Connect2Uni

Innovating the student transition journey at ACU

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Connect2Uni offers a range of programs and services supporting first year students to transition successfully into uni life.

Program Goals

- Develop a sense of belonging
- Improve student engagement
- Create a supportive community and academic culture
- Enhance student confidence and academic preparedness

Virtual Welcome
Reaffirmation of choice

A Zoom panel discussion providing an opportunity for prospective students to engage and interact with current students, faculty and staff.

> It...helped me gain a better understanding of the University... and it has made me very happy with my decision.

Virtual Quest
Belonging and support

A fun online game for students to develop familiarity with ACU and its support services.

> ...it helped calm many anxieties I had about starting my first year at university and I was able to learn about... different types of support I can seek.

Crew
Connection and belonging

A peer mentoring program helping students develop connections with existing students, get social support and learn useful tips to get through their first year successfully.

> I...could talk to someone about any issues or concerns...but also could get recommendations and help...

Student Support Service
One on one engagement

A service that proactively connects with students through various channels to offer guidance and help.

> Thank you for reaching out and showing your support. It's really great to see the uni considering their students during this time.

Transition Week
Academic preparation

A university preparatory program offering social and academic activities tailored to the needs of commencing students.

> Strengthened my confidence and provided information on where to go for support... ACU is right for me and my academic development.

90%
VIRTUAL WELCOME
Found the session very useful / useful

97%
QUEST
Became aware of where to get academic support

1826
STUDENT SUPPORT
Referrals to services to 1175 unique students (2020)

2x
TRANSITION WEEK
Increase in positive perceptions of a sense of belonging

86%
CREW
More satisfied with their overall student experience

References
Meehan, C., & Howells, K. (2019). In search of the feeling of 'belonging' in higher education: undergraduate students transition into higher education: undergraduate students transition into higher education. *Journal of Further and Higher Education, 43*(10), 1376–1390. https://doi.org/10.1080/0309877X.2018.1490702
Naylor, R., Baik, C., & Arkoudis, S. (2018). Identifying attrition risk based on the first year experience. *Higher Education Research and Development, 37*(2), 328-342. https://doi.org/10.1080/07294360.2017.1370438

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