

QATSIF New Recipients' Celebrations

Because of ever increasing numbers of schools and students attending our New Recipients' celebrations in South East Queensland, we have had to add a second event for the first time. QATSIF wishes that we were able to celebrate with our new QATSIF scholarship holders across Queensland, but are always very mindful of the sacrifices of the Elders and Ancestors whose wages were stolen and that we want to maximise the money going to support our students. At each of our ceremonies, we recognised our 1,416 new QATSIF students and 161 student leaders from across the state.

QATSIF New Recipients' Celebration – Australian Catholic University (Banyo)

On Thursday 21 February, 30 schools gathered at the Australian Catholic University (Banyo) for the first of our two New Recipients' celebrations.

Our ceremony was led by two amazing MCs, Mikayla Haze-Adams from Lourdes Hill College and Riley Taylor from Narangba Valley State High School.

After the Welcome to Country, we always begin our QATSIF ceremonies, with the symbolic lighting of our QATSIF Elders' candle to recognise the rich cultural heritage which has been passed down since the Dreaming. We were very pleased that Aunty Thersa Nunn from St James College, who has been a long-time supporter of QATSIF, lit our Elders' candle. Kayla Wescombe and Knate Kellermeyer from Woodridge State High School used the light from the Elders' candle to light our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candles.

Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation

NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1 - TERM 1 2019

In this edition

- New Recipients'
 Celebrations
 Australian Catholic University
 (Banyo)
 University of Southern
 Queensland (Springfield)
- 2019 QATSIF Team
- 2019 QATSIF School Leaders
- QATSIF Young Leaders in Focus
 - Mikayla Adams-Houston
- 2019 QATSIF Celebration Dates
- Dandiiri Schools and Community Library
- Free Online Tutoring help
- QATSIF Ambassadors Western Queensland Schools visit
- QATSIF 2019 Creative Arts Competition
- Essential Reading –
 Queensland Closing The Gap
 Snapshot Report Card 2018
- Round 8 Student Acquittal
 Information as at 13 March, 2019
 - Round 8 Outcomes
 - Round 8 QATSIF known
 Student Destinations
 - Round 8 Students
 Acquittals: Good news
 stories
- Some opportunities for schools and students





Please forward this Newsletter on to your QATSIF students and families.

We were treated to incredible performances from both the *Nguluwa Dhiyaan* Aboriginal dancers and the Mabuyag Torres Strait Islander dancers. Our MC Mikayla, joined her fellow *Nguluwa Dhiyaan* dancers to perform.

Eva O'Neill and Ella Udowika from Carmel College read a beautiful poem entitled "The Elder" in tribute to our Elders.

As well as a welcome from ACU's Professor Jim Nyland, we had an inspirational speech from Samantha Watson. Samantha was a past QATSIF student and School Captain at Saint Mary's Catholic College, South Burnett. She is currently a nurse at Mareeba Hospital after completing her Bachelor of Nursing and Paramedics at ACU. Samantha challenged all of the students present to make the most of their QATSIF scholarships and to achieve all that they can in whatever career they pursue.

Peter Carne, the Public Trustee of Queensland presented badges to our School Leaders and joined Samantha Watson to present certificates to our new QATSIF scholarship recipients. QATSIF is very grateful to Mr Carne and the Public Trustee of Queensland for overseeing QATSIF's finances and HR.

Aunty Thersa finished our ceremony with the Aboriginal Fire Blessing to send all of our QATSIF students out ready to achieve their best and to lead their schools and communities with pride.

QATSIF is very grateful to Erin Dougherty and the Australian Catholic University for supporting our celebrations and especially for providing the beautiful lunch following our ceremony.





QATSIF New Recipients' Celebration – University of Southern Queensland (Springfield)

The University of Southern Queensland hosted our second New Recipients' celebration at their Springfield Campus on Friday, 1 March.

As well as overseeing all of the behind the scenes arrangements for our celebration, USQ also organised a variety of university experiences for our QATSIF students, including the opportunity to create a lunchtime radio show. Three of our schools took up this opportunity and have broadcast lunch time shows about their schools and the value of their OATSIF scholarships.

Imarnie Fatnowna (Ipswich Girls' Grammar School) and Elia Holland (Rochedale State High School) were outstanding as the MCs for our celebration. It was Elia's second time MCing as he had already been an MC at our UQ Graduation last year.

Aunty Peggy Tidyman began our ceremony by acknowledging the *Jagera, Yuggera* and *Ugarapul* peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land, before Aunty Sandra Anderson, Darian Sneddon-Cathro and Rosemary Holt from Bremer State High School led our beautiful QATSIF candle ceremony.

The talented *Wajin Crew* Aboriginal dancers from Mabel Park State High School performed a contemporary take on traditional dance to help welcome us to USQ.

