



Walking Together

Artist: Sarah Riches *JURAN* 

“Walking Together” This vibrant artwork “Walking Together” was created by Artist Sara Riches and painted in collaboration with the Staff at the Association of Independent Schools of WA. The artwork is a vision representation of connection, culture, and journey — reflecting the purpose and spirit of the Future Footprints Program, run by the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA). At the centre is a large meeting place symbolising the company and program, symbol representing as a hub of learning and leadership. Branching out from this centre are smaller meeting places, symbolising the many communities, schools, and families across Western Australia who walk together through the Future Footprints Program. These outer circles represent the strong and diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities that support and guide students. Footprints weave through the design, travelling inwards to the main meeting place. They represent the students’ journeys, each unique, but all guided by culture, identity, and aspiration. As young people walk this path, they carry their stories, family, and Country with them. Prominently featured in the artwork is the black red-tailed cockatoo, It symbolises resilience, knowledge, and cultural guidance — soaring above the land as a watchful guardian. The Eucalyptus Rudis (Flooded Gum) is included as a symbol of endurance, adaptability, and strength, growing near water and often found near sacred sites. Its roots reach deep, reminding us of the strength found in grounding ourselves in culture and Country. The two waterholes represent Lake Monger (Galup) and Herdsman Lake (Ngurgenboro) — important places on Noongar Boodja (land). These lakes have been gathering places for thousands of years, where stories have been shared, families connected, and knowledge passed down. They symbolise the importance of place, reflection, and community. Through this visual story, we honour Country, celebrate culture, and look towards a future shaped by strong, proud, and culturally connected young people.