



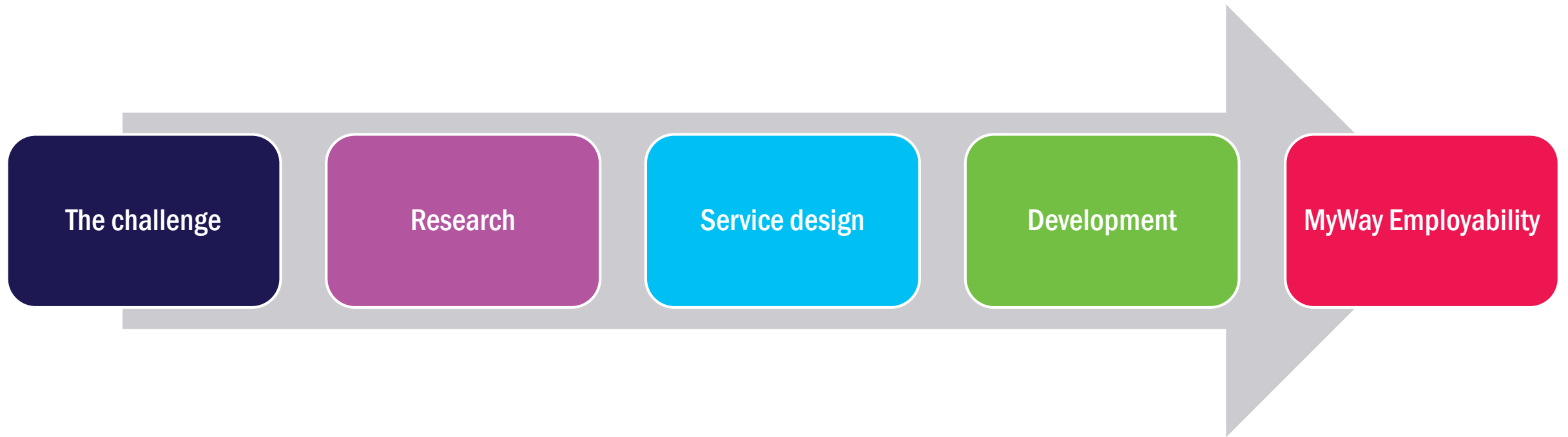
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# The Making of MyWay Employability: From Research to Practice



**Meet Ted**

# Today





An abstract painting featuring a dark, textured background with vibrant, expressive brushstrokes in shades of green, orange, blue, and purple. The colors are layered and blended, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall composition is dynamic and visually rich.

# **Our vision:**

**Autistic people empowered to  
discover and use their  
diverse strengths and interests**

**The challenge**

# The challenge

- **1 in 3 young people unemployed or underemployed**  
*(Brotherhood St Laurence, 2017).*
- **Unemployment rate for people on the spectrum was 31.6%** *(ABS, 2015).*
- **Young people on the spectrum significantly less likely to engage in post-secondary education and training.**