After a welcome by Professor Lindy Abawi from USQ, we were treated to a beautiful poem entitled, "The Elder" which was read by Keeley Crothers from St Saviour's College as a tribute to our Elders.

Past QATSIF student and current QATSIF Board Member, Kellie McDonald encouraged the new QATSIF students to achieve their dreams through the support of their schools, families and our QATSIF scholarships.

Aidan Train, past QATSIF student and current USQ Bachelor of Engineering student spoke about his educational journey and encouraged students to be resilient in the face of the many challenges that they would face along their own journeys.

Our Student Leader and New Recipient certificates were presented by Kellie McDonald and Claire Schneider (QATSIF Board) along with Professor Abawi (USQ) and Linda Blackburn (Public Trustee of Queensland).

The ceremony finished with a touching performance of a Torres Strait Islander farewell song by the *Brigidine Sistas* from Brigidine College.

QATSIF is very grateful to Yvonne O'Neill, Emily Montgomery and USQ for overseeing the background organisation and activities for our celebration and providing a beautiful bush tucker lunch.







QATSIF team (L to R): Tiana Brockhurst, Project Officer (part-time – Mon, Thurs and Fri); Michael Nayler, Secretariat Director (full-time); Shalana Uta, Project Officer (full-time) and Billy Neagle, Project Officer (part-time – Mon and Wed).

2019 QATSIF Team

In 2019, QATSIF welcomed Shalana Uta who has joined us as our Project Officer (Graphic Design and Administration) after working for Tagai State College. Shalana is filling in for Sonia Norbido while she is on maternity leave after the birth of her daughter, Olivia. We are very grateful to Shalana for sharing her remarkable talents and Torres Strait Islander cultural knowledge with our QATSIF team.

To maximise the financial benefits to our nearly 2,500 students, QATSIF operates with just three full-time equivalent staff. We are very grateful to the staff of the Public Trustee of Queensland which provides financial and human resources support to assist our scholarship program.

2019 QATSIF School Leaders

QATSIF's motto is "Building Tomorrow's Leaders". We are very proud that we have a record 161 student leaders this year including:

20 School Captains and 11 Vice Captains.

We have had so many leaders this year that we have had to order extra QATSIF Leadership badges.

Please let us know if your school has leaders which are not listed below, so we can send out a QATSIF Leadership badge and certificate.

We congratulate all of the student leaders listed below and their families. QATSIF wishes them and all of our 949 Year 12's all the best for a great year ahead. We hope that you take up QATSIF's challenge to all QATSIF scholarship recipients to:

"Go back to your schools and learn. Go back and be good leaders of your school and your people"

A. B. Paterson College

Aleksander Bollman – College Leader House Captain

Alexandra Hills State High School

Wonindi Conlon – Indigenous Mentor Andrea Wanambi – Indigenous Mentor

Ayr State High School

Taelene Anderson – School Vice-Captain Shania Capper– Indigenous School Vice-Captain

Balmoral State High School

Tanisha Kleinig – Indigenous Leader

Barcaldine State High School

Amelia White - School Captain & Sports Captain

Bremer State High School

Alyssa Fourmile – School Leader

Bundaberg State High School

Nicholas Mahoney – Indigenous Leader Kiah Luhrs – Indigenous Leader Ijavia Summers – Indigenous Leader

Bundamba State Secondary College

Casey Simpson – Cultural Leader

Burnett State College

Morgan Kimber – Co-Chairperson of the Resource Committee

Caboolture State High School

Billy Cranwell – School Captain James Masala – Senior Indigenous Captain D'Artagnan Seeto – Moreton House Leader

Caloundra State High School

Tuscany Abala - College Vice-Captain

Canterbury College

Jackson Currie – Beckett House Captain Joel Barby – SRC Senior Georgia Kelly – College Captain

Carlisle Adventist

Denesha Bobongie – Sports Captain

Carmel College

Eva O'Neill - Student Leader - Social Justice

Cavendish Road State High School

Jude Saldanha - Indigenous Prefect

Centenary Heights State High School

Krisharna Barrs – Indigenous Captain Leigh Melville – Indigenous Vice-Captain

Charters Towers State High School

Azarah Gilligan – Indigenous Leader

Clifton State High School

Chelsea Griffin – House Captain Lexie Mitchell – Year 11 SRC

Corinda State High School

Tayla Hay – Indigenous Captain

Craigslea State High School

Jasmine Sefo-Wallace – House Vice-Captain

Discovery Christian College

Khiah Wadwell – Events and Cultural Captain

Elanora State High School

Mason Orford – Senior Indigenous School Leader & Dance Captain

Leila Hess - Sports House Captain & Dance Captain

Emmaus College

Kaide Uhlmann - House Captain

Emmaus College (Rockhampton)

