



PROSPECTUS



CHANGING LIVES ONE AT A TIME

Alta-1 offers learning pathways to disengaged students across Australia. Our classroom and online programs deliver solutions that include community involvement, therapeutic support and education outcomes.

Our Story

Alta-1 first began its journey in early 2000 when the co-founders and visionary leaders Dr Peter Havel, Garfield Thompson and Paul Trinder, came together to make a difference in the lives of disengaged young people and their families.

The founders believed that the best way to support disengaged students was to offer a safe and holistic approach to education that helps them on their journey of self-transformation.

This is the heart of 'The Alta-1 Way'.

This approach created a partnership between a school and local Perth church "The Place" which hosted the first educational site in 2002.

In 2004 a not-for-profit organisation was established and in 2006 Alta-1 received its registration as a Multi-Sited School.

Each founder brings a wealth of experience in education, therapeutic support and community engagement that has made Alta-1 the organisation it is today.

Alta-1 has seen thousands of students come through the program across Western Australia and Queensland.

This is The Alta-1 Way

Through our services of alternative education, recovery programs, opportunities for enterprise and community transformation initiatives, our goal is that young people receive the support and training they need to survive and reach their full potential.

This is our point of difference and this is 'The Alta-1 Way'.



Our story is about a shared dream ... to see young people's lives change one at a time in our local communities.

Paul Trinder



One of the greatest things that a human being can experience is helping another human being.

Garfield Thompson



I saw students struggling to find success in the home, their normal school and their greater environment and I knew I needed to bring hope and purpose to these young people's lives.

Dr Peter Havel

Our Mission

Transforming communities through justice, knowledge, recovery and hope.

Our Values

Synergy | Social justice | Sustainability | Safety | Self-transformation

The program

The Alta-1 program offers a unique and individualised approach to the growth and education of young people. Individual learning pathways are created to support the uniqueness of each student's future choices.

Alta-1 seeks to develop strong literacy and numeracy skills through endorsed courses and programs. Learning opportunities focus on preparing students for life beyond school in a real and practical way.

The keys to the success of the program are our strong partnerships with a broad range of community organisations, local businesses, as well as the supportive connections formed amongst students and the staff at Alta-1.

Alta-1 offers a safe place where students feel a sense of belonging on their path to recovery.

Another key to Alta-1's success is the emotional support given to students. Alta-1 is committed to providing a child-safe environment that safeguards and promotes the safety, wellbeing and welfare of our students. An essential part of this process is the application of the endorsed Personal Recovery and Community Building course.



Personal Recovery and Community Building course:

1. Belonging

The student is integrated into a caring community that allows him or her to feel connected with their community and others.

2. Healing

The process encourages students to take ownership of their issues and work through them to prepare the way for recovery.

3. Restoration

With Alta-1 staff support, each student has the opportunity to rebuild their lives and grow as individuals.

4. Identity Formation

The student develops a new understanding of their self-worth and relationships with significant others.

5. Purpose Driven

By developing a clear sense of identity, a student finds a reason to be motivated in life and re-engage with their family and community.

Alta-1 has a team of qualified mental health professionals including Clinical Psychologists, Registered Psychologists and Counsellors who provide a continuum of therapeutic services that assist young people on their wellbeing journey.

What does an Alta-1 campus class look like?

Alta-1's campus classes take place in our partner church premises, where students are placed in a supportive and more informal learning environment. With plenty of space, the smaller classroom dynamic has proven to be very helpful for students who may struggle in social situations.

The campus program is relational and light-hearted, with sporting activities often introduced as a way to teach students to learn to interact with their peers in a new way.

Alta-1 offers two campus pathways: Senior School, and in some locations, Middle School.

The Middle School curriculum is organised around thematic integrated learning programs. The Middle School emphasises literacy and numeracy development, whilst incorporating cross-curricular learning activities designed to meet requirements of state and national curriculum.

The Senior School curriculum is structured to enable students to access further learning through TAFE or other tertiary institutions. The program is designed to assist students to make positive changes in their lives, and to encourage self-transformation. Completion of the Year 11 and Year 12 curriculum provides a recognised Certificate of Education.



ConnectEd

What is ConnectEd?

Supported by online resources, ConnectEd offers both Middle and Senior School pathways to students who for a variety of reasons, such as experiencing severe anxiety and depression, are unable to attend traditional campus settings. These students may be housebound and need an alternative to mainstream education that allows them to learn in a safe environment and help them on their journey to re-engage back into the community. ConnectEd delivers a combination of online and workbook based curriculum, with weekly classroom contact and one-on-one home visits from a Chaplain.

How does the program work?

Students meet with their Chaplain for at least two hours every week and work through the Personal Recovery and Community Building course together. This specifically designed course is integral to assist students to acknowledge and resolve significant barriers in their life. When students engage with this process, they build their confidence and are able to experience significant self-transformation and gain the life skills they need to grow and succeed in life.

