



Leader of the pack: McDonald's public affairs manager Sarah Watkins (standing) was one of the adult mentors at the *Y - It's All About You!* program at Fairvale High School last week. **Picture:** Carlos Furtado

Students speak out

By Anita Maglicic

FEMALE students from Fairvale High School were encouraged to think about their future at a unique leadership program last week.

Potential leaders from years 9 and 10 participated in the one-day *Y - It's All About You!* workshop, hosted by the Young Women's Christian Association NSW.

During workshops, students considered what leadership is and what makes a good leader.

They also looked at effective

communication methods, roles in the community and career progression.

Adult mentors attended and acted as positive role models and table facilitators to motivate, guide and support students.

Students used skills learnt during these workshops to start to organise a school fund-raising event.

Fairvale's year 10 careers adviser Savita Rahim said the workshops gave students great advice on leadership and communication, and a focus on careers and plan-

ning for the future.

"Workshops like this expose them to a different corporate world," Ms Rahim said.

"This is beyond a program - it's a holistic approach to life.

"They've learnt to be better listeners and how to prepare for interview and careers.

"Some students who have done a presentation are usually quiet. This program has made them speak up for themselves."

Y - It's All About You! has funding from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation.