

Media release

Take off and learn!

2010

Today, 50 Year 1 students from Elermore Vale Public School will get their very first experience of the world of air travel up close. For some it will be their very first time visiting an airport, and for all the students it will be a one-off chance to go behind-the-scenes at Newcastle Airport, as part of the enormously successful Schools Program.

The Schools Program is a free-of-charge initiative that was launched by Newcastle Airport in 2005. It supports the Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) Syllabus and in particular, the Transport unit of work studied by Stage 1 (students). In 2009, alone, more than 3,000 students from across the region took part in the Schools Program.

The Program is delivered in two stages:

- an in-class presentation by an Airport representative, and
- a behind-the-scenes Airport tour, where students are guided through the terminal as if they were a passenger, allowing them to view aircraft, walk through security, access the baggage make-up area, and Airport Terminal Control Centre.

To further enhance the Schools Program and extend its reach to students who may not be able to take part in an excursion, Newcastle Airport is currently developing a dedicated airport education website for students and teachers to access from school or home. This website is expected to be launched later in the year.

Newcastle Airport CEO, Paul Hughes, said that the Schools Program highlighted Newcastle Airport's commitment to working with the community and enhancing the education of the region's local school children.

"Newcastle Airport's Schools Program brings the world of transport to life for local school children, offering them the opportunity to experience the daily operations of an Airport up-close.

"We look forward to welcoming the students of Elermore Vale Public School on their behind-the-scenes excursion today and hope they take away some lasting memories of their time at Newcastle Airport," Paul said.

Please note: Regrettably, Newcastle Airport's Schools Program will not run in 2014. Newcastle Airport is set to commence works on a terminal upgrade in July, while this is an exciting development for the Airport, we feel the construction may compromise our ability to effectively deliver the Schools Program.

Ends.

Further information

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