Sharena Vea Vea – School Leader

Fairholme College

Briana Suey – Senior Leader for Wellness & College Hockey Captain

Alannah Munn - Senior Leader for Wellness

Faith Lutheran College - Plainland

Kaiana Walit – Cultural Captain Liam Bayles – House Captain

Flagstone State Community College

Jesse Olsen-Freeme – Indigenous School Captain Chelsea Hillam – Indigenous School Captain & Sports Captain

Bridie Williams – Indigenous School Captain & Sports Captain

Hayley King - Sports Captain

Forest Lake State High School

Baylee Mills - House Captain

Gilroy Santa Maria College

Akema Greenaway - House Captain

Glenala State High School

Freeman Williams – Senior Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leader

Good Counsel College

Tara Salvestro – Cultural Leader

Grace Lutheran College

Jakob Beck – Sports Captain Juliet Biemann – Service Leader

Gympie State High School

Kael Ruthven - Indigenous Student Ambassador

Harristown State High School

Jakiah Boyle – Indigenous Student Leader Dre Robinson – Indigenous Student Leader Pearl Nilsson – Indigenous Student Leader Shanice Duncan – Indigenous Student Leader Abigail Budden – Indigenous Student Leader

Heatley College

Taylor Naumann – School Captain Jaeda Lenoy – School Vice-Captain David Claudie – School Vice-Captain

Highfields State Secondary College

Aleesha Behrendt - Student Cultural Leader

Hymba Yumba Independent School

Alearah Jones -- School Leader Jahmarlah Bonner - School Leader Leilani Aoino - School Leader

Ingham State High School

Jessica Maslin – Vice-Captain & Sport Captain (Orpheus House)

Jason Burns - Student Executive

Strayte Huxley-Wilkie – Student Executive

Morgan James – Indigenous Leader

Juwan Taylor – Sport Captain (Fantome House)

Iona College

Benjamin Kruger – College Vice-Captain (Faith and Mission)

Ipswich Girls Grammar School

Imarnie Fatnowna – House Captain & Football Captain Charlotte Blackman – Dahdi Captain (Cultural) Saji-May Baira – Dahdi Vice-Captain

Ipswich State High School

Emily McInnes - Senior Indigenous Captain

John Paul College

Zoe Mavromatis - School Captain

Kedron State High School

Tahlia Anderson – House Vice-Captain Jake Fabila – Indigenous Leader

Kingston State College

Alibrandi Fletcher - Indigenous Captain

Kirwan State High School

Isiah Kawane – Senior Indigenous Captain Meckensie Hudson – Senior Indigenous Captain

Laidley State High School

Tamika Connell – Indigenous Captain Emma Greenough – Indigenous Captain

Loganlea State High School

Elvin Doyle – School Captain Lauren Mili – School Captain

Longreach State High School

Daniella Mudu – Sports Captain

Lourdes Hill College

Temanu O'Brien-Schmidt – STAR Captain (Santa Teresa and Reconciliation service group) Mikayla Adams-Houston – School Reconciliation Captain Zoe Prestwidge – Creative Arts House Captain (McKee)

Mackay State High School

Mayson Armstrong – School Captain

Maleny State High School

Elleah Batistic - Indigenous Leader

Mareeba State High School

Tyler Boyle – Indigenous Leader Kristen Yoren – Indigenous Leader Brianna Walker – Indigenous Ambassador Cameron Fourmile – Indigenous Ambassador

Marsden State High School

Jordan Livermore – College Captain & Indigenous Captain

Moranbah State High School

Alkira Sorbello – School Captain Jovyn Pitt – Indigenous Ambassador

Mount Alvernia College

Maddison Brown - Sport Captain

Mount St Bernard College

Eliza Jeannie-May Lyall – School Captain

Moura State High School

Lydia Taylor – School Captain & Queensland Minerals and Energy Academy ambassador Shaye Maslen – School Vice-Captain

Murgon State High School

Selwyn Cobbo - School Captain

Nanango State High School

Connor Fitzpatrick – Indigenous Leader

Narangba Valley State High School

Tatiana Antonieff – House Captain

Northern Beaches State High School

David Hedlam - School Captain

Ashlyn Skeene - House Captain

Trent Reuben – Senior Indigenous Leader

Kirsty Gawne-Lewis - Senior Indigenous Leader

Peace Lutheran College

Jen Wosomo – House Captain

Philip Nona – House Captain

Pine Rivers State High School

Charlie Goldsmith – Indigenous Captain

Proserpine State High School

Jack Handley – School Vice-Captain, Indigenous Student Leader & House Captain (Oxley)

Redbank Plains State High School

Jaquan Tyler – Sports Prefect

Zanniece West-Perry – Sports Prefect

Rochedale State High School

Elia Holland – ATSI Leader for 2019 & House Captain (Noonuccal)

