Episode 3 Account-ability with Maya Farah and Emily Barker from Finverity

HOW TO START THE CHAT

Six questions from Episode 3 — the ones that get you actual information.

1

"Do I have a tax file number – and what's super?"

ASK YOUR- trusted adult, before your first payslip, not after

Maya's first payslip turned up full of PAYG, super and a tax form, and none of it had been covered at school. What got both founders through it was a parent willing to sit down and explain. Ask before you need to know.

2

"Do I have a savings account and what interest rate is it actually paying?"

ASK YOUR- trusted adult or your bank directly

Dr Hunter doesn't measure periods in millilitres. She measures them in what they cost you: changing a pad every hour, leaving class, sheets in the wash, staying home, skipping sport or dance. If that's you, you already meet the bar.

3

"Can you help me start putting away $10 a week?"

ASK YOUR- trusted adult this month rather than next year

Finverity's spoke about how $10 a week invested from 15, across 45 years, lands near $700,000 — against about $45,000 if it only ever sits in savings. You can start with 50 cents. Time is the one advantage you hold over every adult in the room.

4

"How much do you reckon I spend in a year?" – then actually add it up.

ASK - yourself first, then whoever pays for things

$27 a day is about $10,000 a year. When Finverity ran the numbers with Year 9s and 10s it came out near $15,000 — a second-hand car, or a trip to Europe. Nobody had ever put it in front of them like that.

5

"Is buy now, pay later actually a problem?"

ASK YOUR- your trusted adult and decide before you're standing at a checkout

Their answer was yes: worse than a credit card, with little benefit beyond having the thing now. Late payments build a credit score that decides what a bank will lend you, and at what rate, ten or fifteen years later.

6

"What do you wish you'd done with money at my age?"

ASK YOUR- your trusted adult including the ones that got it wrong

Emily's answer was that the first couple of years aren't about making money at all — they're about learning, so that when you do have some you already know what to do with it. The ones who got it wrong usually give the more useful answer.

IF YOU ONLY TAKE ONE THING...

Maya Farah and Emily Barker, on why money never sits still

- Cash held as cash is a melting ice cube. Prices rise, more money gets printed, and the same $5 buys less each year than it did the year before.
- You don't need a degree, a big balance, or a plan. You need to start — and then let time do the part you can't.

A conversation starter, **not** financial advice. Every figure here came from the episode and rests on assumptions that change — **do your own research**, and **talk to a trusted adult** before you move any money.

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