

# DESTINATION STUDY 2023

IBPLC



# INTRODUCTION



The Destination Study is an annual survey sent to the advisory teachers of the graduating cohort of Big Picture students in Term 4 to:

- gain an overview of the cohort's demography
- track student post-school destinations
- see if there are links between a student's destination and their interests, internships, and their Senior Project

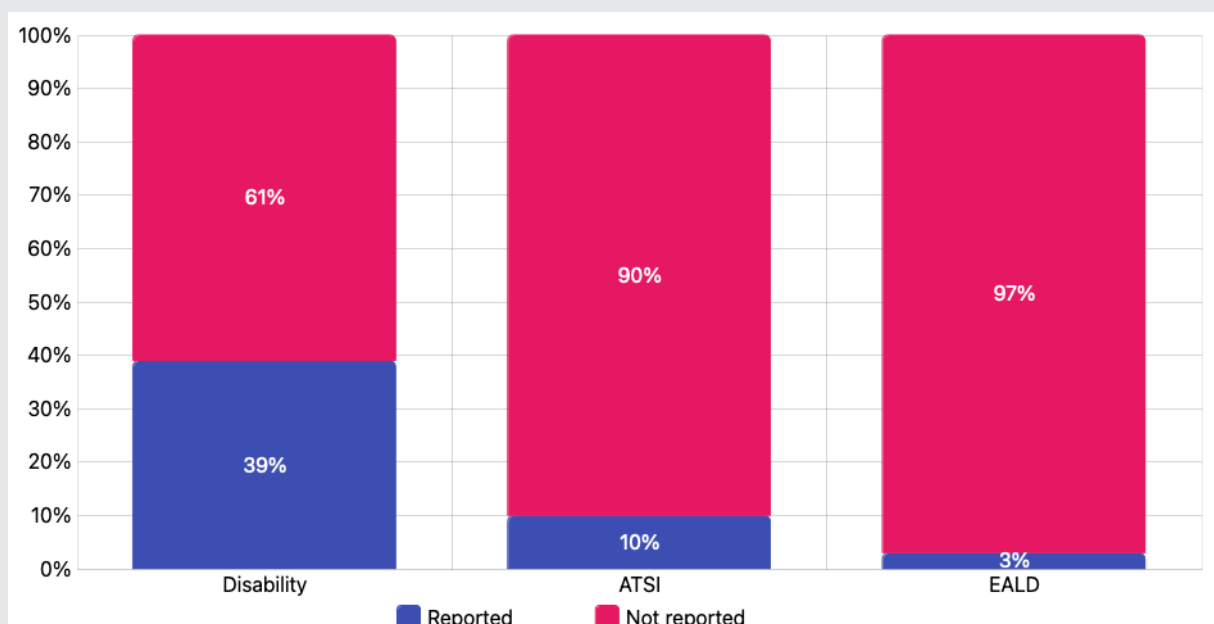
This information is invaluable in providing insight into the engagement, inclusion and transition of our students. It is anonymised before it is used in reporting to the BPLA Board, key stakeholders

(including State Departments of Education) and our national network of schools.

This Destination Study was completed for 317 out of 331 students. This is our highest completion rate to date. So far, 182 students have confirmed their post-school destinations.

## Student demographic information

- 9 EALD students (2.8%)
- 32 ATSI students (10%)
- 124 students with a confirmed disability diagnosis (39.11%)





# THE SENIOR PROJECT/SENIOR THESIS

As part of their work in Years 11 and 12, students develop a Senior Project or Senior Thesis. This is typically completed with the support of a mentor. In 2023, 261 students (82.3%) completed a Senior Project or Thesis.

## The Senior Project

This is a long-term project where the student works towards creating a product in their interest area. Senior Projects include:

- Articulating movement in animation
- Baking dog treats and how they can be used to treat illnesses
- Creating a fitness program for people who have additional needs and disabilities
- Connecting to Eritrean Culture through food
- Dungeons and Dragons as a form of applied therapy
- Game development portfolio
- Literature and Community Book Club organisation
- Music production (created an album)
- Sensory Play in Preschool
- Starting a car-flipping business
- Starting a photography and videography business
- Universe creation - fictional world-building with character profiling
- Using E-Waste to refurbish computers to reduce landfill.

