

VEX to me is a place where I can learn new skills, meet new people, and above all, where I can have fun. Sometimes robotics can be a whirlwind of disaster, with hardware falling apart, software not functioning, and team dramas to the ends of the Earth - but it encourages us all to step outside our comfort zones and meet new people. To make new friends, and contacts that will be important in the engineering industry in the future.

Problem solving skills are an important part of VEX Robotics, finding ways to not only meet an initial task, but to overcome the bumps in the road along the way. These skills become an important part of our lives, and developing them in high school through an activity like this gives us a headstart at university and in our careers.

When it comes to studying engineering at university, I have met people both studying and in the engineering industry who are always willing to provide helpful advice. They offer their knowledge not only with robotics, but with university courses, school subjects, and career decisions too.

VEX has also taught me mechanical skills like gear ratios and drive trains, programming functions, and leadership skills which will all translate into a future career. I have made countless friends of all ages, from all over New Zealand and the world, and ultimately that is what VEX means to me.