Ryan Catholic College

Skye Wehrman – House Vice-Captain Shakira Koskela – House Vice-Captain

Seton College

Tyrone Bateman – Reconciliation Leader

Smithfield State High School

Florida Laza – Senior Indigenous Leader and Mentor Jayden Hodges – Sports Captain and Indigenous Leader Luke Bond – School Vice-Captain & Indigenous Leader

Southern Cross Catholic College Secondary Campus

Shaunah Downton - House Leader

Southport State High School

Jai Ogilvie – Year 12 Leader

Chloe Levinge – Year 11 Leader

Spinifex State College

Antonia Kelly – Indigenous Captain

Kaseylee Creer - House Captain

Serena Pigliafiori – House Captain

St Augustine's College (Springfield)

Maria Skoubourdis - First Nations' Student Ambassador

St Brendan's College (Yeppoon)

Jett Hill - Indigenous Prefect

St Edmund's College

Jack Field – Senior House Leader

St James College

Bethany Bobir - Aboriginal Leader

St Laurence's College

Dominic Nicholson - Solidarity and Cultural Prefect

St Margaret Mary's College

Melanie Heyward – Indigenous Awareness Leader

St Mary's Toowoomba

Samual Elara – College Vice-Captain

Preston Weatherall – Identity Captain

Coby Fechner – Waterford House Captain

Karne Young - Cultural Captain

St Michael's College

Ryan Bourke - College Cultural Captain

St Patrick's College, Mackay

Kiara Sinn – Student Councillor - Indigenous Representative

St Patrick's College (Townsville)

Aaliyah Logan – Cultural Engagement Prefect Ella Evans – College Captain

St Paul's School

Brooke Carson – House Captain

St Peter Claver College

Imogen Gay-Daniel - College Captain

St Teresa's Catholic College

Karwun Mulcahy - Wellbeing Leader

St Teresa's College Abergowrie

Brandyn Castors – House Captain

St Ursula's College Toowoomba

Shakira Tarpencha – Cultural Leader Taygan Downs – Cultural Ambassador Tonia Burns – Cultural Ambassador Abbie Rollans – Cultural Ambassador

Sunshine Beach High

Keely Brown – Environment Leader

Tagai State College

Suannah Gesa - School Captain

Taylor Wall-Takai – School Vice-Captain

Lily Maitie - Cultural Leader

Teriza Muhamad-Mosby – Year 11 Leader

Teleah Keane – Kuiam House Captain

Leonie Mau – Kuiam House Captain

Harriet Sebasio – Kozac House Captain

Tannum Sands State High School

Joshua Mitchell – Indigenous Ambassador

Toowoomba State High School

Rhiannon Colley - Prefect and Indigenous Leader

Tullawong State High School

Tristan Davidson - House Leader

Victory College

Mitch Gainsford - College Captain - Service

Wellington Point State High School

Monique Cora – Warunggul Captain

Wilsonton State High School

Annaleise Krause - School Captain

Bundharra Wightman – School Captain

Caitlin Lingwoodock – Indigenous School Leader

Chloe Baldwin – Indigenous School Leader

Dylan Randall - Sports House Leader

Keanu Lee – Sports House Leader

Yasmin Graves – Sports House Leader

Emily Robinson – Sports House Leader

Woodcrest State College

Bianca Loose - Indigenous School Leader

Woodridge State High School

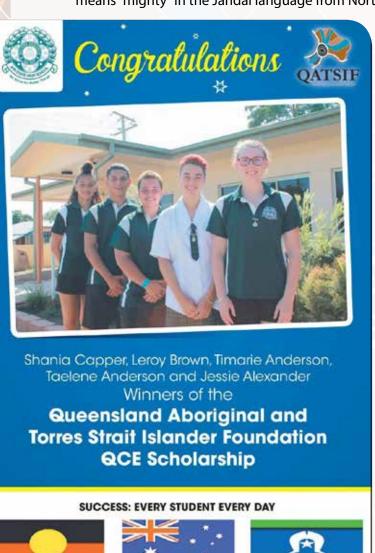
Vanessa Vincent – Senior Indigenous Leader



QATSIF Young Leaders in Focus

Congratulations to some of our outstanding QATSIF Student Leaders:

- ★ Shania, Leroy, Timarie, Taelene and Jessie from Ayr State High School who were recognised in their local newspaper for being awarded a QATSIF QCE Scholarship.
- ★ Jack Handley School Vice-Captain, Indigenous Student Leader and House Captain of Proserpine State High School pictured with Councillor John Collins.
- ★ Monique Cora is Wellington Point State High School's inaugural Warunggul Captain for 2019. Warunggul means "mighty" in the Jandai language from North Stradbroke Island.







