

DESTINATION STUDY 2024

IBPLC



Big Picture
LEARNING AUSTRALIA

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

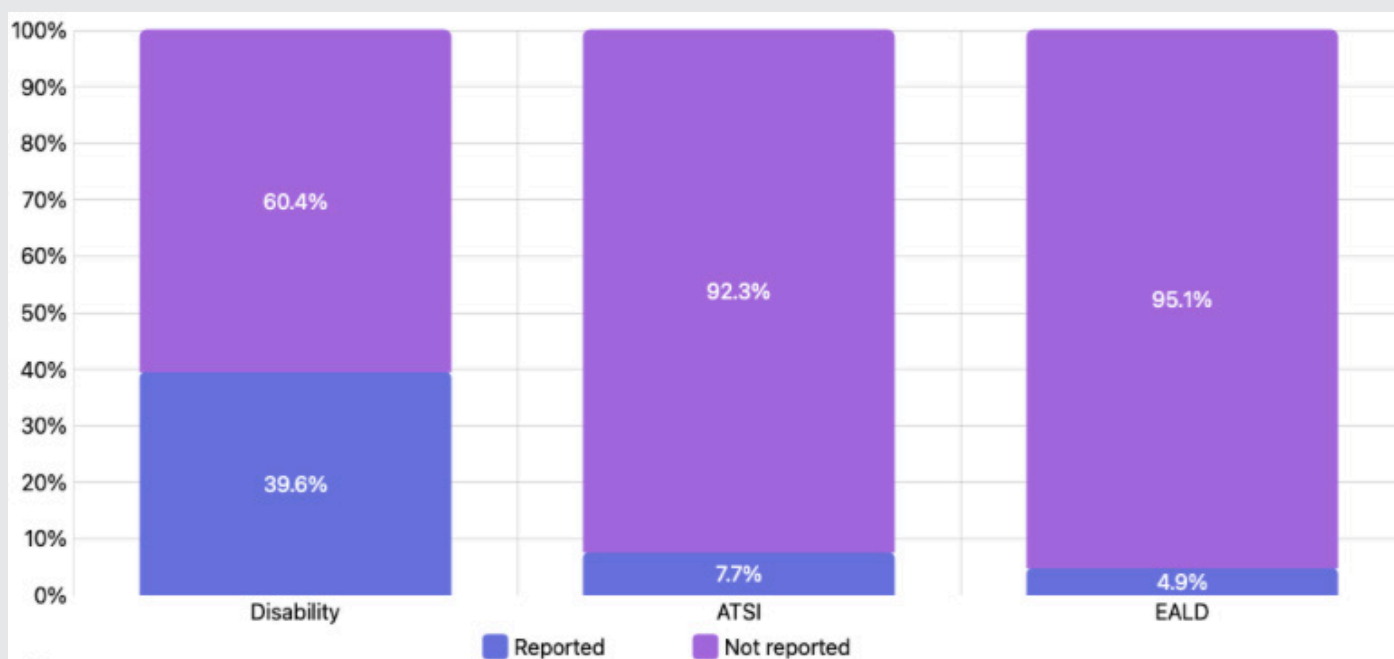
This information is invaluable in providing insight into the engagement, inclusion and transition of our students. It is anonymised before it is used in reporting to the Big Picture Learning Australia

(BPLA) board, key stakeholders (including State Departments of Education) and our national network of schools.

This Destination Study was completed for 326 out of 342 students. So far, 180 students have confirmed their post-school destinations.

Student demographic information

- 16 EALD students (4.9%)
- 25 ATSI students (7.66%)
- 129 students with a confirmed disability diagnosis (39.57%).



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 2024, **326** students (93.86%) completed a Senior Project or Thesis.

The Senior Project

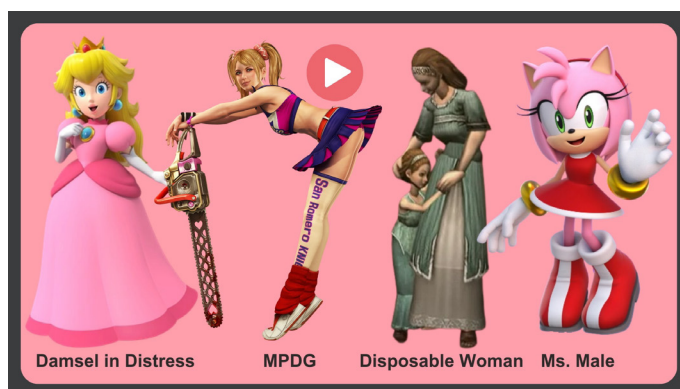
This a long-term project where the student works towards creating a product in their interest area. Senior Projects include:

- Building a video game fully coded in Unity
- An auditioning process for pre-professional dance training and teaching
- Building a YouTube channel and social media site
- Creating a portfolio of music tracks
- A car wrecking mini-business (buying, dismantling and selling car parts)
- Incorporating outdoor education into Yr 5 unit plans
- Exterior design - student alfresco area
- Augmentative and alternative communication devices for children with special needs
- A desktop application for cryptocurrency trading with user-centric features to enhance efficiency and security
- Native plants in Canberra climates: a residential backyard redesign
- Art and design advocacy for the neurodivergent
- Sports podcast (Field of Focus) - interviewing local sports people
- The history of makeup and its ingredients / an experiment to check for bacterial growth in makeup brushes
- Changes in architecture and building design over time.

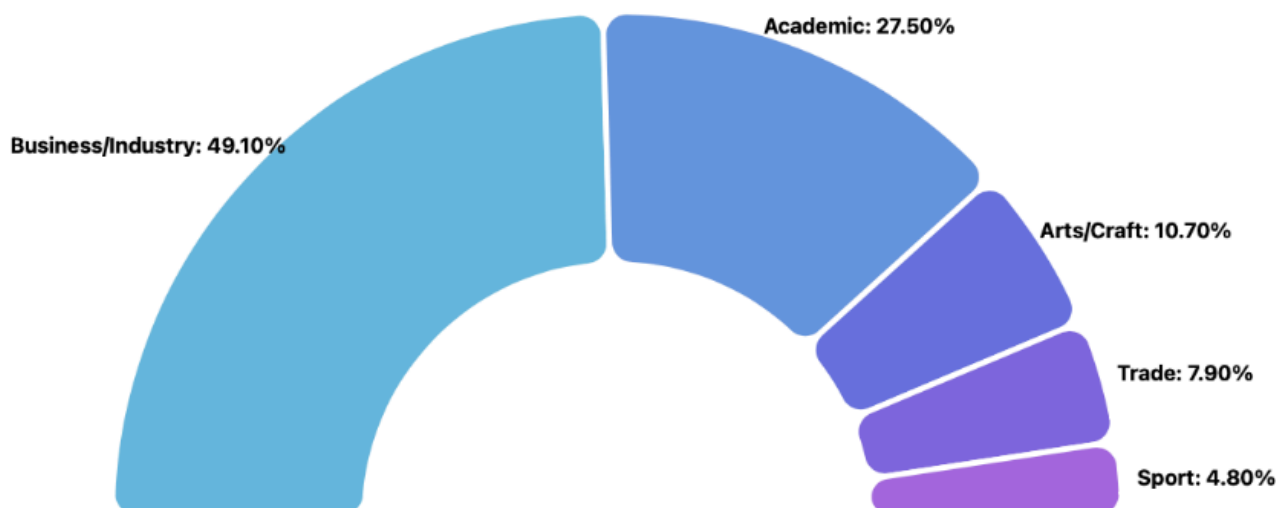
The Senior Thesis

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:

- Are there injustices in the legal system due to a lack of understanding of the needs of Aboriginal people that are incarcerated?
- A review of the abundance of bees and wasps during winter and potential reasons why anthropogenic effects may disrupt seasonality
- Can cooking lessons develop numeracy in 7-8 year old students?
- Cultural nuances in language: implications for translation, interpretation, and language learning
- Engagement for all: synthesising practical and conceptual design to enhance museum exhibitions
- Ethical treatment of agricultural animals: challenging the neglect narrative in the farming industry
- How can school newsletters effectively serve as a tool for helping young people engage in real-world issues?
- How do cognitive abilities in dementia affect a patient's decision making? How can we help?
- How does the menstrual cycle affect athletic performance?
- The impact of fluoride on the oral microbiome
- A study of microplastics in a river
- Thermal dynamics in ceramics
- The stereotyping of female characters in video games.



LEARNING WITH MENTORS



Graph 1: The fields and domains of mentors who have connected with students in 2024

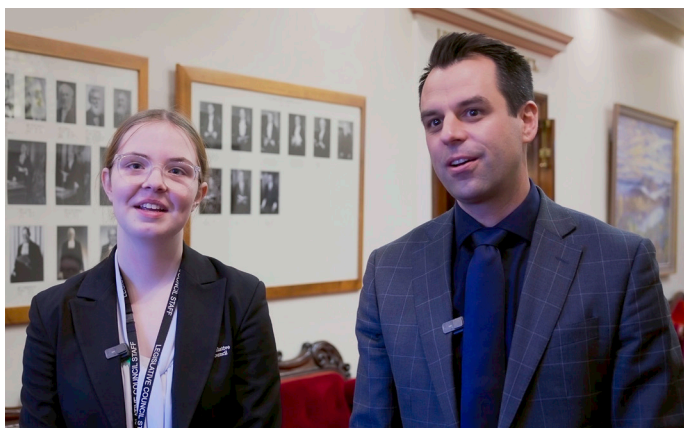
A key feature of the Big Picture Learning Design is connecting students with adult mentors in their interest area. Mentors offer support in student learning by guiding project work, sharing insight into what it is like to work in their profession, trade or art, and hosting internships. They also provide ready access to the latest in thinking, technology and practice.

In 2024, **240** students (73.61%) connected with a mentor during their senior years. **41** students (12.57%) had more than 1 mentor.

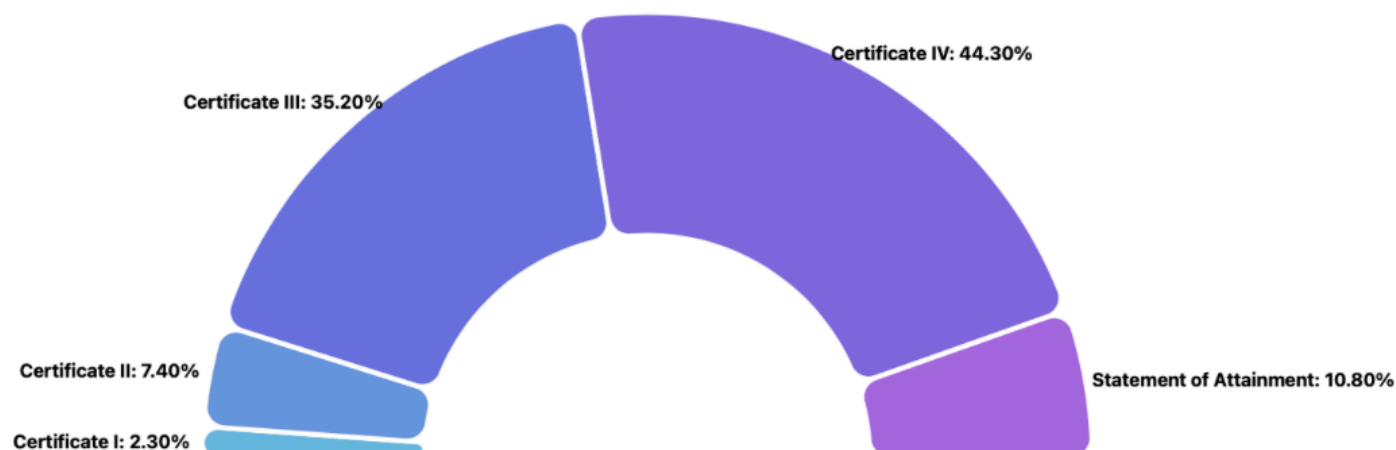
Internships

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 2024, **219** students (67.17%) had a significant (5+ days) internship. Destinations include:

- ACT Legislative Assembly with the Greens
- Artisan Funerals - 1 day per week for 1 term
- Cereal Box Collective - graphic design
- Clayhouse Ceramics, Liverpool Arts Society
- Coastal Orthopaedics and Sports Injuries for 6 months
- Dance teaching at The Training Ground
- John Hunter Hospital for 700 hours
- Landcare for 2 years
- Launceston Toyota for 30 days
- Recreational Pilot Licence Training
- New Leaf Dentists for 2 years
- Peel Horsepower (Riding for the Disabled)
- Permaculture Garden for 2 years
- Tamworth Pet Centre - all of 2024
- The 'Illawarra Mercury' Newspaper for 1 week
- Womens Health Education Network Yr 9 to 12
- Amplify Fitness from Years 10 to 12.



QUALIFICATIONS



Graph 2: The types of TAFE and RTO qualifications attained by students in 2024

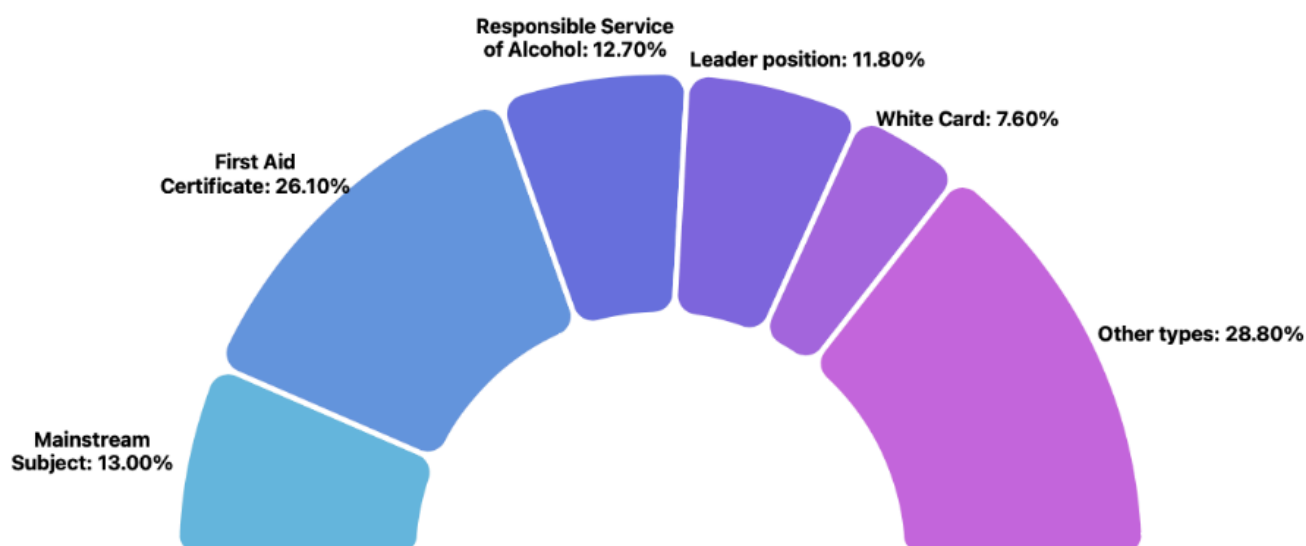
Students can complete courses and obtain qualifications as part of their learning in their fields of interest. These might be obtained through external courses, or by undertaking subjects within mainstream school. Typically, such outlearning is connected to a student's post-school plans.

In 2024, **174** students (53.37%) achieved a TAFE qualification related to their interest. 26 students (7.97%) received more than 1 TAFE qualification.

208 students (63.8%) completed other outlearning related to their interest. 108 students (33.12%) completed more than 1.

