

# STARS Foundation



**Who we are:** Stars Foundation has been offering full-time, in-school support programs for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women at risk of disengagement from school since 2015.

The mission of the Stars Foundation is to support and enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls and young women to make active choices towards realising their full potential in all aspects of their development and wellbeing.

Our purpose is to improve education and health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander girls.

**What we do:** A good education lays the foundation for success in life – and achieving a higher education is one of the key factors most likely to reduce Indigenous disadvantage in Australia.

Over recent years, there has been a lot of investment made in supporting the education of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.

Unfortunately, there has not been a matching level of investment in supporting the education of young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

Stars Foundation was established in 2015 to address this situation. Since then, Stars has been offering specially tailored mentoring and support programs for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.

**The Stars Plan:** Stars offers a range of activities to the girls, including sport and physical activities, art, music and dance. Community and volunteering activities are also provided to support the girls to build their confidence and give them opportunities for personal growth.

The key to the success of the program are our full-time, on-site mentors, who provide our girls with the intensive, daily support they need to identify and achieve their goals and reach their full potential.

The program focuses on four key areas of personal development through the Stars Plan:

- Healthy Lifestyles
- Wellbeing
- Education, Training and Employment
- Community, Culture and Leadership

Each Stars student works closely with her mentor to develop a plan to help her move positively toward making active choices about her own future.