**Research**

**The evidence**

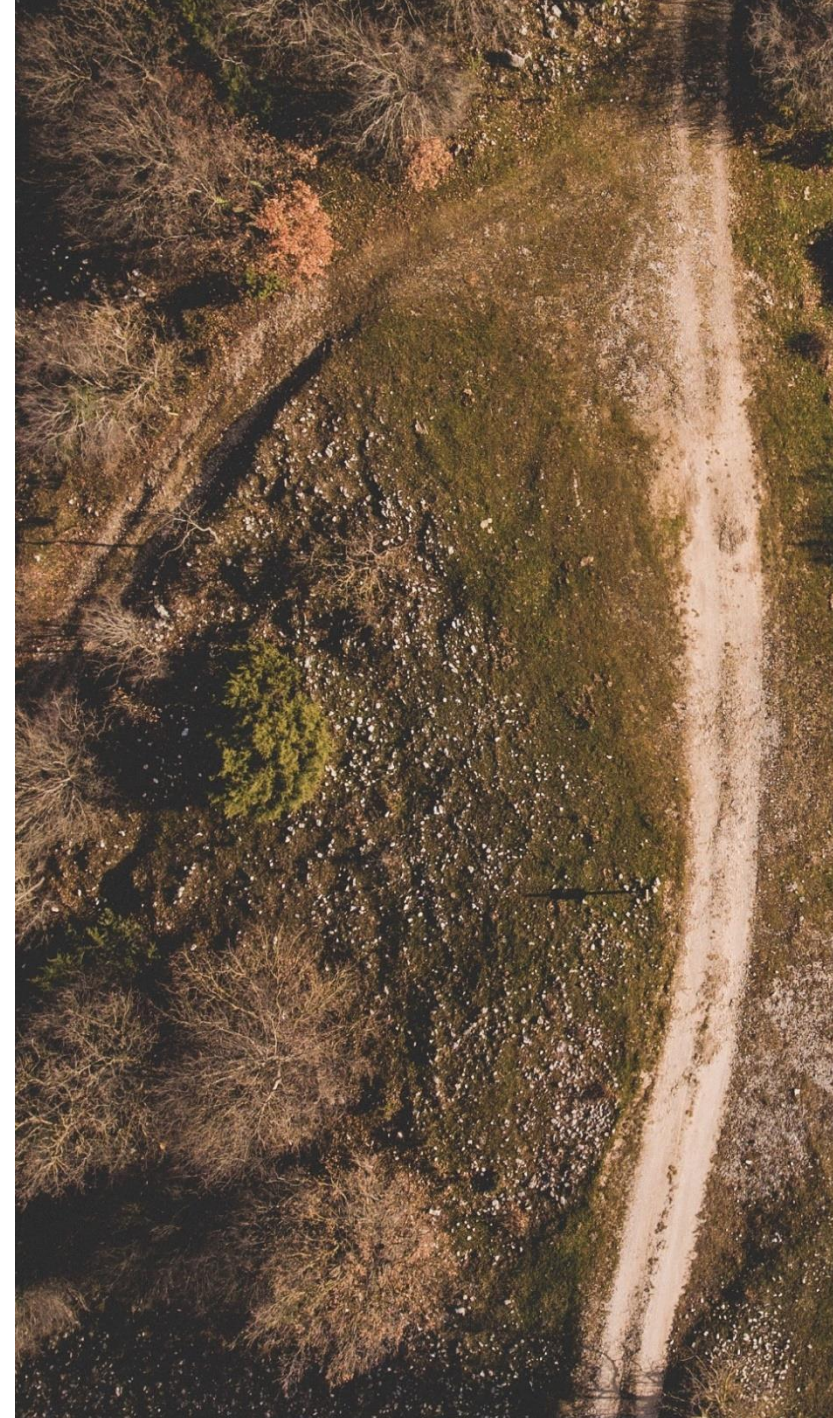


# Successful transition planning

1. Focus on the bigger picture
2. Encourage dreaming big
3. Keep the young person at the centre
4. Find a champion to support the young person
5. Start early

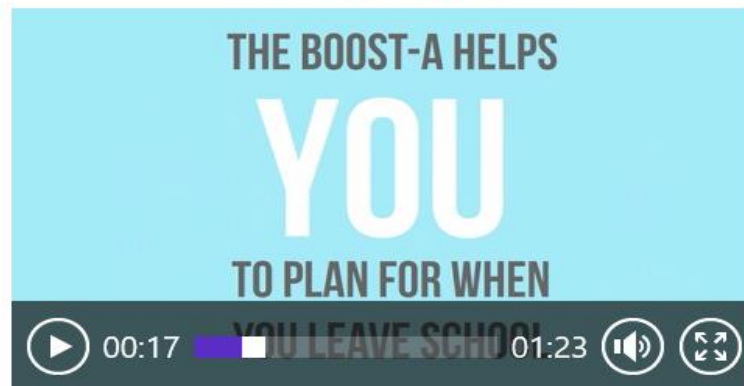


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## INTRODUCTION



Here is some information for your parents and the people who support you:

[Parents/carers information sheet](#)  
[Professionals information sheet](#)

You will be following these steps:



**Now you're ready to start the first step:**

[ABOUT ME](#)

# Research and development

## Needs Assessment

Systematic literature review

Survey  
(N = 162)

Interview  
(N = 13)