QATSIF Young Leader in Focus: Mikayla Adams-Houston

As well as MCing and performing traditional dance at our New Recipients' ACU Celebration and being the Reconciliation Captain at Lourdes Hill College, Mikayla is also:

- ★ a finalist the "Seven News Young Australian of the Year" awards.
- ★ going to feature in an episode of "Our Stories" on NITV.

Indigenous Images.

- ★ off to Canberra to represent Lourdes Hill College at the National Constitutional Convention.
- ★ featuring in a book has just been released called "Stand up for the Future, a celebration of inspirational young Australians". She is featured alongside Jessica Mauboy, Bindi Irwin etc.



2019 QATSIF Celebration Dates

Please take note of when we will be celebrating and recognising significant dates in your area.

3 June

Mabo Day / Reconciliation Week Gathering QATSIF Gathering at Bond Uni, **Gold Coast**

19 June

QATSIF Round 11 Scholarship applications open

25 July

QATSIF Cluster Schools' NAIDOC Celebration at Laidley State High School

23 August

Round 11 applications close

14 October

QATSIF Graduation at CQU

Mackay

15 October

QATSIF Graduation at CQU **Rockhampton**

18 October

QATSIF Brisbane Southside Schools Graduation at UQ – St Lucia (**Brisbane**)

TBA

QATSIF Graduation at JCU

Cairns

TBA

QATSIF Graduation at JCU, **Townsville**

24 October

QATSIF Graduation at USQ

Toowoomba

25 October

QATSIF Sunshine Coast Schools Graduation at USC **Sippy Downs**

29 October

QATSIF Brisbane Northside Schools Graduation at QUT – Kelvin Grove (**Brisbane**)

Possible: Sorry Day / Reconciliation Week / NAIDOC Celebration at Griffith University

Dandiiri Schools and Community Library

Dandiiri Schools and Community Library in Brisbane is a valuable, state-wide resource centre which showcases many aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, culture and history.

A comprehensive collection of Indigenous resources is available for schools and other educational institutions. Resources include teacher reference materials, fiction and non-fiction books, DVDs, artefacts, puzzles and toys. It is an excellent source of materials on topics such as Reconciliation, the Stolen Generation, Native Title and NAIDOC Week.

The library's knowledgeable staff can help teachers and educators to choose suitable resources for embedding the cross-curriculum priority, *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures*, in authentic and meaningful ways. Professional development sessions about how Indigenous resources can enhance P-10 Australian Curriculum delivery and Curriculum into the Classroom materials are available on request.

More details at: www.indigenous.education.qld.gov.au/library/Pages/default.aspx



Free Online Tutoring help

Free online tutoring help for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 7-12, TAFE and University students thanks to the generous support of A.Star and the University of Sydney. You may have to choose "Other" or enter your school's name as mainly NSW schools are listed.

To get started, visit www.astar.tv/studiosity.

FREE ONLINE HOMEWORK HELP + TUTORING

FOR ALL ABORIGINAL + TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

To get started, head to astar.tv/studiosity

QATSIF Ambassadors Western Queensland Schools visit

In mid-February, three outstanding past QATSIF students visited school and communities in Western Queensland to help to inspire younger Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The QATSIF Ambassadors, Kyle Ryan (Medicine), Janaya Watego (Paramedics) and Trent Bosgra (Law) spoke with 160 students at five schools across nearly 1200km between Mount Isa and Charleville.

The visit was made possible by the generous support of a \$5,000 grant from *Viva Energy Australia* and with bus travel supplied by *Bus Queensland*.



Across the five-day trip, our QATSIF Ambassadors spoke to around 160 students, met with community representatives and also shared their inspirational stories on 4RR FM in Charleville.

In Mount Isa, our Ambassadors met with 45 Year 9-12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Spinifex College and with a dozen QATSIF students at Good Shepherd Catholic College.

As well as sharing their educational journeys with the younger students, the ambassadors also taught some traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander games for the students to take back and use in their school as part of their leadership of the younger grades.



Donna Connelly, the mother of one of the Mount Isa students left the following message on our Facebook page:

"Thanks for coming today to the "Isa". My daughter found it very inspirational. As soon as she got in the car, all she spoke about was your ambassadors. So thanks for enlightening her on what she is capable of achieving."

In Longreach, the ambassadors met with 24 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from Longreach State High School. At the end of the ambassadors' presentation, each of the young people present were asked to think about their own dreams and to bring forward a folded paper



flower with their hope or dream written on it. As the students placed their folded flowers in to a water-filled camp oven, the flower petals opened up to unveil their dreams to the world.



Barcaldine State High School brought together 60 Indigenous and non-Indigenous Year 9 – 12 students to listen to the ambassadors' presentations. Each of the ambassadors again shared stories of their hard work, struggles and what inspired them toward their current studies.

The ambassadors encouraged all of the Barcaldine State High School students to work together and support one another to achieve in a spirit of true reconciliation.