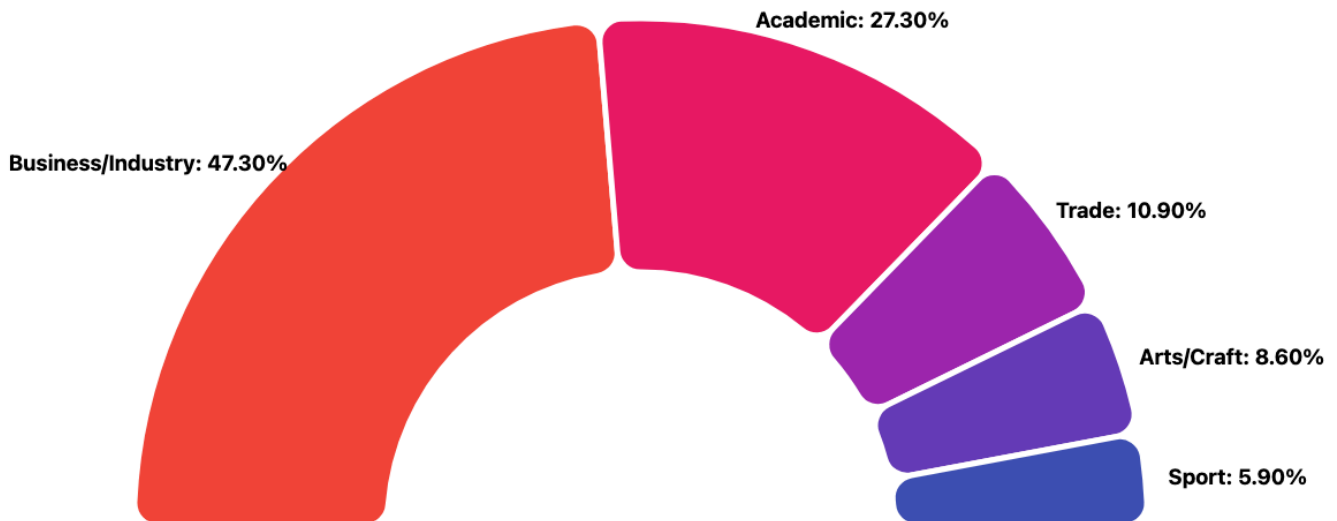


## The Senior Thesis

Typically, students on a university pathway work on a Senior Thesis which explores a driving question about a chosen topic. This involves significant research. Senior Thesis topics include:

- Designing and developing an online basketball simulation game called Basketball Manager
- A Comparative Analysis of Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) versus Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG) on Patient Outcomes
- A Quantitative Study into Individuals' Primary Energy Usage and Reduction
- Can kitchen and garden-based intervention programs improve the consumption and knowledge of fruit and vegetables in adolescents?
- Diet Diversity in Adolescent Athletes
- Does the perception of beauty that we form as adolescents fundamentally become the way we perceive beauty as adults?
- How can we embed Aboriginal Pedagogy into the classroom by using culturally appropriate frameworks?
- How do geographical location, social isolation and technology impact victim's coping abilities when experiencing domestic violence?
- Is de-extinction viable?
- Is negative or positive reinforcement the preferred method when it comes to dog training?
- Mental Health issues in Teenagers: Comparing Diagnosis Rates and Environmental Contributions then vs now
- The Application of Diverse Sensory Experiences to Building Design
- The connection between dark matter and the black hole creation
- The Role of Play in Enhancing Sensory Processing and Emotional Regulation in Children: An Occupational Therapy Perspective
- The effects of bushfire smoke on the lungs and airways.

# LEARNING WITH MENTORS



Graph 1: The fields and domains of mentors who have connected with students in 2023

A key feature of the Big Picture Learning Design is connecting students with adult mentors in their interest area. Mentors can offer support in student learning by guiding project work, sharing insight into what it is like to work in their profession, trade or art, and creating outlearning opportunities. They also provide ready access to the latest in thinking, technology and practice. In 2023, 219 students (69%) connected with a mentor during their senior years. 35 students (11%) had more than 1 mentor.