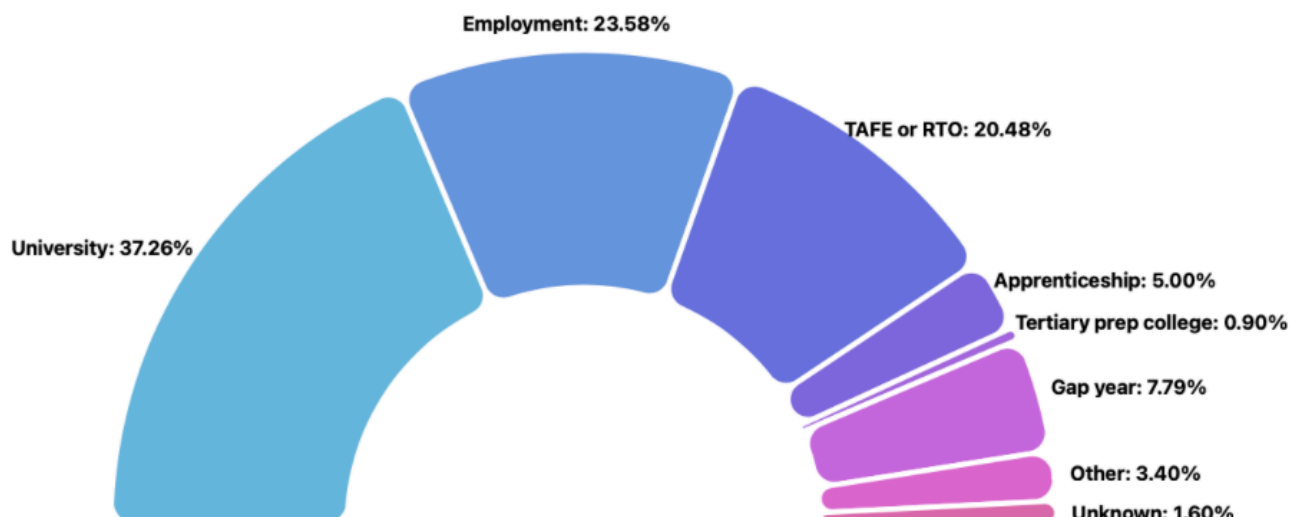
"Other" includes:

- Barista Certificate
- Coxswain Level 1 Boat Licence
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Food Handlers Qualification
- Food Safety Supervisor Certificate
- Keys4Life (driver safety course)
- Mental Health First Aid
- PADI Dive Credential - Open Water
- Real Estate Licence
- Responsible Conduct of Gambling
- UAV Pilots Licence
- University prep courses
- University Headstart/High Achievers.



Graph 3: Other types of qualifications attained by students in 2024

2024 STUDENT DESTINATIONS



Graph 4: The destinations of Big Picture graduates in 2024

In 2024, **253** students (77.67%) have destinations strongly linked to their interest(s).

Apprenticeships

Destinations include:

- Automotive
- Butcher
- Carpentry
- Construction
- Electrician
- Fitter/machinist
- Heavy commercial vehicle mechanical technology.

TAFE or other RTOs

- Certificate II in Baking
- Certificate II in Hairdressing
- Certificate III in Animal Care
- Certificate III in Animal Grooming
- Certificate III in Cookery
- Certificate III in Horticulture
- Certificate III in Visual Arts
- Certificates III and IV in Fitness
- Certificate IV in Business
- Certificate IV in Community Services
- Certificate IV in Fashion and Textiles
- Certificate IV for Information Technology
- Certificate IV in Live Production Services

- Certificate IV in Music (Performance)
- Certificate IV in Music (Sound Production)
- Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing
- Certificates IV in CISCO and Cyber Security
- Certificates IV in Networking and Cyber Security
- Diploma in Screen and Media.