## Program Development

Pilot studies

Development and feasibility of BOOST-A

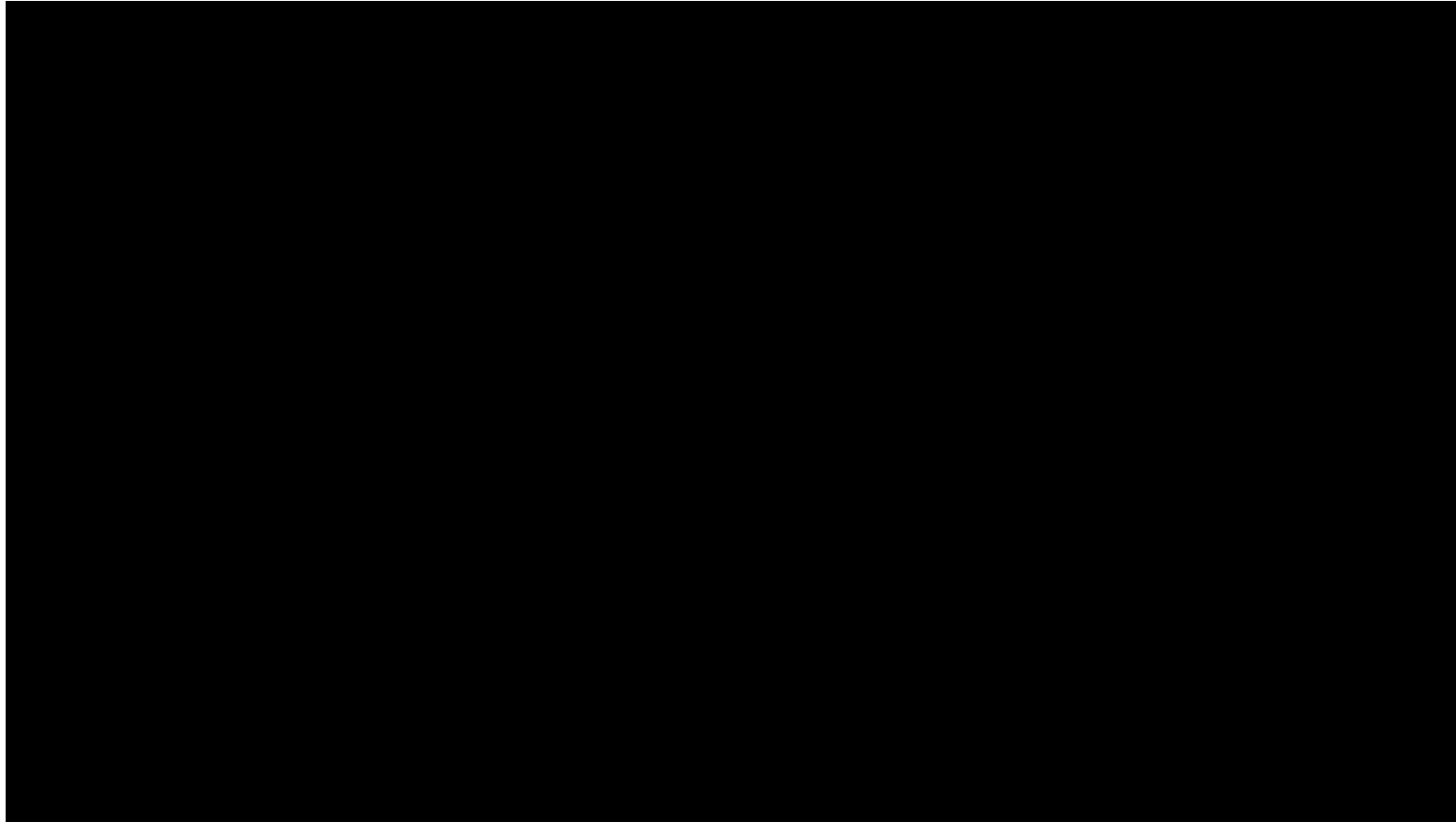
## Program Evaluation

Quasi-RCT  
(N = 100)

Process evaluation



# BOOST-A Overview



[https://youtu.be/D11dzX5\\_y2w](https://youtu.be/D11dzX5_y2w)



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# Publications



#top20Article for 2018 in JORSEN



Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T. & Ciccarelli, M. (2017). “Leaps of faith”: Parent and professional viewpoints on preparing adolescents on the autism spectrum for leaving school. *Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs*, 17(3), 187-197.  
doi:10.1111/1471-3802.12377



Available as open access



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Curtin University



# Publications

- Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T. & Ciccarelli, M. (2018). Process evaluation of the BOOST-A transition planning program for adolescents on the autism spectrum: A strengths-based approach. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, 48*(2), 377-388. doi: 10.1007/s10803-017-3317-8
- Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T. & Ciccarelli, M. (2017). Effectiveness of the BOOST-A online transition planning program for adolescents on the autism spectrum: A quasi-randomized controlled trial. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health, 11*(54). doi: 10.1186/s13034-017-0191-2
- ★ Hatfield, M., Ciccarelli, M., Falkmer, T. & Falkmer, M. (2018). Factors related to successful transition planning for adolescents on the autism spectrum. *Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs, 18*(1), 3-14. doi:10.1111/1471-3802.12388
- Hatfield, M., Murray, N.E., Ciccarelli, M., Falkmer, T., & Falkmer, M. (2017). Pilot of the BOOST-ATM: An online transition planning program for adolescents with autism. *Australian Journal of Occupational Therapy*. doi: 10.1111/1440-1630.12410/full
- Hatfield, M., Falkmer, M., Falkmer, T. & Ciccarelli, M. (2016). Evaluation of the effectiveness of an online transition planning program for adolescents on the autism spectrum: Trial protocol. *Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health, 10*(48). doi:10.1186/s13034-016-0137-0