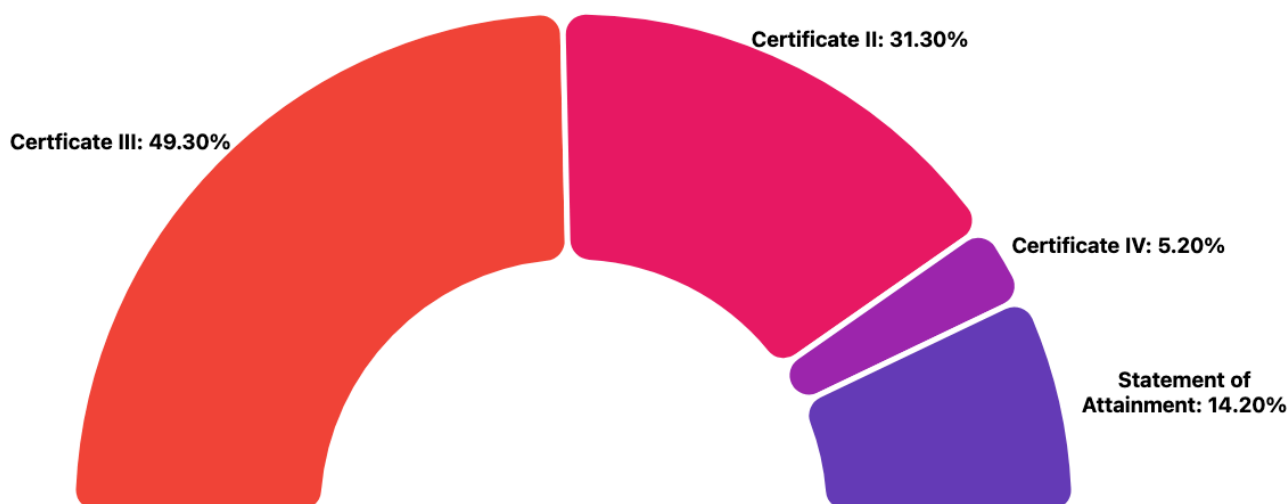
## Internships

A key distinguisher of the Design is learning through internships. Students are encouraged to spend 40% of their time learning out of the classroom in a real-world work environment linked to their interest(s). In 2023, 191 students (60.2%) had a significant (5+ days) internship. Destinations include:

- 1 day a week for 20 weeks at Vinnies
- 1 day a week at a care facility, intermittently throughout senior school
- Daily work at the local vet
- Weekly at Tender Funerals
- 10 weeks at Ngaarda Media
- 3 terms at Central Coast Zoo
- 3 terms at Coastal Cardiology Clinic
- 3 terms coaching at Central Coast Mariners
- 3 terms at Fabric Architecture Studio
- 3 terms at Impact Gym
- 1 year School-based apprenticeship in hairdressing
- 1 year at St Jude's Primary School developing and running a music/dance program
- 1 year at the NRL Coaching Program
- 1 year at Creative Childcare
- 18 months at Urban Doggo Dog Grooming
- 2 years at NSW Youth Parliament.



