

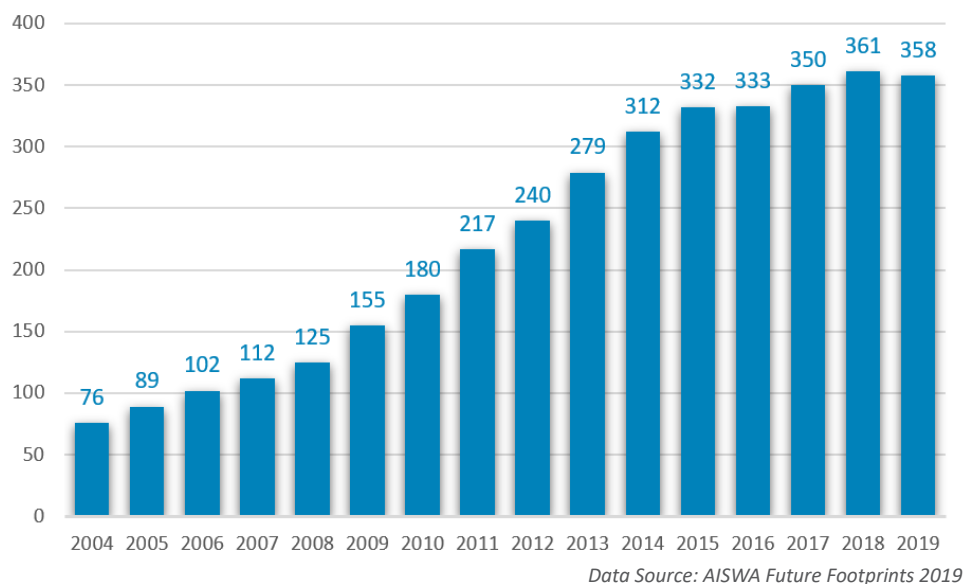


Future Footprints Program

The **Future Footprints program**, an initiative of the Association of Independent Schools of WA (AISWA), aims to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students attending one of the 17 participating boarding schools in metropolitan Perth.

The broad aim of the program is to support students' engagement in education and to enhance their transition to, through, and from, school to further education, employment and/or training.

Program Participation: Number of Year 7-12 Students



The program aims to:

- Increase school attendance, retention, grade progression and attainment of Year 12 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in participating schools.
- Improve the readiness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to transition from school to further education, training, or employment pathways.

Participating schools

Aquinas College • Carmel Adventist College • Christ Church Grammar School • Guildford Grammar School • Hale School • Iona Presentation College • Mazenod College • Methodist Ladies' College • Penrhos College • Perth College • Presbyterian Ladies' College • Santa Maria College • Scotch College • St Brigid's College • St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls Inc. • St Mary's Anglican Girls' School • Wesley College



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Key elements of the program:

- Partnerships between schools and communities with parental involvement an important feature.
- Relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in participating schools are maintained, including vocational aspirations and post school destinations.
- Culturally appropriate mentoring to students, regular meetings with students, family and peer relationships, allowing Future Footprints staff to address boarding away from home issues.
- Teaching and boarding staff are offered cultural awareness training, knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learning styles, literacy and numeracy needs, family relationships responsibilities and health issues.
- Support to existing school and pastoral care systems which provide individual support, activities and resources to maintain students' physical and emotional well being whilst away from their homes and communities.
- Career development information for students, families and schools including opportunities and guidance with vocational pathways.
- Role models and mentors play a key role with students having access to a wide range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander role models and Future Footprints Alumni.
- An annual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Careers Expo where we partner with industry, government, business, tertiary and training institutions.
- Partnerships with scholarship providers and Government organisations to keep families informed of upcoming opportunities.
- A peer network for students while they are away from home with regular meetings, recreational, sporting, cultural and social activities.
- A network of school coordinators and/or boarding staff with regular meetings to share ideas and resolve common issues.
- A social media presence that allows for information and events to be shared with students, families, and school networks.
- Three off-campus workshops held during boarders' weekends.
- Distribution of relevant Aboriginal resources and newspapers to all boarding houses.
- An annual calendar of events.

For **more information** please go to the Future Footprints page on the AISWA website: <https://www.ais.wa.edu.au/future-footprints-program>