Vocational Education Training (VET)

The VET pathway at Alta-1 offers practical education and workplace learning experiences that assist students in developing skills, knowledge and attitudes which set them up for success after leaving school. This is achieved with the guidance of qualified educational staff who provide a strong community of support and feedback that prepares students for life in a working environment.

Alta-1 provides students with individual VET learning pathways that offer opportunities to undertake nationally recognised certificate courses and select work placements that suit their interests and future career aspirations.

Alta-1 partners with quality registered training organisations (RTOs) which allow certificate courses to be completed within the College.

These include Certificates I, II and III in General Education and Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways. Students can also choose to attend TAFE or other recognised training providers that align with their individual learning pathways.

Students are encouraged to participate in approved workplace learning programs through quality workplace partnerships.

These work placements consider the needs of individual students and provide environments that are both child-safe and provide optimum learning outcomes.

The Alta-1 VET program is a student-centred program that assists with planning their individual future pathways, ensures they are work-ready and provides them with options for further education.

Advantages of studying VET in Alta-1

- Nationally recognised qualifications and skills
- Broadens WACE/QCE and VET pathways
- Bridging pathway to university
- Prepares students for the workforce
- Provides the opportunity to trial a career
- Links students with industry and local community employers
- Potential of traineeships, pre-apprenticeships and work.

Targeted Engagement Program (TEP) WA Only

TEP is a program designed to support and prepare young people who are not yet ready to attend a conventional classroom. TEP works with students to set them up for success in attending an Alta-1 pathway, work placement or an approved education pathway.

Academic Support

- Identify literacy and numeracy levels and associated barriers to their academic success
- Seek to reduce or eliminate barriers and assist students to grow in academic confidence and address areas for development
- Provide positive learning experiences in which students can gain the confidence to consider educational pathways
- Assist in setting clear and achievable academic and social-emotional goals
- Students work with staff to develop a plan to understand their personal behaviours and how they impact themselves and others
- Educate and provide strategies to cope and communicate effectively within a classroom setting.

TEP is a mixture of individual and small focus groups supported by a skilled Youth Engagement Worker. TEP operates with scheduled and flexible engagements.

The duration of the program is tailored to best meet the needs of each student. With the core vision of setting the student up for future success TEP operates around four key elements of engagement:

1. Relationship Building
2. Personal Recovery and Community Building Course
3. Good Deeds
4. Educational Preparation

The delivery of content within these key elements is specifically catered to each individual student.

TEP also seeks to empower students in building wider community connections that provide holistic support and foster ongoing positive networks.

Once the student's chosen pathway has been identified through the program, the TEP staff offer assistance in bridging this student into their next education provider or workplace.

FAQs

What age groups does Alta-1 cater for?	Alta-1 currently provides limited middle-school campuses and an online pathway for students aged 12–14 years in several metro and regional locations across WA. Alta-1 offers senior secondary education campus and online pathways for those aged 15–19 years throughout the Perth metro area, Great Southern, Kimberley region WA and Queensland.
What is the Alta-1 approach to education?	Alta-1 offers education and personal recovery programs for students disengaging from mainstream education. Our staff enable students to make positive changes in their lives, partnering with each individual on their learning journey.
Is the Alta-1 Personal Recovery and Community Building course recognised by the Department of Education?	Yes. The Alta-1 program is endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority in Western Australia and the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment authority.
How do I enrol my child?	The first step in the enrolment process is to call your nearest Alta-1 office to determine the students suitability for Alta-1 programs. Once suitability has been determined, parents are to complete an application form and an interview will be arranged. Once the student has been accepted into the program, we aim to enrol the student in the campus/program closest to where they live. For further details please refer to the list of current locations under the 'Contact Us' section on our website.
Is there a waiting period before my child can start the program?	We will keep you informed about placing your child at a suitable campus as soon as a place becomes available. The waiting period varies from campus to campus.
What is the Transition program?	The Transition program consists of a small group of students who run through an introductory program with the class Chaplain. The program is designed to help students settle into a new environment; connect with staff and peers; and develop a customised educational pathway and the tools to start on that journey. Alta-1 has specific Transition intake dates throughout the year which every student must complete before integrating into the main classroom.
How many students are in the class?	Each campus has a maximum number of 45 enrolled students. The number of students attending varies depending on the day. Our transition classes are smaller to help students integrate easily and build friendships with other students.
Is transport organised to the campuses?	Alta-1 does not organise transport to the campuses as a general rule. It is the responsibility of the student's family or guardian to make sure their child arrives safely at the campus. Some campuses arrange pick up and drop off from the nearest train station. Please speak to the campus staff during the interview process for more information.
What are school hours?	Normal school hours are 9am to 3pm, Monday to Friday. (Wednesdays early close 2pm)
Can I start with the online ConnectEd course then transfer to a campus when the next vacancy is available?	ConnectEd is a full-time program and specific criteria need to be met in order to be eligible for this pathway. If it is a goal for a student within ConnectEd is to return to a full-time classroom, staff will work collaboratively with the family to assist, and this could include a transfer to an Alta-1 campus when the student is ready.



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