# QUALIFICATIONS



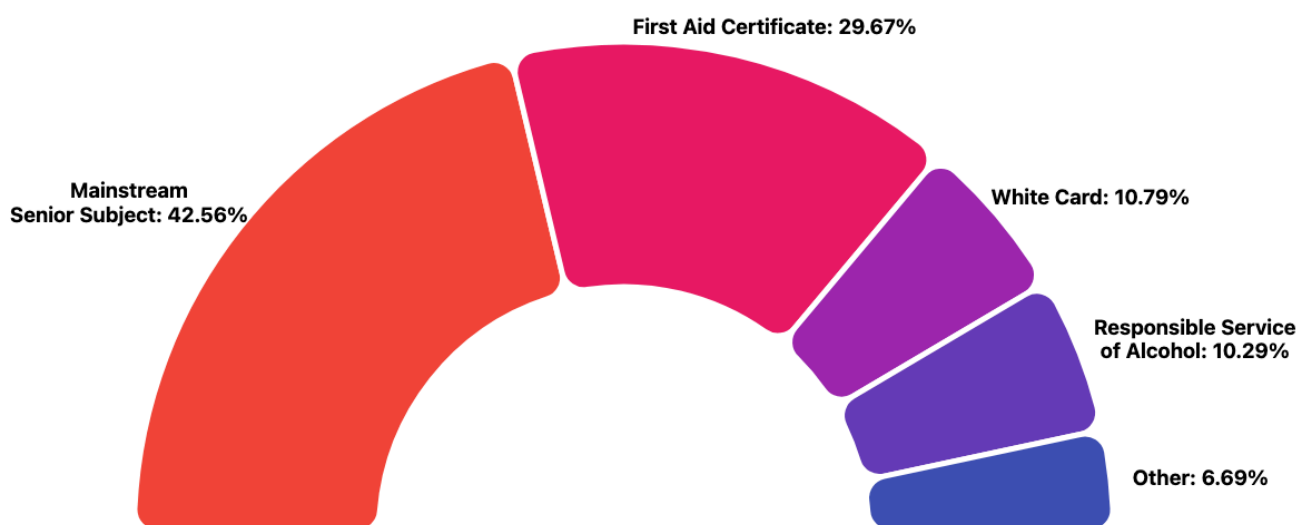
Graph 2: The types of TAFE qualifications attained by students in 2023

Students can complete courses and obtain qualifications as part of their learning in their fields of interest. These might be obtained through external courses, or by undertaking subjects within mainstream school. Typically, such outlearning is connected to a student’s post-school plans. In 2023, 124 students (39.1%) achieved a TAFE qualification related to their interest. 14 students (4.4%) received more than 1 TAFE qualification.

222 students (70%) completed other outlearning related to their interest. 100 students (31.5%) completed more than one.

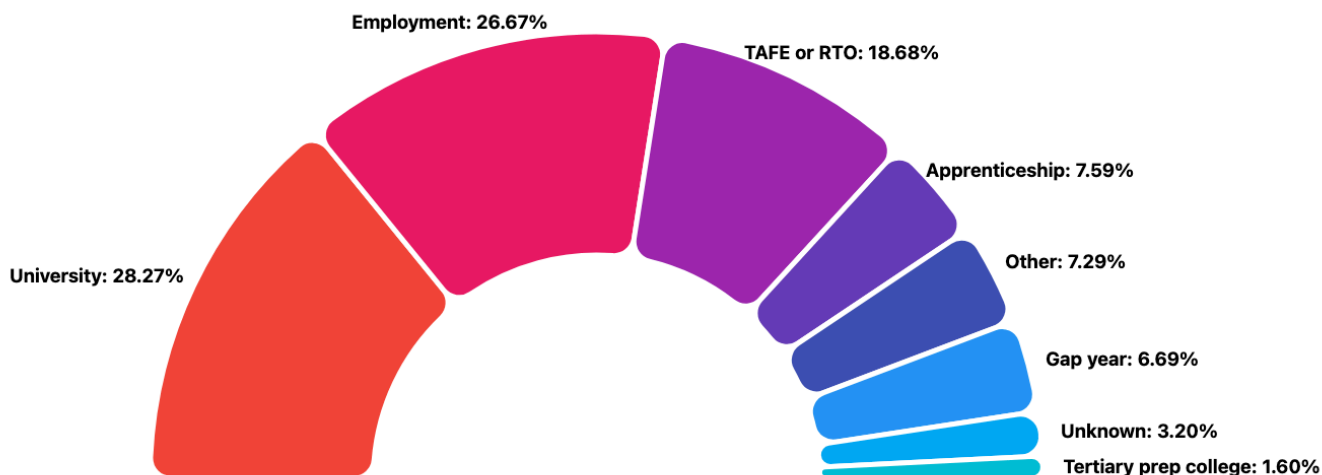
## “Other” includes:

- Aboriginal 8 Ways Training Certificate
- Asbestos and silicosis training
- Duke of Edinburgh (silver)
- Introduction to Law course at CQU
- Traffic Controllers’ Course
- Tram Motorman’s Licence
- WA Recreational Skipper’s Ticket
- University subjects completed through Open University.



