

# Aboriginal Summer School for Excellence in Technology and Science



## OUR VISION:

An Australia where Indigenous and non-Indigenous young people experience equality in educational and employment outcomes.

## OUR MISSION:

To engage Indigenous young Australians on a supported pathway to continuing education and enhanced employment opportunities.



“Just thinking about our children and what they achieved at the camp makes me so proud as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander woman. Thank you and your team, so much, for nurturing the students and making learning meaningful to them.”  
*Lory Smith CEC Trinity Bay State H.S.*

“The students who participated in the **ASSETS** program didn’t only take with them new knowledge and understandings of technology, science and their culture but also life lessons and inspirations which encouraged them to succeed further”

*Esther Dudley Science Tutor 2009/10*



“**ASSETS** taught me that I have endless potential and that if I use that potential opportunities and possibilities also become endless.”  
*Brittaney Herring-Cullen ASSETS 2008*

The skills I acquired at ASSETS have definitely paved this road of success for me because it was the foundation stone that showed me being a minority doesn’t make you a minority. You are the bearer of your future”

*Lorraine Singe ASSETS 2011*



“It was a great program and has given her a real boost in confidence, a life-changing experience.”  
*Liz Monahan Principal ASSETS 2009*



**ASSETS** has a proud history as a transformative experience that Engages, Excites and Empowers those who participate and provides Enhanced educational outcomes in the years following.



If you are unfamiliar with the ASSETS program, please read on to see why we are asking you to promote this program throughout your networks and other contacts



**ASSETS** is a unique, annual, national residential science summer school for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 10 and 11. It is fully funded for all participants with no cost to their family, school or community. It is a program that both challenges and supports participants to extend themselves academically, personally and culturally.



**ASSETS engages** participants in hands on activities involving cutting edge science education working with practising scientists and research students on topics and with resources that they will have had little exposure to in the past. This is complemented by an equally engaging cultural leadership component that strengthens their connections with and understanding of their own heritage and culture.

**ASSETS excites** participants about the process of learning. High levels of engagement, exposure to new ideas, resources and equipment and the opportunity to work alongside practising scientists in both industry and the academic world all contribute significantly to this experience. In the process they are also made aware of the range of opportunities that become possible through continued education and the potential for contact with Australian industry leaders.



**ASSETS empowers** participants to take greater control of the direction of their learning and to dare to dream of fulfilling their potential. The cultural aspects of the program empower them to aspire to become role models for their various communities and to leadership roles in their schools.

**ASSETS enhances** the educational and employment outcomes for participants by providing a supported pathway to tertiary study with the active involvement of partner universities, corporate supporters and follow up by ASSETS personnel.



### From those who should know

"I thought the ASSETS program was a great experience, not only the education side of it but meeting new people and learning more about Aboriginal culture and heritage....I learnt a lot of new things from the lessons we took, including programming a robot, building a circuit and forensic science" J.W. Qld ASSETS 08

"...I guess what I am trying to say is if it wasn't for ASSETS I would not be where I am now. I honestly believe it gave me the extra push to pursue a high career for my education" P.F. NSW ASSETS 09

"Ben is currently enrolled in a civil construction course with a view to gaining qualifications for work in the mining industry. His long term goal is to gain an apprenticeship as an industrial electrician, Ben enjoyed his experience with ASSETS and his participation in the program was a motivating factor keeping him in mainstream schooling" W.Y. (Mother) Vic. ASSETS 10

"ASSETS helped me get a feel of university and the goals I wanted to set in place for myself. In fact, it was in the ASSETS programme that I set my first goals and aspirations to paper. Attending ASSETS was honestly the best part of my journey so far" L.S. Qld ASSETS 10

Thank you for taking the time to read this material. We hope you can see you way clear to support both the program and eligible students in your networks by promoting it as widely as possible.