed. YERP – as a guidepost for AI disclosure. YERP is YACVic's resource around youth engagement best practice: Youth Affairs Council Victoria YERP Four-layer model for transparency, disclosure and consent: - General disclosure - Specific disclosure - Ongoing consent and review - Post use disclosure Breakout rooms – Design a short GenAI disclosure statement considering the four layers of disclosure. Participant responses: - General: During this session, we'll be using a gen ai transcription tool to transcribe the handwritten notes created. a human will then review the responses to ensure accuracy. These will be collated and used internally for review purposes. All responses will be deidentified from the person contributing the comment. - During: we're going to use this tool now, are you comfortable with this? - Post: here are the collated results for your information. please contact us if there are any statements that do not reflect comments made at the time. - With your consent, an AI-assisted transcription tool may be used to record and transcribe our conversation. The purpose of using this technology is to assist with accurate record keeping and documentation. The transcription may be reviewed and corrected by the worker to ensure it accurately reflects the discussion. The use of AI does not replace professional judgement, and any records created will be managed in accordance with relevant privacy, confidentiality, information management, and organisational requirements. Responsible AI toolkit for the Youth Sector Launch: In person registration - https://events.humanitix.com/raiysn-toolkit-launch Online registration - https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/157e5f69-3db7-4645-8ec3-07b04acb8d45@df7f7579-3e9c-4a7e-b844-420280f53859	
Network Information Sharing An opportunity for network members to introduce themselves and share a brief program / service update. Chisholm Foundation College: Siobhan Paxton – Pathways & Wellbeing Advisor - Chisholm Foundation College – General Education for Adults Program, Cert I, II, & III (Cert II - year 10 alternative). Supporting students from 18 years old upwards that benefit from an alternative to school learning environment or are re-engaging with education through our General Education for Adults programs at Dandenong, Berwick and Frankston. We offer - • Self-paced learning • One to one teaching in classroom • Individual learning plans • Personal pathways and wellbeing support - plus breakfast club! • Ongoing enrolments throughout the year In Dandenong and Frankston, we are also supporting students with special learning needs that would like to improve life and living skills and become work ready through our Work Education programs. Spaces available. For enquiries and/or enrolments FoundationCollege.WE_GE@chisholm.edu.au or call Christel Felix on 9238 8577	10.40-10.55am

Mark Drummond – Dandenong Tech School: Dandenong Tech School is open! We're hosting a community opening event Aug 18 at the Tech School between 10 am and 12pm. If you're interested in attending or finding out more about the Tech School, email me via mark.drummond@chisholm.edu.au or info@dandenongtechschool.vic.edu.au We have vacancies coming up at our YRRS service for young people 16-25 looking at working on self-identified recovery goals in a residential setting. Feel free to organise a site visit for YP on 1300 001 953 Melissa Morris – SEPHU: I'm looking at starting a Working group focusing on Youth - to increase HPV vaccination for young people - as this is low, especially in schools in the Greater Dandenong area. M: 0447 043 379 E: melissa.morris@monashhealth.org City of Greater Dandenong Youth Services Divergent Drama Divergent Drama is a 9-week drama program for neurodivergent young people aged 12 – 18 to learn new skills, make friends and share their experiences within the community. Participants will build drama skills through theatre-based games and activities, and create a short performance piece (monologue, short scene) telling their own unique story. The program will end with a 'celebration night', where filmed versions of the short performance pieces will be screened for friends and family. When: Wednesdays from 19 August - 4 November 2026 (no sessions during school holidays) Time: 4.30pm - 6.30pm Ages: 12 - 18 years Cost: Free https://youth.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/divergent-drama Write it Out – Creative writing event Are you aged 12-25 and passionate about writing? Join us at this free event designed to build your skills and connect you with authors and other creative young people in our community. Choose one workshop: • Advanced Creative Writing Skills • Publishing and Marketing Your Work Cost: Free Who: Ages 12-25 Location: Springvale Library Registration: Essential https://events.humanitix.com/write-it-out-creative-writing-workshops Saver Plus: Any young people who meet the eligibility for the Saver Plus program have the opportunity to receive \$500 of matched funds to put towards education costs. Saver Plus – Join Australia's longest running financial education and matched savings program	
Evaluation Feedback on today's meeting – please complete the survey if you didn't during the meeting: https://www.menti.com/alwy2ehy6285	10.55-11.00am
Meeting Formally Closes	11.00am
Next meeting Thursday September 10, 2026, 9.30am – 11am Meeting Format: In person at Greater Dandenong City Council, Level 2 Meeting Rooms 225 Lonsdale St, Dandenong VIC 3175 Topic: TBC	

For submissions to the GDYN eNewsletter, please provide a brief update to matilda.houlihan@cgd.vic.gov.au
Deadline for August 2026: Friday 24 July