Graph 3: Other types of qualifications attained by students in 2023

# 2023 STUDENT DESTINATIONS



Graph 4: The destinations of Big Picture graduates in 2023

In 2023, 262 students (82.6%) have destinations linked to their interest(s).

## Apprenticeships

Destinations include:

- Aged care
- Carpentry
- Chef
- Childcare
- Electrician
- Hairdressing
- Horticulture
- Light Automotive
- Heavy Automotive.

## TAFE or other RTOs

- Certificate II in Cookery
- Certificate III in Animal Care
- Certificate III in Community Services
- Certificate III in Fitness
- Certificate III in Landscape Design
- Certificate III in School-based Education Support
- Certificate III in Tourism
- Certificate IV in Information Technology
- Certificate IV in Screen and Media
- Certificate IV in Visual Arts
- Diploma in Early Childhood
- Diploma in Visual Arts.

## Employment

Destinations include:

- Bakery
- Childcare
- Disability support work
- Dog grooming (own business)
- Makeup artistry
- Professional singer/songwriter
- Real estate agent
- Tattoo artist
- Teacher's aide
- Traffic controller
- Tug boat labourer.

## Other

Destinations include:

- Armed forces
- NDIS supported work
- Pursuing a career as a professional football player (includes soccer and Rugby 7's)
- Traineeship with Rio Tinto
- Year 13.





## University

62 students (69.6%) used their IBPLC for university entry. 20 students (22.2%) had early entry. Courses include:

- Bachelor of Science Communication and Psychology at the Australian National University
- Bachelor of Paramedicine at Charles Sturt University
- Bachelor of Marine Science at Griffith University
- Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) at La Trobe University
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science at Murdoch University
- Bachelor of Environmental Science at Southern Cross University
- Bachelor of Musical Performance at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Bachelor of Film Production at the University of Canberra
- Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Computer Science at the University of New England
- Bachelor of Health and Medical Science at the University of Tasmania
- Bachelor of Finance at the University of Technology Sydney
- Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Wollongong
- Bachelor of Law at Western Sydney University.

The Destination Study is reflective of our philosophy of “one student at a time in a community of learners”. The Big Picture Learning Design caters for the diverse interests, learning experiences, backgrounds and ambitions of all students.

As a result of their interest-led learning in and out of the classroom, our students leave school equipped with the skills, knowledge, qualifications and relationships to confidently transition to their post-school destination.

On the next few pages, you’ll see some snapshots of the 2023 graduates on a range of pathways.

You can meet more of our graduates by visiting the Video Gallery on our website:

[https://www.bigpicture.org.au/member\\_videos](https://www.bigpicture.org.au/member_videos)

## STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM NEW SOUTH WALES



### JONAH TOWNSEND – CENTRAL COAST SPORTS COLLEGE

**Interests:**

Football, psychology, mental health

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**Senior Project:**

Creating a podcast with a focus on sport and athlete mental health

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

Coach and referee for the Central Coast Mariners community football program, Hammond Care aged care

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**Destination:**

Playing football professionally in Spain

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### NYAH SPRATT – COOKS HILL CAMPUS

**Interests:**

Marine biology, conservation, filmmaking, photography, travel

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**Senior Project:**

Filming a documentary titled *A Blue World*

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

Certificate III in Tourism while interning with a local travel agency and working as an Instagram content manager at the Hunter Community Environment Centre

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**Destination:**

Diploma of Tourism at TAFE

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### SAMUEL TEDD – KURRI KURRI HIGH SCHOOL

**Interests:**

Science, technology in health

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**Senior Project:**

The effects that bushfire smoke exposure has on the lungs and airways.