After travelling around 1,200km across both flood-devastated and still drought declared land, the ambassadors arrived at around midnight in their final destination – Charleville.



Despite their weariness, our ambassadors met with around 40 local community members and representatives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations at a community breakfast organised by Charleville State High School. At the breakfast, they briefly shared their inspirational stories. From this breakfast, the ambassadors were invited to speak on Radio 4RR FM to share their stories further afield.

At our final school visit, our ambassadors spoke with around 25 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at Charleville State High School.

Michael Nayler, QATSIF Secretariat Director, praised the QATSIF Ambassadors for their powerful and inspirational messages to a new generation of young people.

"None of our ambassadors had an easy path to reach their dreams, but each of them persevered and showed great resilience to make it to where they are today. This is what is so inspiring about these amazing young people."

Mr Nayler thanked *Viva Energy Australia* and *Bus Queensland* for supporting this very worthwhile project and said that he hoped that the Ambassadors' visit to QATSIF's Western Queensland schools would be held every second year.







enquiries@qatsif.org.au or QATSIF 2/301 Water Street, FORTITUDE VALLEY, QLD, 4006

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Essential Reading – Queensland Closing The Gap Snapshot Report Card 2018

Source: www.datsip.qld.gov.au/resources/datsima/programs/closing-gap/ctg-snapshot.pdf

As well as being QATSIF's 10th Anniversary, 2018 also marked the 10th Anniversary of Council of Australian Governments (COAG) *Closing The Gap* initiative.

The information presented below is taken directly from DATSIP's (Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) *Queensland Closing The Gap Snapshot Report Card 2018* document.

The heart of QATSIF's mission is to work with our school communities to help to encourage better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students by encouraging achievement and attendance. While we can take heart from the outcomes and results achieved by our QATSIF schools and students, there is still a lot of work to be done across Queensland to close the gap.

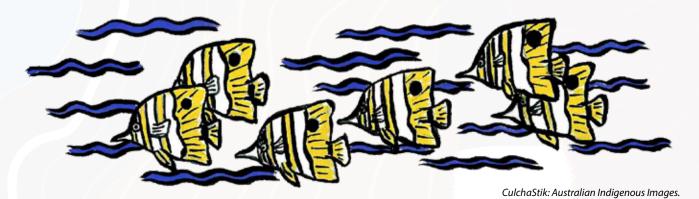
In July 2008, the Rudd Government established the National Indigenous Health Equality Council, and in November of that year COAG approved the National Indigenous Reform Agreement which set out the Closing the Gap targets. COAG recognised that overcoming Indigenous disadvantage would require a long-term, intergenerational commitment and a progressive realisation of improvements in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

In Queensland, two of the seven COAG Closing the Gap targets outlined below are on track.

OUR PROGRESS AT A GLANCE	
Close the gap in life expectancy within a generation by 2031	NOT ON TRACK
Halve the gap in mortality rates for Indigenous children under five within a decade by 2018	NOT ON TRACK
95 per cent of all Indigenous four-year-olds enrolled in early childhood education by 2025	ON TRACK
Halve the gap for Indigenous children in reading, writing and numeracy achievements within a decade by 2018	MIXED PROGRESS
Halve the gap for Indigenous people aged 20–24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment by 2020	ON TRACK
Halve the gap in employment outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people within a decade by 2018	NOT ON TRACK
Close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous school attendance within five years by 2018	NOT ON TRACK

^{*} Much of the data included in this report are drawn from nationally collated datasets. Due to the nature of these datasets, there is often a time lag associated with release of this data, in some cases, over 12 months. Where possible, the latest available data for 2016–2017 have been reported. As data release dates are specific to the dataset in question and spread throughout the year, it is likely that between collation and publication of this report, for some measures, new data may be published. The Queensland Government Statistician's Office has already commenced preparing the 2019 Closing the Gap report, which will report primarily on the 2017–2018 time period.

Queensland Closing The Gap Snapshot Report Card 2018 (p1).



o3. PROGRESS SNAPSHOT: EDUCATION

FACTS

Around 9 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 3 students achieved at or above the reading NMS[†] in 2017

Around 8 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 3 students achieved at or above the numeracy NMS in 2017

Around 9 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 9 students achieved at or above the numeracy NMS in 2017

7 in 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 20-24 year olds had at least a Year 12 or equivalent education in 2016*

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



PROGRESS

85.3% (2017)

95% of all Indigenous four-year-olds enrolled in early childhood education by 2025

NUMERACY



PROGRESS

84.3% (2017)

Year 3 numeracy gap reduced from **17.8%** (2008) to **12.4%** (2017)

Year 9 numeracy gap reduced from **20.6%** (2008) to **10.4%** (2017)

PROGRESS

86.5% (2017)

† National Minimum Standards

READING



PROGRESS

86.1% (2017)

Year 3 reading gap reduced from **22.5%** (2008) to **10.3%** (2017)

YEAR 12 ATTAINMENT OR EQUIVALENT



PROGRESS

71.2%

(2016)

Year 12 attainment gap reduced from **26.2%** (2006) to **18.2%** (2016)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE (Years 1–10)



ABORIGINAL AND TORRES
STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS

85.4% (2

School attendance gap has had little change Non-Indigenous: **93.0%** (2017)

National target progress:

Halve the gap for Indigenous people aged 20–24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment by 2020

 on track.

