



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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### Media statement

October 31, 2016

#### **Federal Government support for school-leavers: David Littleproud MP**

IT'S a hard question to answer, "What are you going to do with your life?" and its currently being lobbed at our school-leavers but Maranoa MP David Littleproud wants to let you know there's plenty of Federal Government options and support out there for you to access.

"Over the coming weeks, 1100 students living in Maranoa will experience one of the most stressful times in their lives: Year 12 exams and finishing school," Mr Littleproud said.

"We've all been there, you're at an end-of-year event and it seems everyone on your family tree is asking if you've got your life mapped out but try not to stress as there's plenty of support to help you find your feet.

"ReachOut Australia is a leading digital mental health organisation, supported by the Federal Government, offering support for students and parents with tips on how to manage stress and anxiety.

"It's important to remember that school exam grades don't define you. There are many different options, opportunities and career paths – there's not just one path to your future."

If you can't decide on a career pathway, why not check out the Federal Government's National Skills Needs List (NSNL) which identifies shortages in Australia's labour market.

"The Coalition Government added agriculture and horticulture-based trades to the NSNL in recognition that these are priority areas, which is a huge boost for Maranoa," Mr Littleproud said.

"Whether it's consulting in agricultural, accounting, being a locksmith, a midwife, surveying, welding, working in child care, or web development – and all the other careers in-between – there's a myriad of jobs on offer across Queensland in desperate need to be filled.

"The Coalition Government will also provide \$7 billion in 2016-17 to the vocational education and training sector, including support for apprentices through payments to employers, payments to apprentices and additional support services.

“I didn’t go to university because I was fortunate enough to build a career in Maranoa by working my way up in the finance sector. I’d like to remind school-leavers and those approaching their final years of school, there are a number of different pathways available to building a career you enjoy.”

**FACT BOX: FOR MORE INFORMATION**

- ReachOut Australia: [www.au.reachout.com](http://www.au.reachout.com)
- National Skills Needs List: <https://www.employment.gov.au/national-state-and-territory-skill-shortage-information>
- Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program: <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/publications/summary-australian-government-australian-apprenticeships-incentives-programme>
- Youth Allowance: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/youth-allowance>
- ABSTUDY: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/abstudy>
- Austudy: <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/austudy>

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