Widening Participation and Outreach

At the University of Sydney, we believe that the brightest and most promising students, regardless of their cultural or social background, can thrive and realise their potential through higher education.

In 2019 we’d like to welcome our partner schools, principals, teachers and students and thank you for being part of our educational outreach program.

Widening Participation and Outreach’s (WPO) program is for young people underrepresented in higher education, to enhance learning potential, build academic capacity and spark student interest in opportunities that they might not yet realise university can offer them. But the success of these programs depends, to a large degree, on truly engaging with schools, students, teachers, principals, careers advisors, and parents – without your input, participation and feedback, our program won’t reach the students for whom it is intended. We understand schools are very busy places and in 2019 we have streamlined our program to make it easier to access the many available opportunities.

In 2009 we engaged with just 3920 students. By 2017 it had grown to 69,930 student engagements. Our Longitudinal Evaluation Project (LEP) represents pioneering research into the effectiveness of our program and how students and schools are impacted over time. We look forward to sharing this research with all of our school partners and are very grateful to the ten LEP schools who are participating. We hope to use the research to inform a broader narrative on school success stories and transformational public education.

We’ve always run programs on campus at the University of Sydney, but in 2019 we have a reinvigorated emphasis on these immersive on-campus experiences. Not only are we exposing students to our unique University environment and context, but we’ve seen it have a greater impact on students – they can really see what university is about when they’re here. So we’re providing expanded opportunities to be on campus and to enable students to visualise themselves here, in reality.

Alongside our on-campus programs we will continue to offer residential programs, work in schools, run workshops and seminars and go on the road to regional areas. We continue to partner with leading arts, educationalists, and NGOs, and draw on our own inspirational Faculty specific programs (such as The LINK, see page 20), dedicated academic staff, and our talented and committed student volunteers and leaders to deliver our program.

Our program covers K-12, and extends across multiple KLA’s. In 2019 you’ll also see a Literacy and STEM focus, with learning experiences condensed into specific weeks on campus such as Week of Words and STEM Week.

There’s no doubt that teachers are pivotal in influencing and having an impact on students’ lives. So we also encourage all teachers and Principals to take advantage of our many NESA accredited Teacher Professional Learning Programs and be actively involved in supporting their students whilst participating in our program.

We look forward to welcoming your school, staff and students in 2019 and providing these learning opportunities, that are made possible through the Commonwealth Government’s Higher Education Participation and Partnership Programme (HEPPP).

Mary Teague
Head, Widening Participation and Outreach

“IT’s hard to visualise something like going to university until you actually start to experience it. The challenge is that if they can’t see it and feel it they don’t know it exists. As a school we need to create a self-awareness for students of their own potential. Whenever we connect with universities we are actually making them aware of their potential. If you want someone to go to university you need to build in them that they have that potential and a growth mindset. My job is to encourage the potential in every student. So, if we think about it, my job is for every student to get to university.”

Denise Lofts
Principal of Ulladulla High School

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Highlights from 2018

- Craft of Writing with Sydney Story Factory
- The LINK Writerly
- LINK West
- Thinking Ahead and SMASH package
- Promote Yourself and HSC Exam Prep package
- New partnerships with Blacktown and Campbelltown libraries
- Regional outreach into new schools and hubs including North Coast and Far North Coast
- Creation of ASTAR worlds: Study Hacks and #All the feels
- Expansion of Photo faction, Russ the Bus and Year 12 Sydney Writers’ Festival Experience
- National Priorities Pool Commissioned Research Project with Western Sydney University
- Longitudinal Evaluation research project with the Sydney School of Education and Social Work

What was new in 2018

- 141 Events run
- 166 students attended the Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program
- 121 Volunteers in school
- 3232 Student leader engagements
- 16,724 Students participated
- 35,756 Student engagements
- 29 Regional secondary partner schools
- 33 Metro primary partner schools
- 66 Metro secondary partner schools
- 18 Schools engagements
- 3920 Student engagements 2009-2018
- 2009-2018
- 2018
- 35,756
- 3920
- 2018
- 2009
- 720
- Students that attended Bunga Barrabugu Winter Program and enrolled at the University of Sydney
- Students that attended Bunga Barrabugu Winter Program and enrolled at the University of Sydney
- 12% 2015
- 32% 2018
- 16,724 Students participated
- 35,756 Students involved
- 90,104 Students involved
- 155,567 Student engagements
- 13,149 Students involved
- 3747 Students involved
- 359 School engagements
- 2015
- 2018
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Our research
Longitudinal Evaluation

The 2018-2020 Longitudinal Evaluation Project is a comprehensive evaluation of the impact of a suite of core educational enrichment activities, implemented in greater western Sydney by the University of Sydney Widening Participation and Outreach Program.