Employment

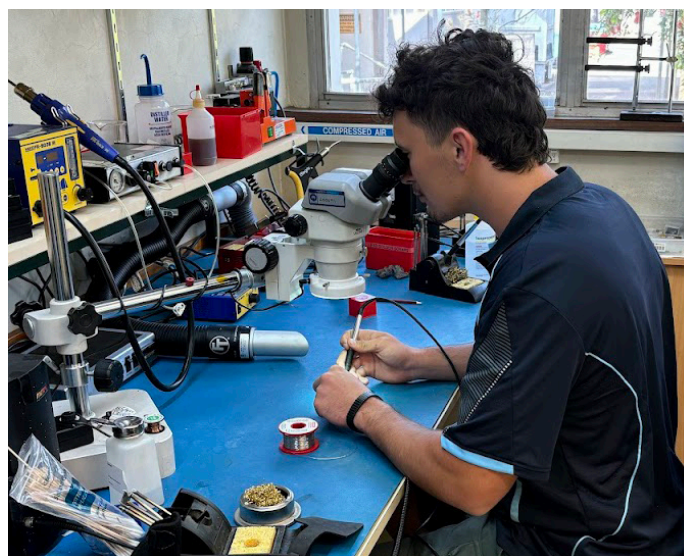
Destinations include:

- Aircraft maintenance at Armidale Airport
- Education assistant
- Hairdressing
- Hello Lemonade market stall (self-employed)
- Machine operator at Borg Industries
- Personal trainer at South West Sports Centre
- Pharmacy assistant
- Rural and animal welfare work
- Spik 'n' Span cleaning services (continuing to run own business)
- The race stables at Kembla Grange.

Other

Destinations include:

- Contract with the Central Coast Mariners
- Contract with Sydney FC
- Dedicating themselves to writing a novel
- Joining the defence force.



University

72 students used their IBPLC for university entry.
28 students had early entry. Courses include:

- Bachelor of Art at the Australian National University's School of Art
- Bachelor of Criminology/Law at Griffith University
- Bachelor of Engineering Systems and Industrial Design at Griffith University
- Bachelor of Philosophy/Anthropology at La Trobe University
- Bachelor of Arts (International Aid) at Murdoch University
- Bachelor of Communications and Bachelor of Creative Media at Murdoch University
- Bachelor of Cyber Security at Murdoch University
- Bachelor of Science (Marine Biology) at Murdoch University
- Bachelor of Game Design/Business at the Queensland University of Technology
- Bachelor of Education (Secondary) at Southern Cross University
- Bachelor of Occupational Therapy at Southern Cross University
- Bachelor of International Relations and Politics at the University of Canberra
- Bachelor of Business (Marketing) at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Early Childhood and Primary Education at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Newcastle
- Bachelor of Languages at the University of New England
- Bachelor of Computer Programming/Game Design at the University of Tasmania
- Bachelor of Music (Jazz and Contemporary Performance) at the University of Tasmania
- Bachelor of Creative Writing at the University of Wollongong
- Bachelor of Computer and Autonomous Engineering at the University of Wollongong
- Bachelor of Psychological Sciences at Western Sydney University.

The Destination Study is reflective of our philosophy of “one student at a time in a community of learners”.

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 2024 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

STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM NEW SOUTH WALES



JABIN ROMEYN – CENTRAL COAST SPORTS COLLEGE

Interests:

Business, finance, football

Senior Project:

Business start-up: Hello Lemonade market stall

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate I in Maritime Operations, football academy captain, First Aid Certificate, 1 day a week for a year at Get Picked Up

Destination:

Self-employed (working full-time at Hello Lemonade)



LILY VODIC-SENIOR – COOKS HILL CAMPUS

Interests:

Visual arts, Australian politics and Indigenous culture, the environment

Senior Project:

A documentary about the 2023 Referendum from a youth perspective called "Mean Nation"

Out-Learning & Internships:

Barista course, outlearning at the Purai Global Indigenous History Centre and the Community Disability Alliance Hunter

Destination:

Bachelor of Fine Arts at the National Arts School



ANJINI KAUSHIK – FIVE ISLANDS SECONDARY COLLEGE

Interests:

Law, sustainability, social justice

Senior Project:

Legal implications of de-extinction

Out-Learning & Internships:

Kells Lawyers law firm, SkinMedix Australia, Yesterday's Stories video production company, Tara Imaging for Women, Certificate III in Business and a university summer master class

Destination:

Double degree in Law and Science, majoring in Molecular Biotechnology at the University of Technology Sydney