**Service design**

# **The making of MyWay**

# Service design process

PHASE	Phase 01 DISCOVERY	Phase 02 PROBLEM EXPLORATION	Phase 03 SOLUTION EXPLORATION	Phase 04 VALIDATION & DESIGN	Phase 05 SCALE & GROWTH
DURATION	Weeks 1-2	Weeks 3-6	Weeks 7-11	Weeks 12 - 17	Weeks 18-22
KEY OUTPUTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current state service blueprint</li><li>• Service objectives and vision</li><li>• Ecosystem map</li><li>• Assumptions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• User research</li><li>• Personas</li><li>• User journey map</li><li>• Service blueprint revision</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Service blueprint and Roadmap</li><li>• Business model canvas</li><li>• Theory of Change</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tested prototype</li><li>• Refined solution design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proposal to develop, pilot and evaluate solution</li></ul>

**Validation**

**Market research**



# Validation

- 8 x In depth interviews with young people on the spectrum (n=8)
- 1 x co-design workshop with 4 young autistic adults + 1 parent (n = 5)
- Qualitative data analysis of pre-BOOST-A interview transcripts (n=13)
- Autism Hub/CSIRO think tank workshop with Education professionals (n=25)
- Interviews with young people at post-school options expo about life beyond (n=27)
- BOOST-A Training - parents, professionals, including 15 autistic young people (n=120+)
- User testing and card sorting with 8 young people including 6 on the spectrum (n=8)
- Market validation with education professionals at PDN Conference (n=21)

***N = 227 informants***

46

autistic young  
people

29

young people  
without a diagnosis  
(or not disclosed)

157

parents and  
professionals

# Autistic young people told us they want:

- Information in language that is clear and literal
- Information presented in uncluttered visual designs
- Services that are not patronising and which acknowledge their unique capabilities
- Content that is authentic, relevant, and developed from the perspective of someone on the autism spectrum



**MyWay Employability**

**Development path**

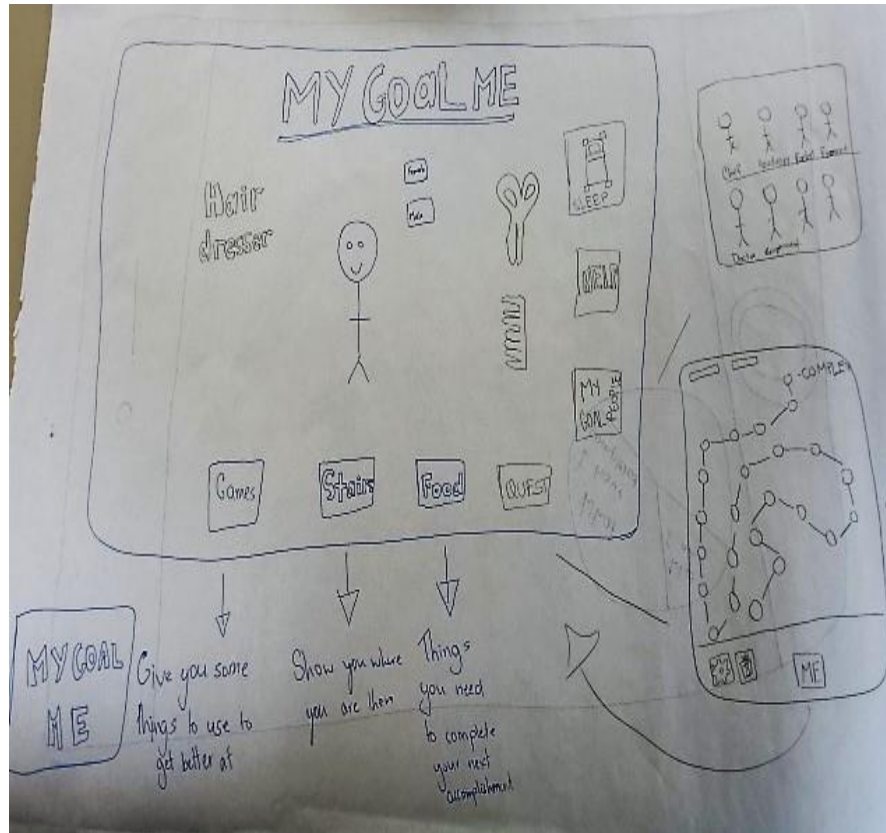
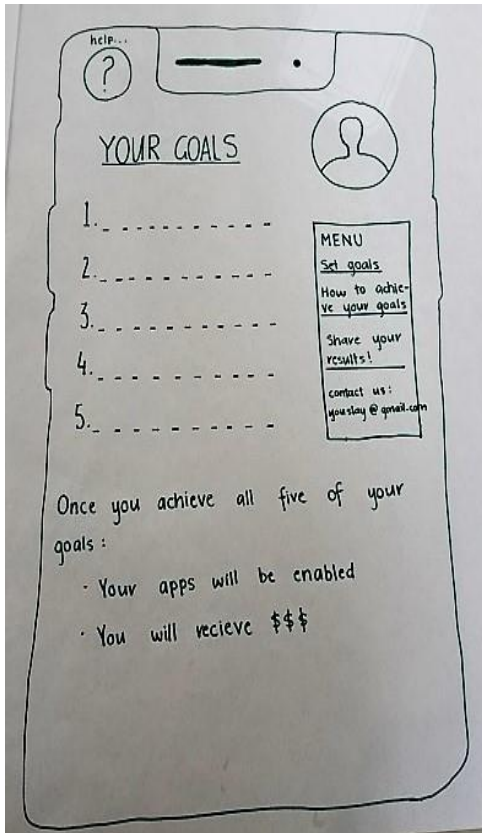
# What is MyWay?