Who
The research team consists of:
- The University of Sydney, Sydney School of Education and Social Work
- Professor Valerie Harwood
- Professor Debra Hayes
- Dr Samantha McMahon
- Dr Sheelagh Daniels-Mayes
- University of Western Sydney
- Dr Nathan Berger

What
Widening Participation and Outreach programs:
- Year 9 Preparation for NAPLAN
- Year 9 Digital Narrative
- Year 10 Preparation for Senior Study
- Year 11 Thinking Ahead & SMASH Essay
- Year 12 Promote Yourself & HSC Exam Prep
- Year 11/12 English/Humanities cultural enrichment activity

Where
The research team will be conducting extensive analysis of partner schools which are ‘demographically and geographically’ representative of our six hubs.
- Blacktown/Mt Druitt hub
  - Doonside Technology High School
  - Cranebrook High School
- Cabramatta/Fairfield hub
  - Fairfield High School
  - Fairvale High School
- Campbelltown hub
  - Campbelltown Performing Arts High School
- Canterbury/Bankstown hub
  - Chester Hill High School
  - Belmore Boys High School
- Parramatta/Cumberland hub
  - Holroyd High School
  - Auburn Girls High School
- Liverpool hub
  - Liverpool Girls High School

National Priorities Pool
Commissioned Project

In collaboration with Western Sydney University, we are part of a research project analysing individual-based measures of socio-economic disadvantage to determine practices being used at Australian universities to identify and support students from low SES backgrounds.
Where we work

NSW Regional Hubs

Our regional outreach extends engagement between the University of Sydney and regional NSW schools and communities. This includes senior (Year 10 - 12) focused academic capacity building and skills enrichment activities, and immersive on-campus experiences.
Sydney Basin Hubs

Widening Participation and Outreach engages Educational Access Scheme (EAS) identified schools across metropolitan geographic hubs, in west and south west Sydney. Innovative in-school, on-campus, in-community and online learning experiences support the academic and personal preparation of students for higher education.

Sydney Basin Hubs key
- Blacktown
- Fairfield
- Liverpool
- Campbelltown
- Bankstown
- Parramatta

Sydney Basin Hubs

Where we work

Widening Participation and Outreach 2019 Program

Widening Participation and Outreach 2019 Program
Our engagement framework

Our engagement framework from Kindergarten to Year 12, builds on previous programs and learning, so that experiences have the greatest impact when students are involved year-on-year.

Our schools engagement framework:

**Year K-2 Launch**
Building blocks—ready, set, go!
Build student confidence and teacher knowledge in the application of foundational learning skills.

**Year 3-6 Discover**
Be brave, ask questions—map your world
Introduce university life to students to establish a positive association between learning and future opportunities.

**Year 7-8 Experience**
Your interests, your passions, your potential
Motivate students to explore their interests and link these to future pathways and higher education.

**Year 9-10 Achieve**
Prepare now and reach for your future
Develop skills and strategies for students to succeed in their study pathways; consolidate understanding of links between subject selection, higher education and careers.

**Year 11-12 Act**
Realise your potential and own your future
Enrich academic skills preparation for the HSC; identify leadership skills to progress scholarship applications and entry pathways to higher education.

**Access**
Transition and success
Provide programs to support the transition to university; create lasting support networks for continued learning and foster graduate attributes.

“Today’s experience allowed me to grasp ideas about ways to enter uni through scholarship applications, and pathways to Sydney Uni that I didn’t know existed. There’s a whole support network that has opened up for me and my future learning.”

**Year 12 student**
Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Prep
Our engagement framework

Engagement mapping: Kindergarten to Year 12 to University

Preparation for transition to university

Final school year, support and wellbeing

Open Day

Information evenings and understanding higher education

Study support and tutoring

Parents and school communities

Launch K-2

Building Blocks

Consolidating foundations for future achievement
- Fine motor skills
- Student confidence

Experience 7-8

Your passions, your potential

Motivating students to explore their interests at university
- Access digital resources and online tutoring
- Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics (STEAM)
- Experiential learning

Achieve 9-10

Prepare now and reach for your future

Developing skills and strategies for success
- Preparation for senior study
- University experiences
- Leadership and teamwork skills
- Subject selection
- Relational infrastructure

Access

Transition and success

Enabling connections for continuous learning
- Links to mentoring and tutoring support
- Uni transition support
- Volunteering and leadership opportunities

Discover 3-6

Be brave, ask questions

Introducing an exciting world of opportunity
- Cultural capacity
- Digital literacy
- Transition to high school
- Creative and reflective writing

Act 11-12

Realise your potential and own future

Academic skills enrichment and access pathways to university
- Scholarship preparation
- Leadership and communication skills
- Future planning
- University experience
- Critical and creative thinking
- Independent learning
- Preparation for university
- Positive self concept

Teachers and school leaders

Teachers and school learning program

Preparation for transition

Study and academic teaching support

Literacy and numeracy focus

NAPLAN support

Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics (STEAM)

Academic resources

Digital literacy

Foundation skills development

Engineering technology

For more information visit sydney.edu.au/wpo

Widening Participation and Outreach 2019 Program
The 2019 program

In 2019, our program has a renewed focus on immersive on-campus experiences to familiarise, prepare and expand understanding of future study opportunities for young people.

Our program is linked to the Australian Curriculum and NSW Key Learning Areas (KLAs). We will continue to have a reinvigorated emphasis on teacher and school leader professional learning as it remains key to transforming student learning outcomes.

What’s new in 2019?
- Future Fridays (Year 10/11/12)
- Week of Words
- STEM week
- Mathematics Professional Learning (MANSW)
- Teacher Librarian Professional Learning

Focus area key

- **On campus program**
  - Held at the University of Sydney main campus (Camperdown).

- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander**
  - For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

- **In school program**
  - Held at your school.

- **Program is onsite**
  - Held at a selected location within Sydney.

- **Digital component**
  - These programs can be engaged with online.

- **Professional learning program**
  - For teachers and school leaders.

- **Available in regional and remote**
  - Available in our regional and remote hubs.