The aim to halve the gap for Indigenous people aged 20–24 in Year 12 attainment or equivalent attainment by 2020 is on track. In 2016,* 71.2 per cent of 20–24 year old Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders had attained Year 12 or equivalent. In 2016,* the attainment gap was 18.2 points compared to 26.2 percentage points in 2006.

 Close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous school attendance within five years by 2018 – not on track

Overall attendance In 2017, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student attendance rate was 85.4 per cent for all Year 1 to 10 students; 7.6 percentage points lower than the equivalent non-Indigenous rate (93.0 per cent). Attendance rates have changed little over time and are not on track to close the gap by 2018. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary student attendance rate was almost 10 points lower than the non-Indigenous rate (82.3 per cent compared with 91.8 per cent). Attendance rates by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were lowest in remote and very remote regions, particularly for secondary students, with the gap reaching up to 20.2 points.

Queensland Closing The Gap Snapshot Report Card 2018 (pp. 5-6)

QATSIF is also mentioned in DATSIP's Queensland Closing the Gap Report Card 2018 (p14) www.datsip.qld.gov.au/resources/datsima/programs/closing-gap/ctg-full-report.pdf

Case Study 5: Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation

Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF)

QATSIF has been created to give Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families increased educational choices and life opportunities.

It is an independent, not-for-profit trust managed by The Public Trustee of Queensland and operates through a small Secretariat.

The funds used by QATSIF for its programs and activities are drawn from the interest earned on the original capital provided to The Public Trustee to establish the Trust.

QATSIF has committed funding in scholarship programs to assist 7,350 students (from 2009–10 to 2017–18) to successfully complete Year 12, which has made a significant contribution to Queensland's current positive trends in Closing the Gap outcomes. The majority of these students are in mainstream schools throughout Queensland, where there is limited support available to them.

QATSIF will continue to provide support for Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students entering Year 11 by providing scholarships to advance the education of young people in community.

A survey of Year 12 QATSIF students who graduated in 2017 demonstrated extremely positive outcomes, both in further education and workforce participation, for QATSIF recipients.

Round 8 Student Acquittal Information – as at 13 March, 2019

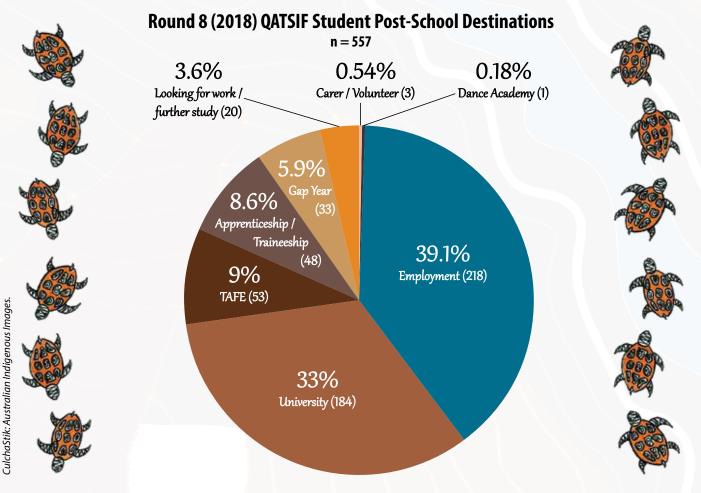
Thank you to all of our schools who have already submitted their Round 8 acquittal data.

We have put together the data for QATSIF students with known destinations (not including repeating students) and outcomes as provided by our schools.

Round 8 Outcomes

Outcome	All students / Non-Indigenous students	All Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	Round 8 QATSIF Students (n = 750)
Completed Year 12 (Source DATSIP 2016)	89.4% (Non-Indigenous students)	71.2%	97.9% ⁽⁷³⁴⁾
Gained QCE (Queensland Certificate of Education) (Source QCAA)	95.1%	90.9%	96.4% (723)

Round 8 QATSIF known Student Destinations (n = 557)



Post School Destinations for our Round 8 QATSIF Students compared with 2017 Next Steps Data

Destination	All Queensland Students (2017 data)	Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (2017 data)	Round 8 QATSIF Students (2018 data)
Education or Training	58.8%	40%	50.8%
Employment	27.4%	28.6%	39.1%
Not in Education, Training or Employment	13.9%	31.4%	10.1%

Round 8 Students: Good news stories

Good news stories on some of our Round 8 QATSIF Students from our Round 8 acquittals.

