



GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL®
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May 18, 2006

Dear Darren,

I would like to thank you for presenting “Shape Your Destiny” to the Year 10s at Geelong Grammar School on May 10.

The feed back I have received from the students, both in written form and anecdotally, has been fantastic! I attended all of the sessions and was quite amazed at the level of engagement and participation of all 210 students attending. Other staff members who visited for shorter periods of time were also impressed with level of interest and motivation to participate demonstrated by the students.

The prospect of “not another motivational speaker” was clearly in the minds of many as they filed into the hall but when greeted with familiar music, a presenter closer to their age than their teacher’s and a sense of humour, their negative preconceptions were quickly swept away.

I found the strategies you employed to be very novel, innovative and young person orientated – not the strategies most teachers would risk using – but they were spectacularly successful! The students appreciated the difference and found the four hour journey to be lots of fun....they didn’t realise that they could think about important and highly relevant issues in such a format.

My challenge now will be to build on the *passion* and assist our young people to focus on what is important to them and make the informed decisions to help them get there. In this respect, the timing of the presentation several weeks prior to their exams has meant that I have lost a little momentum and continuity as a result. We may need to review this for next year.

We look forward to having you join us again and hopefully to do some additional work with the year 12s.

Thanks again

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