- **At partner library**
  - These programs take place at one of our selected partner libraries.
## 2019 snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Year group</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Page</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Preparation for NAPLAN and Digital Narrative Professional Learning</td>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 - 9</td>
<td>Future Fridays: Thinking Ahead/SMASH Essay Writing /Critical Thinking</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9 - 11</td>
<td>Preparation for NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Whole cohort</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Negotiable</td>
<td>Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Preparation (in-school)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Negotiable</td>
<td>Thinking Ahead/SMASH Essay (in-school)</td>
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<td>Term 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sydney Writers' Festival Student Session</td>
<td>7/8/9</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Sydney Writers' Festival Experience</td>
<td>10/11/12</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20/23</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 - 2</td>
<td>Preparation for NAPLAN</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Whole cohort</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>LINK West</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Craft of Writing</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Study Centres</td>
<td>7-12</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 - 9</td>
<td>Future Fridays: Preparation for Senior Study</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Parent and Community Information Evening</td>
<td>10/11/12</td>
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<td>Holidays</td>
<td>July holidays</td>
<td>Bunga Barrabugu Winter Program</td>
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<td>Term 3</td>
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<td>Study Centres</td>
<td>7 - 12</td>
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<td>2 - 9</td>
<td>Future Fridays: Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Prep/SMASH Research</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Leading Excellence school leader Professional Learning</td>
<td>Principals and Deputy principals</td>
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<td>Australian Museums Science Festival</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Australian Museums Science Festival</td>
<td>7/8/9</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>19/20</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Open Day</td>
<td>10/11/12</td>
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<td>Preparation for Senior Study (part 2) in school</td>
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<td>7 - 9</td>
<td>Photo Faction</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>October holidays</td>
<td>HSCram</td>
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<td>Term 4</td>
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<td>The LINK Writerly in-class</td>
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<td>2 - 6</td>
<td>Russ the Bus</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>60</td>
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<td>Preparation for Senior Study (part 2) in school</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Courtroom Slam</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>120</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Spectacular Science</td>
<td>8/9</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>19/20</td>
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<td>Mega Maths</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program</td>
<td>10/11/12 (in 2020)</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Digital outreach

ASTAR is an online community that prepares students for university and the world post school.

Students can find information about scholarships and careers and access study tips and tricks to help them succeed at school and in the HSC.

ASTAR offers up-to-date study resources in Study Hacks and access to free online homework and assessment tutoring provided by Studiosity for all students at schools engaged with Widening Participation and Outreach.

The platform also showcases student work and achievements. This provides a space for students to discuss different perspectives and contribute their own texts and opinion pieces for publication. Students can gain real-world experience in journalism, working directly with WPO to edit and publish their work. Examples include:
- Photo faction: photofaction.astar.tv
- Story Factory: storyfactory.astar.tv

Our apps and digital resources are integrated into all on-campus and in-school learning experiences, giving students and their teachers a place to return to for resources and support.

We encourage teachers, careers advisors and students to access ASTAR before they take part in one of our workshops and again once they are back at school to consolidate their experiences.

“Knowing I can get online help with my homework whenever I need it has helped me feel more confident about assessments.”

**Student**
ASTAR online tutoring

“Today’s experience has provided me better insight and understanding of the play, as well as being open to different interpretation of theatre. These new understandings and interpretation will be thoroughly studied and can aid to my future learning by being able to respond to essay questions with a variety of techniques and explanations.”

**Student**
Seymour Centre

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**AVAILABLE FOR IPHONE, IPAD AND ANDROID:**

NEED HELP CHOOSING SUBJECTS FOR YEAR 11 & 12?
We’ve got you covered!
Digital outreach

For teachers

Our teacher resources provide information about our programs and the year ahead, keeping you up to date with everything we offer at the University.

Access online tutoring for your students through ASTAR
Free tutoring help is available to all students who identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, attend a SOAP high school, and/or attend one of our regional partner schools.
  - astar.tv/studiosity

Lesson plans
Relevant lesson plans and pro formas will be emailed before project start dates to support teachers in the classroom.
  - via email

Newsletter
Stay connected with term newsletters containing relevant updates and information about upcoming programs.
  - sydney.edu.au/wpo/events/newsletter

Widening Participation and Outreach website
Find more information about our programs and events on our website. The site is home to a variety of resources that teachers can use to further their understanding of our initiatives.
  - sydney.edu.au/wpo

For students

ASTAR offers a variety of services to support your students at home.

Online tutoring (Studiosity)
Online homework and study support is available via Studiosity. Should a student need essay feedback, homework help or editorial advice they can connect online in seconds to an expert who can assist. Tutors are local teachers, university and subject-experts who have passed extensive screening and qualification checks.
  - astar.tv/studiosity

Study Hacks
A range of resources for students offering study techniques and subject-specific information to support them during their exams. All resources are written by our staff and trusted educators.
  - astar.tv/studyhacks

#All the feels
Information and support on a variety of issues that effect young people such as mental health, sexuality and anxiety, designed to give students trusted information, relevant to their needs and experiences.
  - astar.tv/tag/all-the-feels

ASTAR Career Finder app
This app ignites students’ thinking about their life after school. It helps young people turn their passions and personal interests into future careers, giving them the support and encouragement they need to pursue tertiary education.
  - astar.tv/careerfinder

ASTAR Subject Finder app
Year 10 students are given the resources and information they require to make informed decisions about subject selection. This app best prepares them for what is expected of them at university, by giving them information about prerequisites and assumed knowledge, dependent on degrees.
  - astar.tv/subjectfinder

Submit a story
To support and foster student’s creativity and literacy skills, we publish and promote student’s work on ASTAR. We encourage students to use a variety of mediums, such as narrative, photo and video to share their own unique perspectives on the world.
  - astar.tv/submit-a-story

Follow us
  - astar.tv
  - @we.are.astar
  - We are ASTAR
  - bit.ly/ASTARYoutube
  - Widening Participation and Outreach
Watch us in action

As part of our digital outreach, we visit areas across Sydney and New South Wales and provide secondary and university students with the opportunity and platform to tell their story and to inspire and connect with other young people.