MyWay Employability increases **self-determination** of young people on the spectrum to plan for post-school **education, training, or work.**



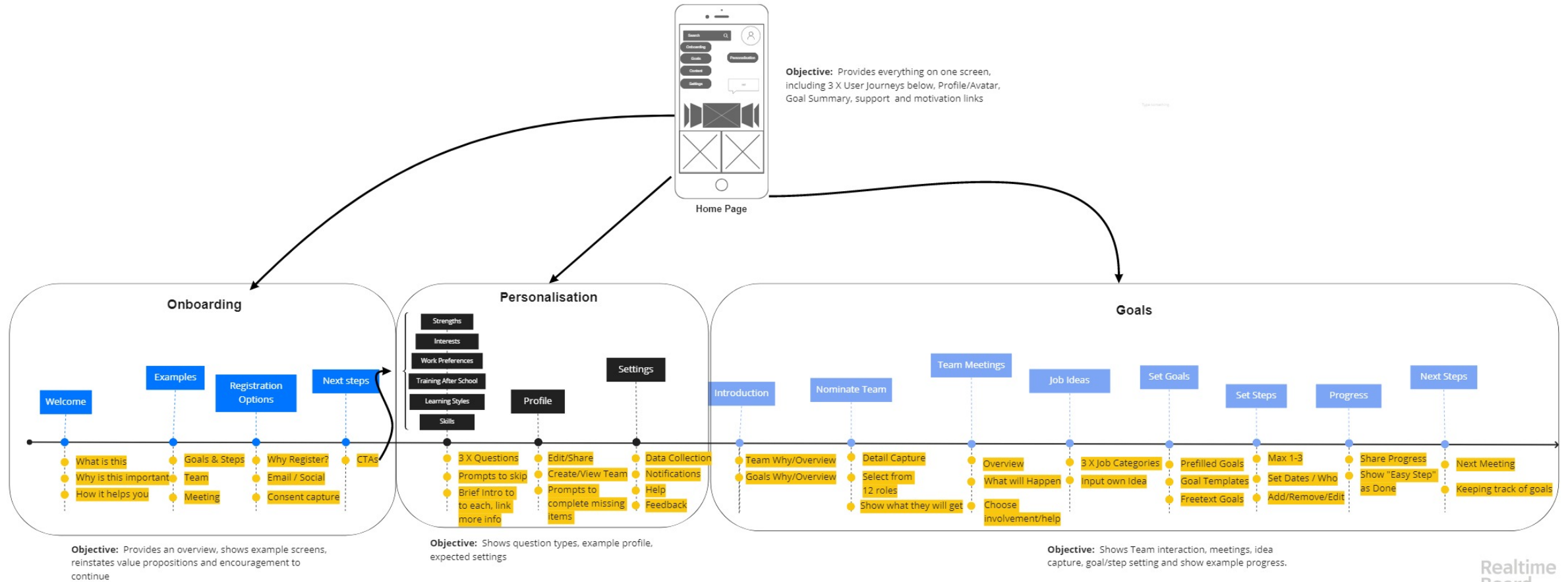


# But what does that look like?



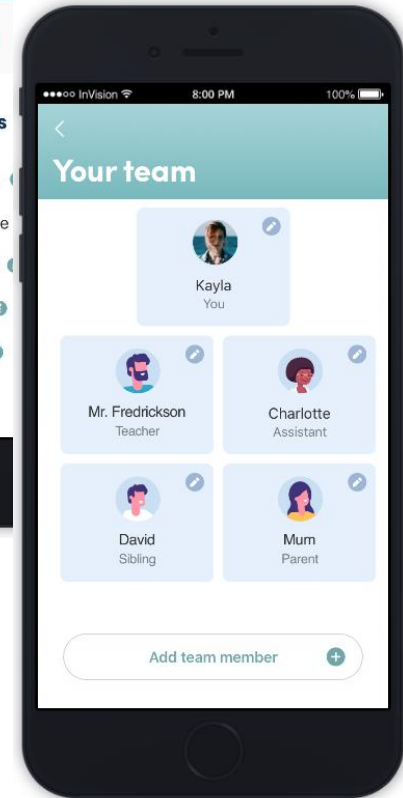
