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defn: (noun) the language particular to a people or district, community, or class.

Is Skateboarding dangerous?

Most sports involve an element of risk and skateboarding is no different. In fact, the element of risk-taking is partly what attracts people to skateboarding.

Statistics show that skateboarding may not be as dangerous as perceived. A United States report found that skateboarding is a relatively safe sport when compared to other sports like baseball and basketball, in terms of number of injuries.

These injuries can be limited by wearing protective equipment at all times when skating. The study also states that a third of injuries occur in new skaters who have been skating less than a week, highlighting the importance of full protective gear.

Whilst the incidence of injuries in skateboarding is no more than most other sports, the severity of injuries should be considered, as common injuries include abrasions, misalignment of joints and fractures. 80% of these injuries are a result of falls, which often occur due to loss of balance, failed trick attempts or irregularities in the skating surface.

Skaters should know their limits and skate within them (i.e.: don't try to jump down stairs before you can jump a curb) and should check the skating surface for rocks, water, and other abnormalities to limit occurrences of falls.

Collisions, either with another person or object, also contribute to injuries, so educating skaters about skate park etiquette and the use of safety equipment can help reduce the incidence of serious injuries and lower probability of collisions.

Source: YMCA HQ website.



Life after school...

As schools begins for 2014, for year 11 and 12 students there is often an incredible amount of pressure to work out what they want to 'do' and what their career will be in the future.

Students are pushed to find a uni or TAFE course to take part in after they leave, but quite frequently they don't even know what the course covers, if they are really interested in the subject matter, or where it is going to lead.

A lot of young people are pressured to choose the right pathway to lead a 'successful life' but quite often school leavers feel as though they only have the one chance to make the right decision. This is completely false, in this day and age people change their careers all the time.

There tends to be more pressure on young people who are unsure of what path they want to take. The social expectation pushes them to do things they don't want to do and drives them to make choices too quickly and without enough research behind it.

Nowadays there is a high drop out rate for courses and apprenticeships or traineeships. Generally, those who leave before completion of the course have not been well prepared or may have had

unrealistic perceptions of what happens when school is over.

It is really important for students to 'research' their future whilst at school, and it is crucial to have a pathway in mind to help eliminate the unknown. Being prepared is the key to having a less stressful time when leaving school.

Students need to keep as many options open to them as possible, which means going to open days and career expos, talking to career advisers and teachers at school, as well as communicating with friends and family.



Youth Advisory Council

The Bassendean Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a group of young people who meet monthly to discuss current issues that interest or affect them.

The Bassendean YAC has been heavily consulted on the planning and construction of the Town's popular Skate Park and annual Youth Events. It has also given feedback to Local, State and Federal Governments on issues affecting young people including State Law reform, the National Novice Driver Review and the National Drugs campaign.

If you are between the ages of 12 and 25 years and either live, work, study or recreate in the Town of Bassendean (Bassendean, Ashfield or Eden Hill) then you are eligible to join the Bassendean YAC.

For further details on the YAC, contact the Youth Development Officer at the Town of Bassendean.



Dudley Robinson Youth Grant

The aim of the Dudley Robinson Youth Grant is to support individuals to strive toward developing their potential in their chosen pursuit.

Individuals can apply for a grant to represent the State or Commonwealth in a recognised sporting, performance arts, academic achievement event, or to attend youth leadership activities.

The grant will provide up to \$300 for international representation and \$200 for National representation. For Youth Leadership Activities the limit is set at \$250. To be eligible you must reside in the Town of Bassendean and be aged between 12 and 25 years.

If you would like more information contact the Town's Youth Development Officer on 9279 2329 or download the application form from the Town of Bassendean website at www.bassendean.wa.gov.au

Bassendean Youth Services

Bassendean Youth Services are situated underneath the McDonald Pavilion at Steel Blue Oval on the corner of West and Guildford Roads near the Skate Park.

The Youth Centre is open for young people to 'drop-in' between 3pm and 6pm Tuesday to Friday, and to 10pm on the first and third Fridays of the month. The Centre offers a broadband internet and computer game café, PS3s, band room, pool table, and movie projector. Everything happening in the afternoons is free, and the centre is available for young people aged 12 to 25.

The centre also runs LAN parties, band rehearsals and activities most weeks. Structured activities are also offered every school holidays. Past activities have included: Adventure World, Go-Karting, Outdoor Rock Climbing, and Paintballing. Most of these activities only cost a few dollars per person.

During the next school holidays the Youth Service will run a number of activities. Come into the Youth Centre to find out what's happening next, or check out our website for more information - www.bys.net.au