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

Hunter Medical Research Institute

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**Destination:**

Bachelor of Medical Engineering (Honours) at the University of Newcastle (early entry - Samuel was a Year 11 student)

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## **KHANSA IDRIS ROMEDAN – FIVE ISLANDS SECONDARY COLLEGE**

### **Interests:**

Cooking, nutrition, exercise

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### **Senior Project:**

An exploration into the role of aged care in Australia and creating an exercise program for the elderly

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### **Out-Learning & Internships:**

Certificate II in Hospitality, First Aid Certificate, Illawarra Multicultural Service and Henna Club

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### **Destination:**

Certificate III in Aged Care at TAFE

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## **EDEN MASSEY – MORISSET HIGH SCHOOL**

### **Interests:**

Health, soccer, nutrition and primary school teaching

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### **Senior Project:**

Can kitchen and garden-based intervention programs improve the consumption and knowledge of fruit and vegetables in adolescents?

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### **Out-Learning & Internships:**

Bright Diets clinic, the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program at a Public School

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### **Destination:**

Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of Newcastle

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## **ANDY NGO – LIVERPOOL BOYS HIGH SCHOOL**

### **Interests:**

Fashion design, textiles, dance, art, animals

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### **Senior Project:**

Learning how to sew and design clothes

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### **Out-Learning & Internships:**

Working with a mentor to learn about pattern creation in fashion design, design workshops at Street University, Certificate II Animal Studies

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### **Destination:**

Fashion retail for a year before studying fashion design at TAFE

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# STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA



## STIRLING HANNAY – ROCKINGHAM MONTESSORI SCHOOL

### Interests:

Robotics, construction, electrical work, basketball

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### Senior Project:

Vintage train restoration project

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in Technical Engineering, iScience program, internships with Ineeda Sparky and Baseload Electrical, Duke of Edinburgh

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### Destination:

Apprenticeship with Baseload Electrical

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## MONIQUE ORLANDO – KELMSCOTT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

### Interests:

Working with animals, art (digital illustrations and painting)

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### Senior Project:

Research into and educating her peers about endangered species and creating digital art

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Rural Operations, internship at Darling Range Wildlife Shelter

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### Destination:

Certificate II in Animal Studies at TAFE

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## VINCENT MOORE – KARRATHA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

### Interests:

Fishing, hunting, gaming, computers, future technology

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### Senior Project:

Completed interest projects in computer components and Bitcoin

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Construction Pathways, Recipient of Leadership Award from Clontarf Academy

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### Destination:

Diploma of Tourism at TAFE

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## CLARA CLARKE – HALLS HEAD COLLEGE

### Interests:

Mixed martial arts, boxing, physiotherapy

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### Senior Project:

Expanding the NDIS eligibility criteria to provide equal support and opportunities for all disabilities

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in Fitness, internship at Mandurah Combat Sports Academy - coaching young people in the MMA field

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### Destination:

Bachelor of Physiotherapy at the University of Western Australia

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## FLETCHER PODMORE – ESPERANCE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### Interests:

Photography, videography, diesel mechanics

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### Senior Project:

Starting a photography and videography business. Fletcher was hired as a photographer by his school and football club and as a videographer for a wedding.

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

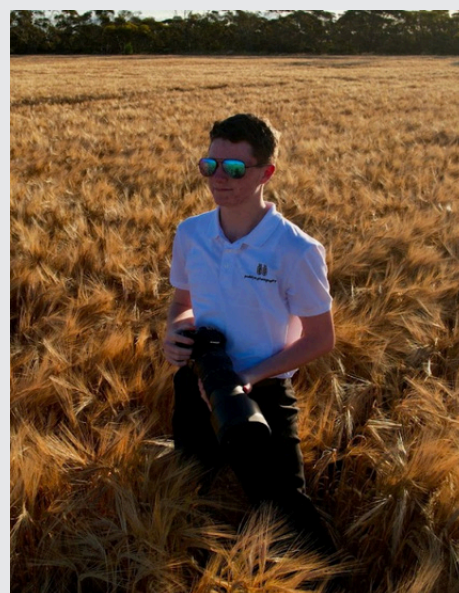
130+ hours at Tyrewright Esperance and 50+ hours at Plus Fitness

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### Destination:

Heavy diesel mechanic apprenticeship with Agwest Machinery

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## STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