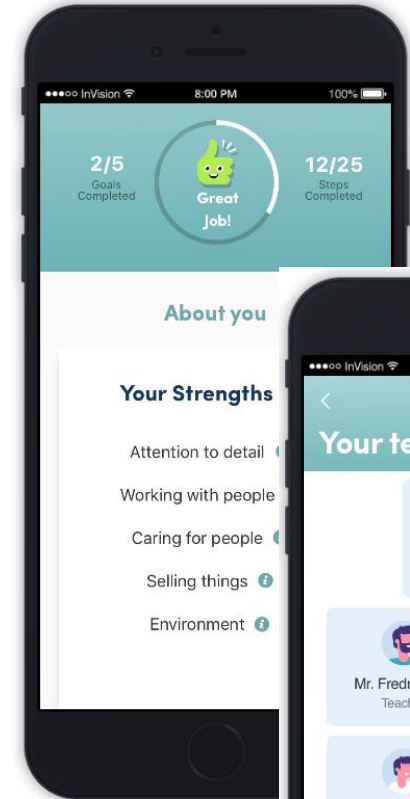
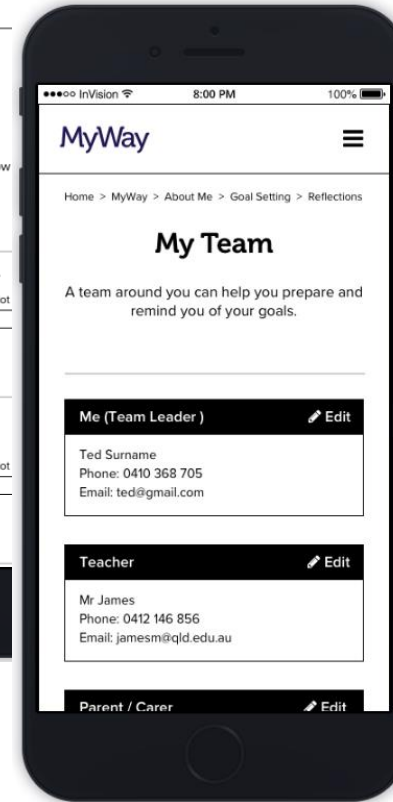
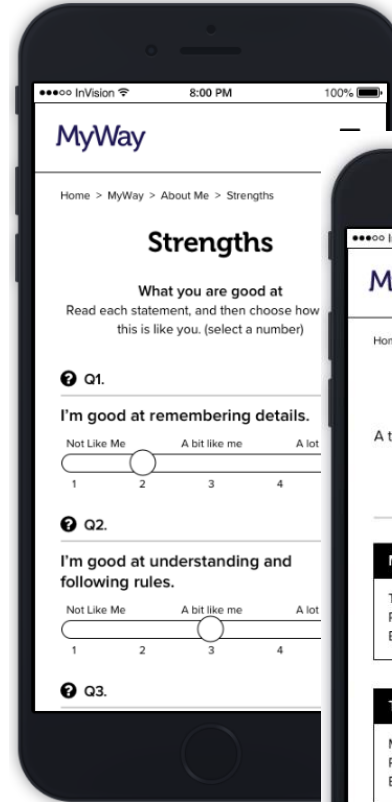
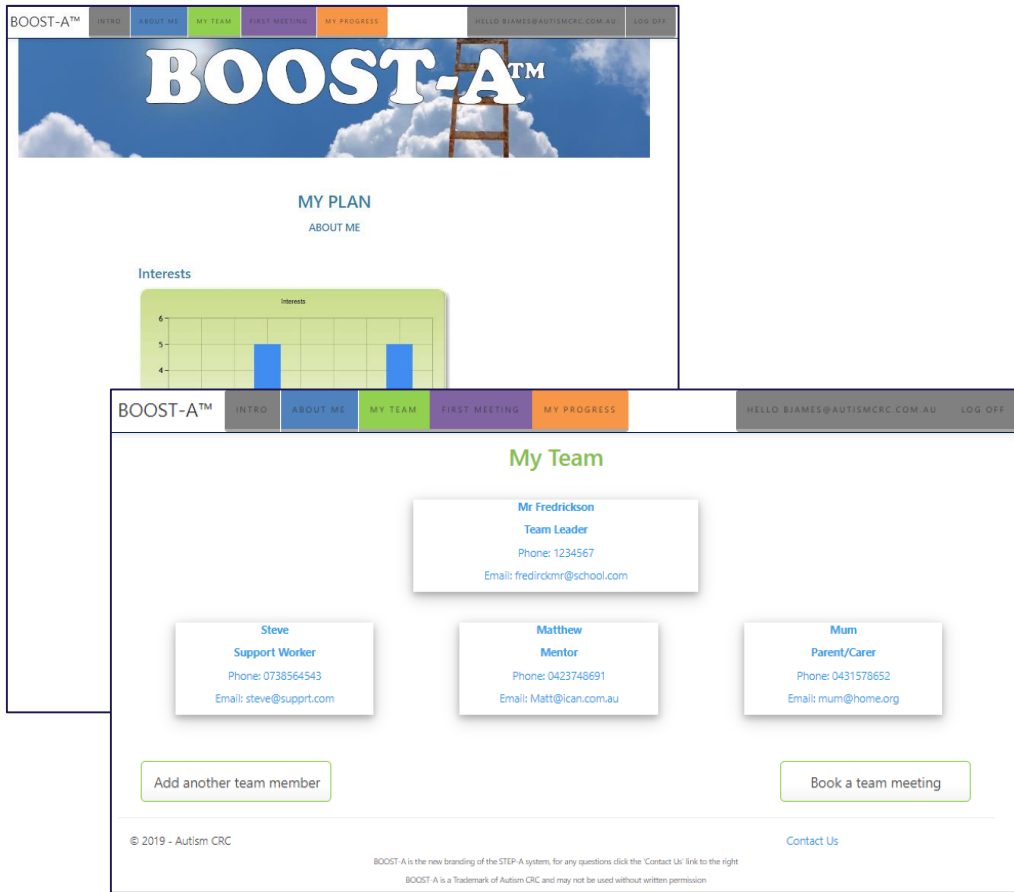
- **Personalisation** – a strong representation of either the attendee's self or a created character
- **Visualisation** – goals are clearly shown, including previous and next steps, and functionality to progress
- **Requesting Help** – a clear ability to signal for help

# Product design



Realtime Board

# Product design iteration



**Prototype**

**User testing**



# MyWay Employability prototype



## What comes after school?

That's up to you. You can do it your way with **MyWay Employability**



## Help is available

With help from **your team** you'll have all the support you need to keep on track and achieve **your goals!**



## Set and track goals

MyWay helps you set **goals** and break them down into easy-to-follow steps.



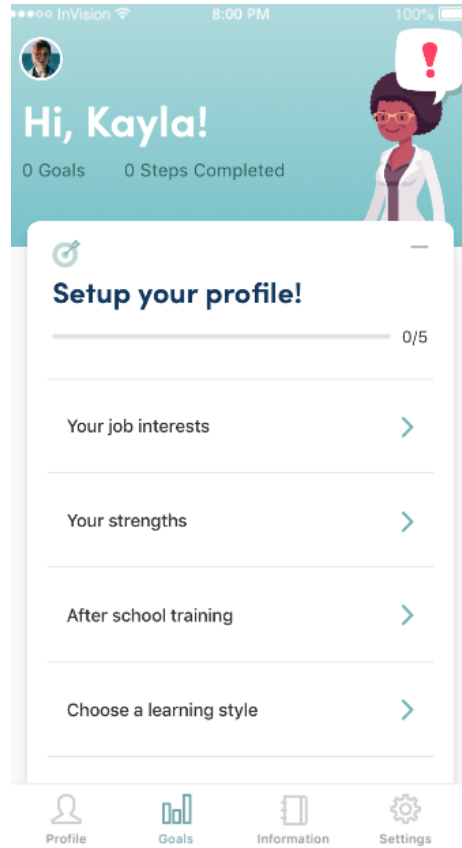
## Achieve success, your way

Set up a **personal profile** to explore **job ideas** that match your **strengths and interests.**



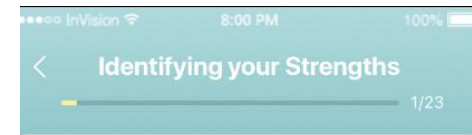
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# MyWay Employability prototype

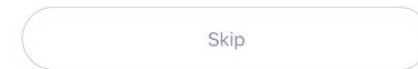


Choose the option that best describes how you do this activity:

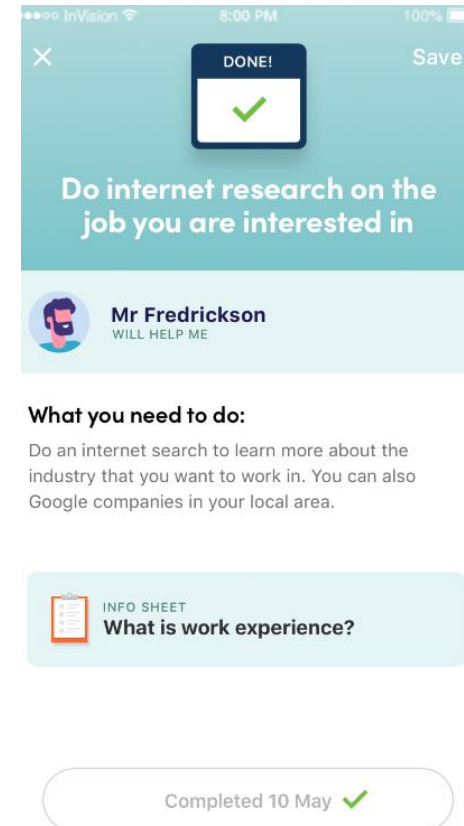
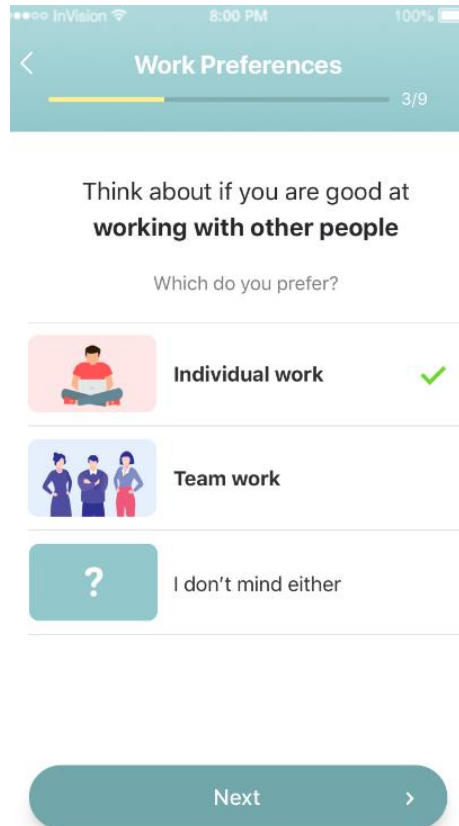
Getting around by driving myself or catching public transport



"I'm good at remembering details"



# MyWay Employability prototype



# Our Way - so far and beyond

## THE PAST

## NOW

## NEXT

## FUTURE

**Startup**

**Build**

**Evaluation**

**Scaling the impact**

**Pitching**

Partner agreements,  
research design

Neurodiverse Youth  
Advisory Group  
establishment

User Testing for  
validation and further  
insights

Iterative design and  
development

Pilot group monitoring  
and data collection,  
including qualitative  
feedback

Reporting based on  
usage analytics and  
outcome data

Roadmap development  
including research and  
prioritisation

Proposal development

Proposal submission  
to the Telstra  
Foundation



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**[mywayemployability.com.au](https://mywayemployability.com.au)**

Coming your way in 2020