JACOB RADCLIFFE – HUNTER SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL

Interests:

Scouts, AFL (playing, coaching and umpiring), early childhood education, aviation technology

Senior Project:

The Future of Unmanned vs Manned Aircraft

Out-Learning & Internships:

Cert III in Early Childhood Education, internships at Kindypatch, Sharpe's Physio and as a farm hand, World Scouts Jamboree

Destination:

ADF Gap Year leading to certification as an aeroplane mechanic



SAMUEL GROSS – CANOBOLAS RURAL TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

Interests:

Aviation, drones, running

Senior Project:

What human factors affect a pilot's performance capabilities and how are they mitigated?

Out-Learning & Internships:

Working on his Recreational Pilot's Licence at Ward Air, gliding at the Hunter Valley Gliding Club, Mathematics Standard, Industrial Technology (Timber) and Physics,

Destination:

Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence - Aeroplane) and Diploma of Aviation (Instrument Rating) at SFC Pilot Academy in Tamworth



NATASHA GULATI – MORISSET HIGH SCHOOL

Interests:

Game design and development, graphic and web design

Senior Project:

"Digital Dolls and Desire": Exploring Sexualised Tropes and "Sex Sells" Marketing in Video Games

Out-Learning & Internships:

Attended regular lectures and tutorials with her academic mentor at the University of Newcastle in game design, web app and mobile app programming

Destination:

Bachelor of Information Technology at the University of Newcastle



STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM WESTERN AUSTRALIA



INDIANNA EOANNIDIS – HALLS HEAD COLLEGE

Interests:

Music production, creating art, makeup and drawing

Senior Project:

Writing and recording an EP (she won the Bella Perry Song Writing Award with her song 'Bad Dog'), completed a Certificate III in Music (Performance)

Out-Learning & Internships:

Mandurah Young Songwriters Club, Salvation Army Op Shop, helping with art classes

Destination:

Certificate IV in Music (Performance)



SHENOA TENG – PERTH MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Interests:

Cooking, education

Senior Project:

Can cooking lessons develop numeracy in 7-8 year old students?

Out-Learning & Internships:

Cooking with students at Chrysalis Montessori School, Certificate III in Education Based Support, awarded the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Standard

Destination:

Bachelor of Primary Teaching at Murdoch University



MAX TAS – SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Interests:

Business, massage therapy, school cafe

Senior Project:

Starting and running his cleaning business - Spik 'n' Span

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in Community Services and Business, Responsible Service of Alcohol, White Card, Food Safety Supervisor Certificate, Barista Course

Destination:

Continue to run and expand his cleaning business

TIA GELLARD – SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Interests:

Marine biology, reading and popular culture

Senior Project:

How do microplastics impact the Bunbury Geographical Area?

Out-Learning & Internships:

Rehabilitating rescue turtles at the Dolphin Discovery Centre, Certificate III in Animal Services and a Certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation (Animal and Marine)

Destination:

Bachelor of Science (Marine Biology) at Murdoch University



ABDULAZIZ MOWAFY – YULE BROOK COLLEGE

Interests:

Fitness, electrotechnology, metal and woodwork

Senior Project:

Made a pull-up bar and dip station, ongoing fitness plan (exercise and meal prep)

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in Electrotechnology, internships with Carpenter Mechanical Engineering, Arc Spray Engineering and Hillside Farm

Destination:

Apprenticeship with TIK Electrical



DAVID WILSON – YULE BROOK COLLEGE

Interests:

Graphic art and design, robotics, drama

Senior Project:

Can propaganda posters be used to help design modern posters to help raise awareness of pollution?