Our 2018 videos

- ‘Our Time’ trailer
  https://youtu.be/iQwINZIHZiw
- Daly shines bright
  https://youtu.be/tlcdbWhvV1Q
- Jaeda reaches for the sky
  https://youtu.be/6ZUPX85KyAE
- Ziggy Ramo
  https://youtu.be/d56g9k2zr6g

- Amelia ‘Over Stressed’ music video
  https://youtu.be/QB3aAlUbC4xM
- Wingara Mura – Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program highlights
  https://youtu.be/Mvlp8NHmab4
- Bunga Barrabugu Winter Program Highlights
  https://youtu.be/SLqiU9Q9adY
- Imogen: Inspired by speech pathology
  https://youtu.be/LaUxpVZJ0Dg

- David: Future astrophysicist
  https://youtu.be/XwGQwW4Tci4
- Amar: Skateboarding pro
  https://youtu.be/3PX7y8kTB1
- Elaine tells all
  https://youtu.be/dSWiEIaipew
- Dana moves to Sydney
  https://youtu.be/3GNvKX333WQ

- Nathaniel Tamwoy: “I never thought I would go to University”
  https://youtu.be/445g8dnoNuE
- Mitchell: First in family to go to uni
  https://youtu.be/gP4TUE193o
- Why are you at university?
  https://youtu.be/oP4TlUeI93o
- ASTAR visits Ulladulla High School
  https://youtu.be/tBlcBYP2Q4

To stay up to date with all ASTAR videos, follow our YouTube channel. 
bit.ly/ASTARYoutube
Student story
Leroy

Leroy from northern NSW attended the Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu (WMBB) Summer and Winter Program in 2017 and in 2018 completed his first year of Bachelor of Arts.

“WMBB and the work of WPO pulls you into the life of the University. And it’s not just the University of Sydney, even though this is the one I personally wanted to go to — it’s got a great faculty, great staff and it’s an amazing place.

I only have myself and my family. I’m guiding myself in my goal to have a law-focused career. My parents are the biggest and best support — they give me everything I need — but there are always those financial and emotional struggles. And because I am completely financially independent, I feel I have to support myself. I’ve been working since I was about 13. Balancing work, family and social life along with my studies can be a real challenge.

I honestly feel that if you participate in the WMBB program it can prepare you for just about any university in Australia. It’s a great experience that gives you a head start and the chance to see if university is going to be right for you.

I think a lot of Indigenous students feel like they might lose a part of their culture through pursuing academic study. Having the chance to do the WMBB programs with WPO has felt like a chance to reconnect with my culture — to who I am and to who we are as Indigenous Australians. It’s been great to meet other young Indigenous Australians, who look and sound different, from all walks of life.”
Discover
Years 3 to 6

Introducing university life to students, establishing a positive association between learning and future career opportunities.

Seymour Centre
We will support a group of up to 50 students from targeted primary schools to attend a Seymour Centre production of the school’s choice in 2019 (and associated bus transport).

The exciting 2019 program supports the current NSW curriculum, enhanced literacy outcomes and a deepening comprehension of texts and themes for students across a range of ages and stages.

Program:
- www.seymourcentre.com/group/education/

2019 Program details available mid October 2018.

Bookings can be made directly via the online booking form:
- www.seymourcentre.com/education/education-booking-form/

Supported attendance requires the following information to be inserted into the following fields:
- School Finance Officer Full Name: Widening Participation and Outreach
- School Finance Officer Phone: 8627 8515
- School Finance Officer Email: wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au

Russ the Story Bus
Russ the Story Bus is no ordinary bus. His belly is full of books and his exterior is covered with illustrations by Sophie Beer. The Russ the Story Bus initiative is delivered in partnership with the Sydney Writers’ Festival and aims to foster a love of reading among young readers by visiting schools in NSW, and bringing some of Australia’s best children’s writers and illustrators along for the ride.

To register: wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au
Year: 3/4
Delivered: Term 4, Week 2 – 6
Capacity: 60

Australian Museums Science Festival
The Australian Museums Science Festival offers to bring practical science to life with a specially designed primary school program packed with hands-on activities and explosive workshops. Sessions are designed to support school curriculums, and cover a wide range of scientific fields including digital science, biology, chemistry, natural environment, and more.

We will support a group of up to 50 students from targeted primary schools to attend the Australian Museum Science Festival (and associated bus transport).

To register: wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au
Year: 5
Delivered: Term 3, Week 3
Capacity: 50
Widening Participation and Outreach

At the University of Sydney, we believe that the brightest and most promising students, regardless of their cultural or social background, can thrive and realise their potential through higher education.

sydney.edu.au/wpo
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Calendar key:

- **Public holiday**
- **School holiday**

To register for these programs, please fill out the booking form on page 29 and email to wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au or complete it online at https://form.jotform.co/2019-school-booking-form by 5 November 2018.

For more information, please email wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au or call (02) 8627 8518.

Dates are subject to change. For up-to-date information, please visit sydney.edu.au/wpo.
Experience
Year 7 and 8

Motivating students to explore their interests and linking these to future pathways and higher education.