- ★ Allanah Phineasa (*Tagai State College*) received a contract to play with Gold Coast Suns Development Squad.
- ★ St Mary's Catholic College, Woree students have been signed to major sporting teams:
 - Kitara Whap-Farrar is one of the three young ladies to be signed to the AFLW academy. http://www.goldcoastfc.com.au/news/2019-02-08/aflw-suns-secure-talented-trio-ofacademy-stars
 - Jarom Mairu has been signed in the Under
 18 Northern Pride feeder team to The North
 Queensland Cowboys
- ★ Caelum Mackay (St Laurence's College) achieved an OP 1 this year an excellent achievement.
- ★ Isobella Kruger (*Queensland Academy for Health Sciences*) was accepted into a Medicine Pathway at University.
- ★ Lachlan Hearn (St Michael's College) accepted into Dentistry at Griffith University.
- ★ Glenn McGrady (*Palm Beach Currumbin State High School*) has secured a contract with the Penrith Panthers.
- ★ Flynn Fordairs (*Ipswich Girls' Grammar School*) has been accepted into Medicine.
- ★ Engineering students Aaron Yule (*Murrumba* State Secondary College), Harrison Godfrey (*Varsity*

College), Hayden Forbes (Park Ridge State High School), Lleyton Anderson (Ignatius Park College)

- ★ Antonio Mann (North Rockhampton State High School) Radio 4US host.
- ★ Special congratulations goes to the three students named as the dux of their schools:
 - Jaimee-Lee Patterson, Rockhampton State High School
 - Lachlan Hearn, St Michael's College
 - Aaliyah Tom, Tagai State College.



Some opportunities for schools and students

USQ Radio Lunchbox

Lunchbox provides a rich experience for students to present content, conduct interviews and bring their personality to the airwaves. It is delivered through Phoenix Radio – 1197am, DAB + and online. For more information visit www.usq.edu.au/study/faculty-events/2019/03/lunchbox-phoenix-radio

The Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education

The Peter Doherty Awards for Excellence in STEM Education recognise students, teachers, support officers, schools and education partners (volunteers, mentors and organisations) who demonstrate an outstanding and innovative contribution to STEM education in Queensland. www.education.qld.gov.au/about-us/events-awards/awards-competitions/peter-doherty-awards-for-excellence-in-STEM

InspireU Health Sciences Camp (June) for Years 11 & 12

www.atsis.uq.edu.au/future-students/inspireuprograms/inspireu-health-sciences

USQ Get Writing Prize

Poetry and short story competition for Years 10-12 students.

www.usq.edu.au/get-writing

USQ Get Songwriting Competition

If you are a high school student in Years 9-12 in Queensland, it is time to put your pen to paper or fingers to keys and try your hand at songwriting.

www.usq.edu.au/study/facultyevents/2019/02/get-songwriting-prize

USQ's Deadly Ways program for Year 11 & 12 students

www.usq.edu.au/events/2018/05/deadly-ways-residential-program

USQ's 2019 Indigenous Connections Camp for Year 7 & 8 students

www.usq.edu.au/events/2018/07/deadly-career-camp

USQ's 2019 Deadly Careers Camp for Years 9 & 10 students

www.usq.edu.au/events/2018/07/deadly-career-camp

QUT's SID Winter School

QUT's SID Winter School is a residential camp for Year 10-12 students interested in higher education.

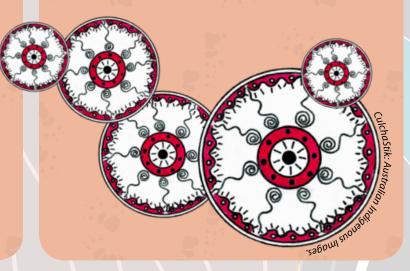
www.sidschool.com.au

Australian Defence Force Work Experience Program

www.defence.gov.au/WorkExperience/Docs/ Work-EX-Brochure-150914v2.pdf

Young Athletes Travel Subsidy

The Young Athletes Travel Subsidy (travel subsidy) aims to foster the development of young athletes and support elite athlete pathways by providing financial assistance to help alleviate the costs associated with attending championship events. The travel subsidy provides financial assistance through three event tiers and supports attendance at specific state, national and international events. www.qld.gov.au/recreation/sports/funding/athletes/yats/eligibility



QATSIF QCEScholarship Applications

Round 11

Open Wednesday 19 June 2019

Close Friday 23 August 2019

Information on how to apply will be available from mid May 2019. Please check with your school or qatsif.org.au for eligibility criteria.





Traditional Custodians of the land in which we live and work. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People of Australia.

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