



**GAWURA
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND**



Bridging *Worlds*, Building *Futures*.

2025 IMPACT REPORT

Every child deserves the chance to dream big, learn deeply and belong completely.

Since 2007, Gawura First Nations Scholarships have supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to access a unique K-12 co-education at the award winning Gawura School, and St Andrew's Cathedral School, within a day school environment. With a culturally authentic education, outstanding opportunities and a long-term commitment, we support students to build confidence, strengthen cultural connection and identity, and create exciting pathways into purposeful careers, further education and community leadership.

For our students and their families, education is not simply about achievement at school - it's about self-determination by strengthening futures for families, Community, and generations to come.

“ *High expectations, strong relationships, embedded First Nations perspectives and targeted support all contribute to strong outcomes for our students.* ”

John Ralph
Head of Gawura School

Impact at a glance



Current students K-12



Year 3 students achieved top two bands in Writing



Attendance above First Nations state average



Wellbeing sessions delivered



Nourishing lunches supplied



Speech and Occupational Therapy sessions delivered



Students supported since 2007



Australian School of the Year

What makes Gawura School *different*?

A unique educational approach is designed for early foundational growth and lifelong impact.

Traditional western approaches to education often ask First Nations students to adapt to systems that were not designed around culture, Community or lived experience.

Gawura School is built differently.

As a 100% K-6 First Nations school, students experience high-quality contemporary education alongside learning environments where culture, identity and belonging are visible, respected and celebrated every day.



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Small classes K-6
- Intensive K-6 literacy and numeracy
- Personalised and targeted learning support
- One-on-one reading programme
- Access to student leadership roles
- Exciting post-school pathways



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- First Nations voices inform direction
- Elders and mentors provide cultural guidance and leadership
- Parent Advisory Committee ensures families are involved in decision-making
- First Nations representation at governance level



WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT

- Speech and occupational therapy
- Counselling and wellbeing support
- Homework Club
- Dedicated school bus
- Breakfast Club and nourishing lunches
- Family support services



CULTURE AT THE CENTRE

- Elders and mentors on staff
- Four First Nations teachers and staff
- First Nations dance lessons weekly
- On Country tours
- Cultural experiences
- First Nations perspectives embedded across K-12 learning
- Aboriginal Studies available Years 9-12



“*Culture isn’t an additional programme. It is woven into how students learn, belong and thrive.*”

Impact in action

The impact of opportunity can be measured - and lived.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

- Above state averages in 6 of 10 NAPLAN domains
- 100% Year 5 students in top two bands for spelling
- 100% Year 3 students in top two bands for writing
- 83% Year 3 students in top two bands for numeracy

WELLBEING

Higher social-emotional wellbeing than national benchmark.

- 92% report a positive sense of self
- 100% report strong teacher relationships
- 100% report strong family relationships

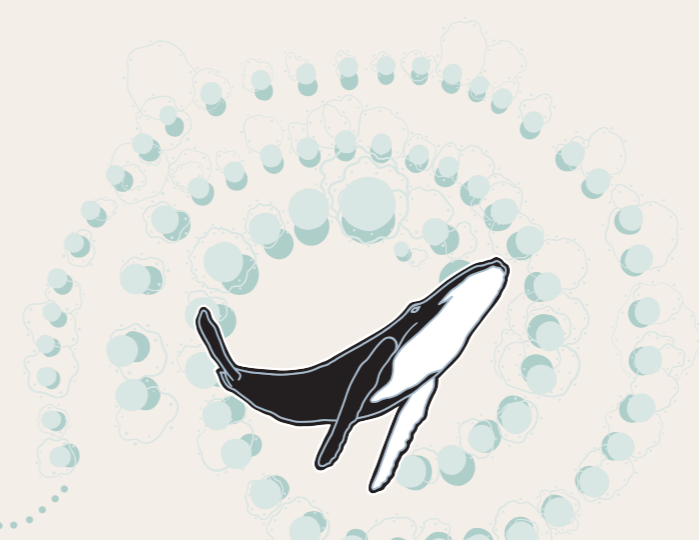
“*I wanted to do something that helps shape who I am and my identity.*”

Mizpah
Year 9 Student

ALUMNI IMPACT

From our first students to today, our graduates have pursued post-school pathways in:

- Medicine
- Law
- Construction
- Business
- Social work
- Creative industries
- Community leadership



FROM SCHOLARSHIP TO MEDICINE

Izak Rigney Sebastian became the first student to complete the full Kindergarten-Year 12 pathway through Gawura School and St Andrew’s Cathedral School.

Today he is studying Medicine at UNSW with aspirations to become a Cardiologist. His story reflects what becomes possible when students are supported not simply for a year, but throughout their educational journey.





Creating generational change *together*

Why partners matter

Long-term change is built through sustained investment, trusted relationships and shared commitment.

Our corporate partners, private foundations and family trusts and donors are not simply funding programmes, they are investing in pathways of opportunity, ensuring our First Nations students build futures filled with possibility.

There is a myriad of ways you can make a difference.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Support students through their full educational journey.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Speech and occupational therapy packages.

CULTURAL LEARNING

On Country immersive journeys with Elder-led experiences.

WELLBEING AND MENTORING

Counselling and mentoring support.



Together these partnerships create educational opportunity and stronger futures for First Nations students and their community.



ESSENTIAL SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES

Uniforms, study resources, nourishing lunches and breakfast clubs.

CO-CURRICULAR

Music lessons, sport, camps and excursions.

MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIPS

Scale your impact with multi-year support for our students and programmes.

Walk with *us*

Help create stronger futures for First Nations students, families and their community today.



Contact:
Marita Cranwell
Donor Relations Manager
T +61 2 9286 9500
gawura@sacs.nsw.edu.au