**Australian Museums Science Festival**
The Australian Museums Science Festival offers to bring practical science to life with a specially designed secondary school program packed with hands-on activities and explosive workshops. Sessions are designed to support school curriculums, and cover a wide range of scientific fields including digital science, biology, chemistry, natural environment, and more.

- **Year:** 7/8/9
- **Delivered:** Term 3, Week 4
- **Capacity:** 50

**Photo Faction**
Photo Faction allows young storytellers to creatively explore the relationship between image and text. Through a series of school workshops led by the Sydney Story Factory and Australian Centre for Photography, students collaborate and learn about visual and narrative methods of storytelling, as well as technical aspects of photography and digital publication.

- **Year:** 8
- **Delivered:** Term 3, Week 7 – 9
- **Capacity:** 30

**Spectacular Science**
Spectacular Science is a one-day on-campus experience run by the Faculty of Science, offering Year 8 students first-hand insights into intriguing and up-to-the-minute research that scientists are currently working on.

Throughout the day, students participate in a series of interactive activities across a range of science disciplines. This experience supports students to develop a strong understanding of the relationship between their high school STEM subjects, university degrees and future careers.

- **Year:** 8/9
- **Delivered:** Term 4, Week 6
- **Capacity:** 300

**Sydney Writers’ Festival: Student Sessions**
The Student Sessions program gives secondary school students rare access to some of the biggest stars on the Festival program – including acclaimed writers, respected social commenters and the world’s keenest thought-leaders.

Covering a range of stimulating topics linked to the NSW school curriculum, the Student Sessions program is a full day of events designed to give life to the secondary syllabus and provide students the opportunity to engage with ideas outside the traditional classroom setting.

- **Year:** 7/8/9
- **Delivered:** Term 2, Week 1
- **Capacity:** 100
Achieve
Years 9 and 10

Developing skills and strategies for students to succeed in their study pathways; consolidating understanding of links between subject selection, degrees and careers.

**Preparation for NAPLAN**
Trained University of Sydney student volunteers work with small groups of Year 9 students in the classroom twice a week for five weeks. Students use online tools to work through practice NAPLAN questions and quizzes in literacy, numeracy and reading. The groups focus on reading and comprehension, increasing students’ familiarity with the structure and language of the NAPLAN assessment.

Along with familiarising students with NAPLAN requirements, this program also engages students with the Studiosity online revision tool, helping them develop study habits for academic success.

**Year:** 9  
**Delivered:** Term 1, Week 9 – 11  
Term 2: Week 1 – 2  
**Capacity:** Whole cohort

**Future Friday: Preparation for Senior Study**
This two-part program includes both an on-campus experience and in-school workshop to develop study skills and strategies for future academic success.

The on-campus experience is designed to increase students preparedness for the HSC through workshops in senior study skills, Mathematics, English and Science, and provide them with knowledge of subject selection to maximise results.

The in-school workshops, run by the Sydney School of Education and Social Work, pre-service Secondary Education (English) students, include small group based learning activities to enhance students’ English study skills, establish good study habits and facilitate discussion surrounding future degree and career options.

**Year:** 10  
**Delivered:** On campus: Term 2, Weeks 2 – 9  
In school: Term 3, Week 6 and  
Term 4, Week 2  
**Capacity:** 100

**Mega Maths**
No matter what your students choose to do in the future, maths will be a part of it: from maths models that help predict which latest fashion items will sell out, to calculations that allow you to build bridges, to statistics that show what people think of a business, to computations that help in the understanding of diseases.

The on-campus day helps students discover how studying maths can help a huge array of disciplines and careers. Students will be inspired by how maths can open many future doors as they engage in a full day of practical workshops.

**Year:** 10  
**Delivered:** Term 4, Week 6  
**Capacity:** 150

**LINK West**
LINK West is an on-campus experience day showcasing a variety of different areas of English study. Students explore creative writing, Shakespeare, a range of literacy genres, and the relationship between novels and new media.

**Year:** 10  
**Delivered:** Term 2, Week 2  
**Capacity:** 400

“The students got to participate in and see things that we cannot offer them at High School. Everything was clearly related to their syllabus, and it was pitched as a suitable level for the students.”

**Teacher**
Mega Maths
“It allowed me to reflect on my achievements and my goals in life in order to understand where I stand and where I need to be and how I will get there. I believe my learning skills will improve from this session.”

Year 12 student
Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Prep

“Study skills is the information that I found the most helpful because no matter what subject you are doing, learning how to study efficiently is the most important.”

Year 10 student
Prep for Senior Study

“It provided me with the fundamental aspects required to complete the HSC and scholarship applications. The presenters were really helpful, drawing on their own experiences to engage us. This workshop has motivated me!”

Year 12 student
Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Prep

“Firstly it is hopefully informing them and giving them the sense that this is the beginning. It is time to start preparing and tonight is the first of that. It also gives our child the sense that we are going to do this together - we are here for support. The information was great and gave reassurance on how the ATAR works and entry into uni.”

Parent
Parent and Community Information Evening

“I’m so glad to attend this info evening. The information provided will be helpful for my son to choose the correct subjects in year 11 towards to his planned course in uni in the future.”

Parent
Parent and Community Information Evening

“Study skills is the information that I found the most helpful because no matter what subject you are doing, learning how to study efficiently is the most important.”

Year 10 student
Prep for Senior Study
Act
Year 11 and 12

Enriching students skills, and preparation for the HSC; supporting leadership development to access scholarship opportunities and admission pathways to higher education.

