

Marngoneet Correctional Centre: vocational services

Introduction

The Marngoneet Correctional Centre is a 300-bed medium security correctional programs centre located near Lara, approximately 70 kilometres west of Melbourne.

The Centre provides an intensive level of treatment and offender management activity, including sex offender treatment programs, drug and alcohol treatment programs, violent offender treatment programs, and vocational services programs for prisoners in Victoria.

Corrections Victoria operates the facility and is responsible for the delivery of services, such as custodial staffing, prisoner programs and training.

Design and security

The prison is a secure facility relying on a range of technologically advanced perimeter security measures including biometric identification safeguards, a whole of site mobile duress system and CCTV strengthened site security and highly trained custodial staff.

The physical design of Marngoneet maximises normal living conditions and minimises institutionalisation, shapes social interaction, provides small living units and promotes significant levels of personal and social responsibility.

The design includes industry, education, recreation and program facilities that provide service providers and prisoners with a setting that supports security, safety, learning and behaviour change.

Prisoner eligibility

Prisoners classified to Marngoneet are at moderate to high risk of re-offending. They have a minimum of six months of their sentence left to serve at the time of transfer to Marngoneet.

Most Marngoneet prisoners are there to address their violence or sex offences or significant drug and alcohol issues that are related to their offending.

What does Marngoneet provide?

Marngoneet Correctional Centre provides services in three key areas: clinical services, vocational services and custodial services.

This brochure provides information about vocational services for prisoners at Marngoneet Correctional Centre.

What does vocational services at Marngoneet provide?

Vocational services provides:

- Training, which is TAFE accredited and integrated into work/employment areas
- A Good Lives Reintegration Service, which coordinates personal development programs, recreation and hobby programs, release preparation arrangements and programs such as the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)
- An education service which delivers a complete range of accredited TAFE programs targeting employment preparation as well as general and adult basic education
- Coordinated vocational assessments which identify each prisoner's need for education and training or work opportunities.

At Marngoneet, education and industry and the Good Lives Reintegration Service work in close partnership with staff based in the neighbourhoods and the clinical programs and custodial staff.

Recommendations for treatment programs for each prisoner are combined with results of assessments for vocational services and documented in a local management plan which is developed for each prisoner.

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Vocational assessments provide recommendations about the type of prisoner employment and post release employment training, and the level of access to education services, based on the individual needs of each prisoner for such services.

Assessments of particular reintegration needs are also made for each prisoner to identify appropriate support plans for release and for recreational and personal development.

Operational philosophy

Training and employment areas within the prison are designed to enhance employment opportunities post release by increasing and developing new skills.

Within the prison all work areas can offer meaningful work equally valued by the prison community.

“Training prisoners for capable crime-free lives”

Effective prisoner rehabilitation and reintegration is supported by the delivery of personal development and transitional support programs.

The adoption of healthy post release lifestyles is facilitated by the provision of a range of passive and active recreational and hobby programs in which prisoners are encouraged to participate.

Prisoner work

All prisoners are required to work and all work positions receive equal daily pay. Prisoners typically work a six hour day in:

- Prison services (kitchen, laundry, stores, cleaning)
- Prison industries (timber, metal, manufacturing)
- Horticulture and environmental management (growing produce for the kitchen and recycling)
- Prison support work positions- such as support for the library
- Prison personal development programs - activities such as developing self-catering skills

More information

Several other brochures are available each focussing on a different aspect of the prison.

Marngoneet Correctional Centre – the name

The name “Marngoneet” is taken from the local Wathaurong community language and means: “to make new”. The new name reflects the prison’s focus on rehabilitation and offers a respectful gesture to the local Wathaurong people. It is supported by the Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative.

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