




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Marsden State High School

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Employment and Small Business and Minister for Training and Skills Development) (2.59 pm): I rise today to acknowledge the incredible work of Marsden State High School and celebrate the achievements of their hospitality students. Fifty high school students from across Logan, including 40 from Marsden State High School, have been selected to be part of the Commonwealth Games athletes village catering team. Their partnership with Delaware North has meant that students will be working under the professional guidance of head chef Hamish Rodwell as part of a four-week, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Earlier this month I had the opportunity to visit Marsden State High School and meet with some of the future master chefs. It was wonderful to see firsthand the results that the school's hospitality program is producing. Their kitchen skills and their cooking were fantastic and, most importantly, the students were brimming with pride and were so excited to be part of the upcoming Commonwealth Games.

One hospitality student Jasmyne Pinnow, aged 16, said that the skills she gained are setting her up for the future and that she hoped to continue in the hospitality and tourism industry after she left school. We know that the tourism industry in Queensland is going from strength to strength and has been a big part of creating the 160,300 new jobs that have been created since the Palaszczuk government was first elected.

The Commonwealth Games will open doors to some fantastic opportunities for our young Queenslanders, inviting students not only to be involved in such a significant event but also to give them the experience of working with professionals in a fast paced environment. This incredible opportunity was possible because of TAFE Queensland. TAFE Queensland is providing world-class education and training skills to give our young Queenslanders the experience they need to build a successful career.

The Palaszczuk government is giving our school based trainees the skills they need to provide real pathways into jobs. We want to see more young people in training, not fewer. Training and upskilling Queenslanders are absolutely vital to making sure we continue to have the largest jobs growth in the country. I would again like to commend the students at Marsden State High School. I wish them all the very best for the upcoming games. I cannot wait to go back to the high school after the games and hear from them about their wonderful experiences catering for our athletes and their families at the village.