Open Day
Year 10, 11 and 12 students are invited to The University of Sydney Open Day to participate in academic workshops to help prepare students for university. We also facilitate one-on-one scholarship application consultations for the Cadigal and Early Offer Year 12 (E12) admission pathways. Selected Year 11 and 12 students from our regional partner schools may be supported to attend a residential program as part of this event.

Year: 10-12
Delivered: 24 August
Capacity: None

Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program
The Wingara Mura-Bunga Barrabugu (WMBB) Summer Program is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students. Students from across the country apply to take part in a week-long residential program designed to explore how their study choices could influence their future, and the possibilities offered by higher education.

Year: 10/11/12
Delivered: 2 – 5 December
Capacity: 150

Future Friday: Thinking Ahead/SMASH Essay Writing/Critical Thinking
Thinking Ahead introduces students to new ways of interpreting scholarship applications. They learn how to write persuasively about their leadership skills, personal qualities and attributes.

In Smash Essay Writing, students receive key tips and strategies for effective essay writing. They are encouraged to deconstruct questions and formulate arguments to extend their essay writing skills in preparation for their HSC exams.

In Critical Thinking, students think critically about the texts they are analysing by deconstructing arguments drawn from a wide range of sources, including journalism, advertising, science, economics and politics, learning to distinguish what makes a sound or weak argument.

If your school is not participating in the on-campus delivery of this workshop, there is an opportunity to run an in-school workshop in Term 1.

Year: 11
Delivered: In school: Term 1, negotiable
On campus: Term 1, Weeks 2 – 9
Capacity: 100

The LINK Writerly in-class
Students will undertake a program designed to enhance their creative writing skills and engage with a broad range of contemporary literature. They will participate in learning activities devised to open up new ways to generate writing ideas and to refine existing creative texts.

Year: 11
Delivered: Term 4, Week by negotiation
Capacity: 30

Craft of Writing
Are your students worried about the English HSC exam? This is the workshop for them! We’ll dive into the new section of the senior English curriculum - Craft of Writing - and give students the opportunity to engage with the fundamentals of the course. They will be guided through a series of activities which introduce key texts, provide tips for analysing and reflecting on the writing process. Students will leave with a greater understanding of how to tackle the demands of their upcoming exams. This workshop is suitable for students undertaking both English Standard and Advanced.

Year: 11
Delivered: Term 2, Week 2
Capacity: 400

“This program gives my students the opportunity to experience a taste of University life and provides access to outstanding student leader mentors. I expect my students will return to school and encourage others to apply for the program.”

Teacher
WMBB Summer 2018
Sydney Writers’ Festival Experience
Students participate in a variety of workshops and panel conversations allowing them to experience literature through an author’s lens. The Sydney Writers’ Festival Experience extends students’ understanding of contemporary literature and builds cultural capacity through engagement in broader cultural discourse.

Year: 11/12
Delivered: Term 2, Week 1
Capacity: 100

Future Friday: Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Preparation/SMASH Research
HSC Exam Preparation provides students with HSC study techniques and exam practice to assist them in maximising their HSC performance. Delivered by current University of Sydney undergraduate students, the focus areas include deconstructing HSC exam questions, addressing learning outcomes from the syllabus, effective note taking, planning responses, maximising marks, and managing time during exams.

Students then consider what lies beyond the HSC in the interactive scholarship writing session, Promote Yourself. By learning how to identify scholarship criteria, and find areas of strength and weakness in sample answers, students draft their own answers to scholarship questions.

SMASH Research then shows students how to improve their online research skills, become familiar with appropriate forms of referencing and learn how to effectively evaluate online resources.

If your school is not participating in the on-campus delivery of this workshop, there is an opportunity to run an in-school workshop in Term 1.

Year: 12
Delivered: In-school: Term 1, Week negotiable
On campus: Term 3, Weeks 2 – 9
Capacity: 100

Bunga Barrabugu Winter Program
A residential program for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students, which prepares them for their final exams and provides information on opportunities and pathways to university. Available to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students who attended the 2018 Wingara Mura Bunga Barrabugu Summer program or one of our partner schools.

Year: 12
Delivered: 8 – 12 July
Capacity: 45

“The workshop allowed me to reflect on my interests and achievements which was great timing, especially with all the stress going around because of the HSC. The experience will support my learning as motivation to study at this University and taught me the importance of using my own leadership.”

Year 12 student
Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Prep
Professional learning
For teachers and school leaders

These programs support increased individual and collective efficacy of school teachers and leaders.

**Leading Excellence School Leader Professional Learning**
Leading Excellence focuses on extending the individual and collective efficacy of school leaders. The program is NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) accredited and draws on University of Sydney expertise through the Coaching Psychology Unit, the Sydney School of Education and Social Work and the National Centre for Cultural Competence.

The program aims to make school leaders feel supported in building school cultures that focus on excellence, and the role of leadership in creating transformative learning environments for students.

Principals and Deputy Principals are supported to lead cultures of excellence within their schools through quality coaching conversations and workshops that enable new networks for relational trust to be established amongst leadership teams.

**Delivered:** Term 3, Week 3

**Preparation for NAPLAN and Now See Hear Digital Narrative Professional Learning**
This literacy focused teacher professional learning session combines the NESA accredited ‘Now See Hear’ digital storytelling workshop run by the Sydney Story Factory with training associated with the Preparation for NAPLAN program.