Out-Learning & Internships:

Completed a Certificate II in Graphic Art and Design, student counselor, internship with All Flags Signs & Banners

Destination:

Certificate IV in Graphic Art and Design



STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY



GEORGIA HILL – CANBERRA COLLEGE

Interests:

Contemporary dance and ballet

Senior Project:

Auditioning process for pre-professional training and Certificate IV and Diploma in Dance Teaching and Management

Out-Learning & Internships:

Teaching dance at The Training Ground dance studio and performing in a range of pre-professional shows

Destination:

Attending the Joffrey Ballet School in New York

STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM VICTORIA



JOEY ABRAHAM – CROYDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Interests:

Creative writing, cybersecurity, economics

Senior Project:

Wrote a novella based on his experiences with his grandparents

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate III in IT and Cybersecurity

Destination:

Joey continues to write stories while studying for a Diploma in Cybersecurity (he plans to study Bachelor of Cyber Security at Swinburne University in 2026)

STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM TASMANIA



NATHAN RADFORD – LAUNCESTON BIG PICTURE SCHOOL

Interests:

Japanese history and culture, playing music, building models, science and teaching

Senior Project:

In-depth exploration of the cultural changes in Japan

Out-Learning & Internships:

Longford Primary School, Barratts Music Shop, Longford Just Cats, a trip to Japan

Destination:

Bachelor of Arts (Japanese) at the University of Tasmania

JOSHUA SEARLE – CANBERRA COLLEGE

Interests:

Animals, conservation and ecology

Senior Project:

A conservation Action Plan for the Glossy Black Cockatoo

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Animal Care, Junior Zookeeper at Canberra National Zoo and Aquarium, volunteer at the Canberra Reptile Zoo and Taronga Zoo Sydney, Certificate I in Financial Literacy

Destination:

Bachelor of Science at the University of Canberra



OLIVIA GRANT – LITTLE HOUSE OF LEARNING

Interests:

Rats (care, health, nutrition and behaviour) and drawing

Senior Project:

Designing and building a rat playpen

Out-Learning & Internships:

Food Handlers Certificate, training and volunteering at the Social Foundry in Kyneton, work at the Town Roaster Cafe

Destination:

Continue working at the cafe with the goal of applying to university to study game design



DESTINY WHELAN – HOBART CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Interests:

Animal care industry, small business, baking, marine science

Senior Project:

Working on a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Animal Care, internships with Channel Highway Animal Hospital, Raw Dealer, the Greyhound Adoption Program, the Lindisfarne Veterinary Clinic and Hobart Cat Clinic

Destination:

Completing her Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing through a traineeship and working part-time in the pet care industry



STUDENT SNAPSHOTS FROM QUEENSLAND



EDEN DONALDSON – SILKWOOD SCHOOL

Interests:

Outdoor education and leadership

Senior Project:

Unit plans incorporating outdoor education for Year 5 students

Out-Learning & Internships:

Bornhoffen PCYC, Tallegudgeera Outdoor Learning Centre, Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation, Certificate III in Sports and Recreation, Certificate IV in Outdoor Leadership and Management, First Aid Certificate, Language of Discipline course at Southern Cross University

Destination:

Bachelor of Education at Southern Cross University



JASPER WESTON – SILKWOOD SCHOOL

Interests:

Fitness, human physiology, football

Senior Project:

Back hypertrophy, Monohydrate/Hydrochloride Creatine Study

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation, Certificate II in Outdoor Recreation, Certificate III in Personal Training, working with his mentor who is a qualified Personal Trainer

Destination:

Certificate IV in Personal Training first before attending university - Jasper has received an offer to study a Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology at Southern Cross University



RIPLEY LEWIS – SILKWOOD SCHOOL

Interests:

Automotive mechanics

Senior Project:

Issues faced by women in the automotive industry

Out-Learning & Internships:

Certificate II in Automotive Vocational Preparation, barista course, outlearning at South Coast Customs (automotive fabrication) and Fulcrum Suspension (Automotive Suspension)

Destination:

An automotive mechanics apprenticeship with Fulcrum Suspension

ALL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE DEPICTED IN THESE PAGES HAVE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND HAVE GIVEN BPLA PERMISSION TO SHARE THEIR WORK AND ADULT IDENTITY.



employment	Fashion and Retail
University	Bachelor of Engineering at WSU
employment	IT Technician/Admin
employment	Hospitality - working at Rashays
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
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The cover depicts Samuel Gross from Canobolas Rural Technology High School demonstrating his passion for aviation