

CERTIFICATE III IN BASIC HEALTH CARE

Pacific Lutheran College's education program has started an exciting new era with the introduction of a Certificate III in Basic Health Care to the senior curriculum in 2015. East Coast TAFE is the registered training organisation, responsible for overseeing all aspects of the training, Pacific's registered nursing staff provide the clinical care training and Dr Peter McMahon is responsible for the day-to-day delivery of the course.

The two year course provides practical training on a variety of topics including:

- Applying First Aid and Advanced First Aid;
- Complying with infection control policies and procedures;
- Interpreting and applying medical terminology;
- Delivering basic clinical care such as monitoring vital signs and measuring blood pressure.

Students are also required to undertake 75 hours of work experience with a health care provider during the second year of the course. The course provides students with the base knowledge to pursue a career in the health care industry, including Nursing, Ambulance Officer or a Defence Force Medical Assistant.

East Coast TAFE and The Sunshine Coast Private Hospital have donated hospital equipment for the course and Pacific has purchased specialised resuscitation aids and rescue mannequins. This equipment has allowed a clinical space or 'simulated patient ward' to be set up for student training, which is a vital part of the program.

Pacific has recognised the need to train the next generation of health care individuals. Maintaining health initiatives is essential in schools as developing this type of education in young people affects everyone in every part of the world. It addresses broad issues that can affect the health and wellbeing of individuals, families, communities, populations, and societies – both now and for generations to come.