Teachers develop strategies and approaches to implement digital storytelling projects and tools to support students to feel prepared for NAPLAN style tests, drawing on resources made available through ASTAR.TV

**Delivered:** Term 1, Week 3

**Teacher Librarian Professional learning**
This one-day accredited on campus professional learning program, in collaboration with University Libraries will support selected teacher librarians with enriched research skills, processes and resources across KLA’s to support enhanced student learning outcomes.

**Delivered:** Term 4

**Mathematical Association of NSW (MANSW) Professional Learning**
This one-day NESA accredited professional learning session is available to NSW regional and metro schools and will cover the new Stage 6 Syllabus. It will focus on the new topics of Statistics and Networks in the new HSC Standard and Advanced courses as well as new content to these courses including annuities, 3D trigonometry, transformation of functions, composite functions, interval notation and polynomials.

**Delivered:** By negotiation
**Capacity:** 30
Community

We are committed to supporting your school and its community through programs that support parents and other key influencers to support student learning beyond school.

Study Centres
These weekly two hour sessions provide free homework support and tutoring to high school students in Years 7-12 at selected local libraries. University of Sydney student volunteers are matched one-on-one or in small groups to help support students’ diverse learning needs and build academic competence, while raising awareness of the opportunities available through higher education.

Year: 7 – 12
Delivered: Term 2, Week 2 – 7
   Term 3, Week 2 – 7

Parent and Community Information Evening
Held in local libraries, information evenings for students in Year 10, 11 and 12, parents, caregivers and teachers, provide an opportunity to hear from and speak to University staff, faculties and current University students about subject selection, pathways, degrees, and careers. The information evenings aim to increase attendees understanding of resources, academic support and financial assistance available (in the form of scholarships) to support senior study and access to higher education.

Year: 10 – 12, parents and community
Delivered: Term 2, Week 6

HSCram
This one-day intensive workshop provides Year 12 students with a range of academic support including small group subject-specific tutoring, exam practice in exam conditions and HSC Exam Prep workshops. Held in local libraries, it aims to increase students’ confidence in specific HSC subject and motivation to succeed in the HSC.

Year: 12
Delivered: October school holidays
Other opportunities

The University of Sydney offers many other opportunities to high schools across metropolitan Sydney and regional NSW. We frequently support selected schools to participate in general and faculty related outreach opportunities.

**Life at Sydney**
This program is for high achieving Year 11 students to experience university life. Students participate in a variety of hands-on faculty-based activities including senior study skills workshops, and engage with an array of dynamic student clubs and societies on campus.

Delivered: September school holidays
Year: 11

**Kickstart Science**
HSC students have a chance to do experiments and see demonstrations of key ideas in the Chemistry, Biology and Physics syllabus that are difficult to do in the classroom. These workshops are designed to meet the demand expressed by science teachers in response to changes to the NSW HSC Science syllabus. This workshop is also available in regional schools.

Delivered: Negotiable
Year: 12

“This play helped me weave all the information in my head and see the characters visually and understand ‘who’ is ‘who’! It really helped me understand the play and the Director was very good at explaining ‘What Shakespeare’ really means. I really like how the Director explained all the important scenes and allowed us the ‘audience’ to see it visually and understand it. This will help for HSC writing.”

Student
Seymour Centre

**Seymour Centre**
WPO will support a group of up to 50 students from targeted secondary schools to attend a Seymour Centre production of the school’s choice in 2019 (and associated bus transport).

The exciting 2019 program supports the current NSW curriculum, enhanced literacy outcomes and a deepening comprehension of texts and themes for students across a range of ages and stages.

Program:
- [www.seymourcentre.com/group/education/](http://www.seymourcentre.com/group/education/)

2019 Program details available mid October 2018.

Bookings can be made directly via the online booking form:

Supported attendance requires the following information to be inserted into the following fields:
School Finance Officer full name: Widening Participation and Outreach
School Finance Officer phone: 8627 8515
School Finance Officer email: wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au

For more information
Please contact us at wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au if you or your school is interested in the above activities.
Elaine grew up in western Sydney and completed her fifth year of Bachelor of Arts/Law in 2018. She participated in the National University of Singapore exchange program and is a volunteer and student leader for WPO.

“I come from a community where many of us are from refugee or migrant backgrounds. There is no shortage of resilient people who have endured persecution, discrimination and violence in their other countries before settling in Australia. Even though we have made Australia our home now, language barriers and economic and social disadvantages still persist and still make many people vulnerable. After growing up in this environment and seeing these effects, I wanted to study Law so I could be an advocate for people in communities like mine.

I first heard about the University of Sydney while I was in high school through what was known then as the Compass Program, now WPO. I knew that an institution that could offer a program like that was the type of university that I could connect with.

In my opinion, being able to receive a tertiary education is a privilege. I have gained skills in my degrees which empower me to be critical of the ways things are and I can use these as tools to be the advocate I have always dreamed of being. University is a powerful enabler of dreams, but I know that a lot of my peers were not as lucky as I was. This was because programs like WPO’s and alternative entry pathways did not exist, or if they did, students just did not know how to access them. This affirmed to me the importance of these programs and raising awareness of them to equalise the platform and make university a possibility for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and regional areas. Now that I have been given the opportunity of studying at the University of Sydney, I wanted to be part of WPO and break down the barriers to accessing university for other students.