### OTTO WILKINSON-POWRIE – CANBERRA COLLEGE

**Interests:**

Art, design, education

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**Senior Project:**

Art education in trauma-informed practice

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

Printmaking and clay workshops, internship as a Learning Support Assistant in a special needs and mainstream school, running art classes for primary school students

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**Destination:**

Employment as a Learning Support Assistant

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### HANNAH WHALEN – CANBERRA COLLEGE

**Interests:**

Special education, cats, animal-assisted therapy in schools

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**Senior Project:**

Animal-Assisted Therapy for Students on the Autism Spectrum

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

School-based apprenticeship at Black Mountain School, a Certificate III in Individual Support, tutoring

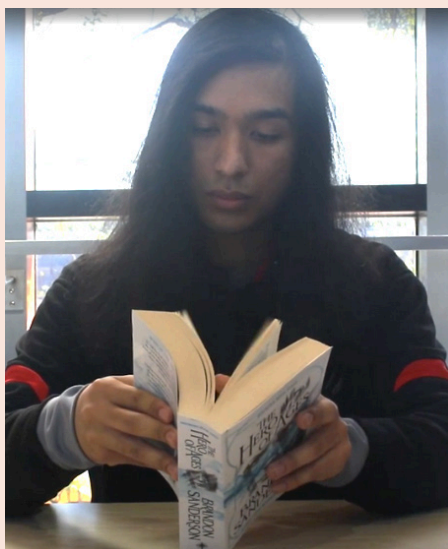
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**Destination:**

Bachelor of Primary Education at the University of Canberra, employed as a qualified Learning Assistant in a special needs school

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## STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM TASMANIA



### FENIX JAITONG – LAUNCESTON BIG PICTURE SCHOOL

**Interests:**

Creative writing, reading, table-top role play games

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**Senior Project:**

Fantasy genre anthology and critique

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**Out-Learning & Internships:**

Internships at Launceston Library and Access Hardware, virtual creative writing course

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**Destination:**

Diploma of Writing (deferred Bachelor of Arts - Creative Writing) at the University of Tasmania

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## MAE LANGRIDGE – HOBART CITY HIGH SCHOOL

### Interests:

Disability care, nursing, mental health, sport

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### Senior Project:

Completing a Certificate II in Community Services

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Internships at an aged care home (leisure and lifestyle area), internship as an assistant teacher for students with disabilities

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### Destination:

Certificate III in Individual Support at Work and Training (RTO)

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## STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM VICTORIA

### ANDREW O'KEEFFE – CROYDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

#### Interests:

Physics, maths, nuclear energy

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#### Senior Project:

Researching the physics of nuclear fusion

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#### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, shadow day with an electrician, mentored other students in VCE mathematics

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#### Destination:

Pre-apprenticeship course in Electrotechnology at TAFE

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### JARED JONES – CROYDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

#### Interests:

Music, art, student voice, mathematics

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#### Senior Project:

Developing a Student Representative Council at his school and organising multiple events

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#### Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in Music Performance, studying VCE mathematics, working as a therapy assistant

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#### Destination:

Certificate III in Community Services at TAFE

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# STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM QUEENSLAND



## ZAC GOODALL – SILKWOOD SCHOOL

### Interests:

Soccer, business, coding, app design, cars

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### Senior Project:

Web development including an inventory and order management system as well as coding his Online Portfolio from scratch

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

Internship at Compass IT, a Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation, and a Diploma of Business

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### Destination:

Bachelor of IT at Griffith University

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## XAQIRA TURNER-O'MALLEY – SILKWOOD SCHOOL

### Interests:

Animals, cosplay, arts and craft

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### Senior Project:

Creating props/costumes and developing a guide for cosplaying

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### Out-Learning & Internships:

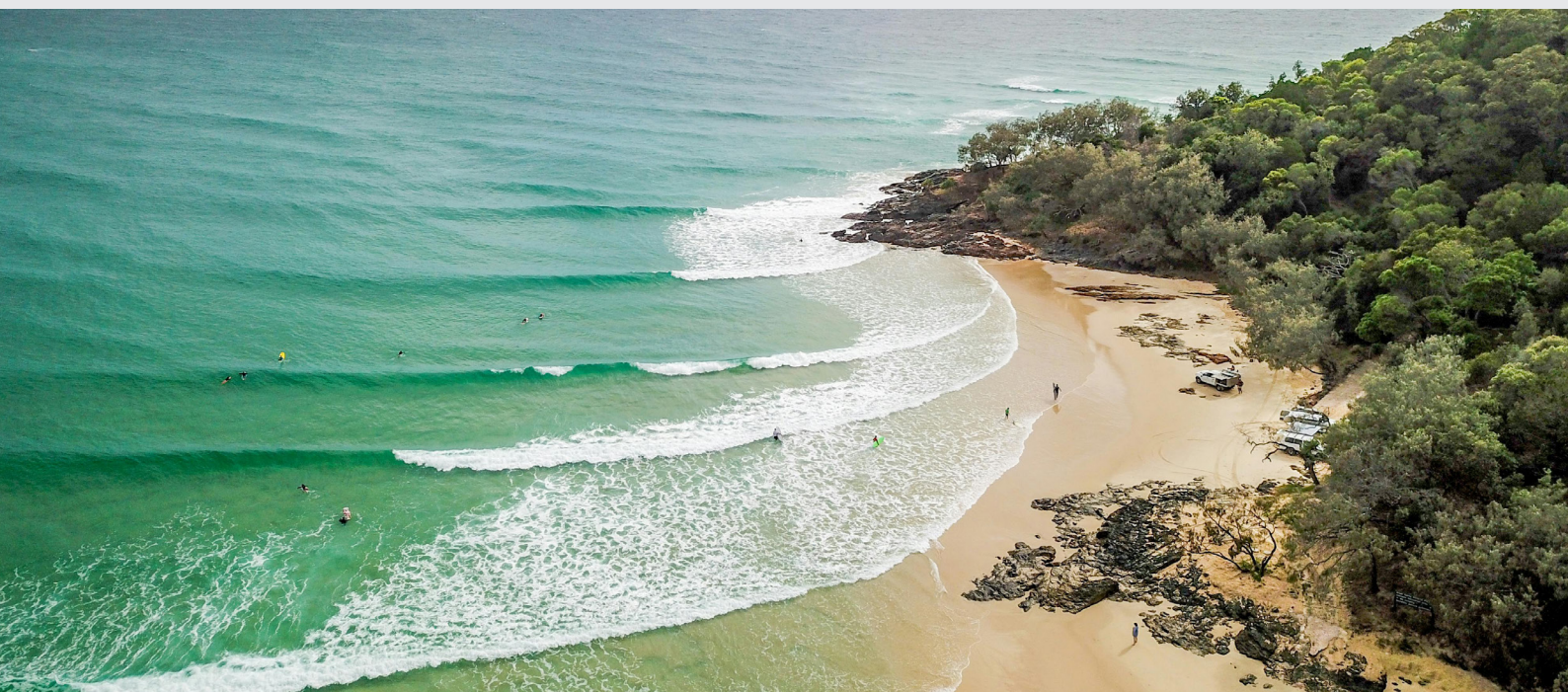
Certificate II in Animal Studies and a Certificate III in Animal Care Services (Pet Grooming), internships at Healing Hooves and Pet Resort, completed Microsoft Office Specialist courses

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### Destination:

Working in her own pet grooming business

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|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Employment         | Fashion and Retail               |
| University         | Bachelor of Engineering at WSU   |
| Employment         | IT Technician/Admin              |
| Employment         | Hospitality - working at Rashays |
| TAFE or other r... | Floristry                        |
| University         | Bachelor of Education (Primary)  |
| University         | Bachelor of Social Work          |
| 10 year            | TAFE                             |
| Employment         | Professional singer/songwriter & |
| University         | Bachelor of Social Science       |
| University         | Bachelor of Medical and Health   |
| Employment         | Seeking apprenticeship as a      |
| Employment         | Seeking apprenticeship as a      |
| TAFE or other r... | Cert                             |
| TAFE or other r... |                                  |
| TAFE               |                                  |

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