Working with WPO has been incredibly rewarding. Though it is my role to speak to young people and inspire them to realise their potential, I am the one who learns so much from them. The students I engage with remind me of the people in my little western Sydney community - resilient, determined and inspiring. Despite many personal battles and hardships, they have an infectious light that burns inside them and I never forget why I wanted to volunteer in the first place. Volunteering for WPO has definitely been one of the highlights of my university experience and I could not encourage anyone enough to get involved.”
Get involved

How to get involved

Choose your activities
Fill out the booking form on page 29 and email it to wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au or complete online at https://form.jotform.co/sassocinc/2019-school-booking-form by 5 November 2018.

What happens next?
1. Receive a confirmation of your 2019 Program Schedule
   - Once your booking form is received, we will contact you to confirm your school involvement for 2019 by 26 November 2018.
2. We will contact you 6 – 8 weeks before each activity to:
   - Confirm your student numbers
   - Collect dietary, medical and access requirements
   - Send you the program risk assessment
   - Assist you with arranging transport (if applicable)
3. You will receive further support documents two weeks before the event. This will be the last opportunity to make any changes to your booking. You will receive:
   - Teacher brief
   - Extra resources (lesson plans, maps etc.)
4. We will revisit this with you at the end of Term 2 to discuss and confirm your participation in our Term 3 and Term 4 programs.

Frequently asked questions

Q. Is there a limit to how many students I can register for a program?
A. Yes, please see the registration form for program specific capacity. In addition:
   - Campus experiences have a minimum/maximum student number per school.
   - In-school workshops ideally run with a maximum of a class size (approx. 30 students) and a minimum of 15 students.
   - If your numbers are outside these parameters, please get in touch to discuss options with us directly.

Q. Will we be guaranteed a place in every program?
A. We are not able to guarantee places in every registered workshop and event. We will be in touch in Term 4 2018 to confirm your 2019 program.

Q. How much does it cost for schools to take part?
A. The costs of on-campus experiences, in-school workshops, volunteer-led programs and teacher professional development are covered by Widening Participation and Outreach. Please note that we do have a cancellation policy, so in the rare instance of a last minute school cancellation, a cost may be incurred.

Q. Can I cancel my school’s involvement in a specific event?
A. We understand that circumstances change and full attendance may not always be possible even after confirming. It is the responsibility of the school to notify Widening Participation and Outreach a minimum of 7 days in advance if unable to participate in an organised event or in school activity. For more details of our cancellation policy visit: bit.ly/WPO_cancellationpolicy

Q. If I am a regional partner school, can I access all programs?
A. Any program denoted with a regional and remote availability is open to regional partner schools, subject to demand. If your school is particularly interested in a program that is not available, please contact us to discuss possible options.

Q. Can we use the online resources without taking part in the program?
A. Yes, absolutely. Visit sydney.edu.au/wpo or astar.tv and share them within your school.

Q. Can we participate if we are not an EAS school?
A. Widening Participation and Outreach works with selected EAS schools that have been designated S01E by the Department of Education. The bulk of our programs are only offered to these schools.

Q. I am a teacher and I am interested in collaborating on a program. How can I do this?
A. We are happy to discuss collaborations – please get in touch. We also encourage you to submit resources that can be shared on our digital platforms with our teaching community.

Q. Who are the University student leaders and volunteers and what training do they have?
A. Student leaders and volunteers are current University of Sydney students selected from a competitive application process. Our students undergo program-specific training as well as a core program in cultural competency, working with children, leadership and mentoring. All of our students are required to have a Working with Children Check and volunteers will be registered as Specified Volunteers on the Department of Education’s database prior to visiting your school. We conduct regular observations and feedback sessions to ensure consistency, quality and professional standards in their delivery.

Q. Does the University of Sydney have disability access?
A. Yes, the University of Sydney access map has detailed information on physical access across the University, including wheelchair access, designated disabled parking spaces and accessible toilets. It’s best to advise us of student or staff needs on each occasion to ensure a smooth visit.

Q. Is your professional learning accredited by NESA?
A. Yes, most of the professional learning we offer is accredited at Proficient or Highly Accomplished level. There are some exceptions around short, program-specific professional development.

Q. What is the teacher’s role during an activity?
A. Teachers are required to supervise their students at all times during activities. Schools also have a continuing responsibility and duty of care for their students while on campus, for the duration of an event. Widening Participation and Outreach staff and program providers, operators and their staff will also have responsibilities and a duty of care, and will undertake risk management as part of our operating procedures. Teachers are encouraged to actively participate in all activities to maximise the impact the engagements have on their students.
Widening Participation and Outreach
school booking form

School name: .................................................................................................................

Widening Participation and Outreach school contact: ......................................................

Total cohort details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year group</th>
<th>Total students</th>
<th>Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students</th>
<th>ATAR pathway students</th>
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Program booking details:

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<td>Preparation for NAPLAN and Digital Narrative Professional Learning</td>
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<td>Capacity: Whole cohort</td>
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<td>Promote Yourself/HSC Exam Preparation in school</td>
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To complete your registration, please email this form to wpo.schools@sydney.edu.au or complete it online at https://form.jotform.co/sassocinc/2019-school-booking-form by 5 November 2018.

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Our partners

Our valued community, arts and University partners help us to further extend the breadth and depth of our reach into targeted communities. They enable us to provide specialised educational experiences, that students and schools might not otherwise access.

Our partner organisations also often play an integral role in brokering new relationships with schools and assist the University of Sydney to identify students who will benefit most from our programs. The unique experiences and expertise that our partners provide critically support positive student engagement, and increased access and participation in higher education.

Community

Education

Libraries
We acknowledge the tradition of custodianship and law of the Country on which the University of Sydney campuses stand. We pay our respects to those who have cared and continue to care for Country.