



**wunan**<sup>®</sup>  
Choose your future

Aboriginal people succeeding through  
ability, opportunity and reward for effort



# TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION

DURAL EDUCATION EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

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# DEEP IS A LIFELINE TO A BETTER FUTURE

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Wunan is creating innovative opportunities for Aboriginal students by developing strategies, networks and partnerships that improve educational outcomes and enhance successful transitions into employment or further training.

We are proud of our efforts to create a partnership that has worked hard to develop the Dural Education Excellence Program (DEEP). The program is designed to help young Aboriginal people from the East Kimberley, Western Australia, gain access to high quality schools in the Sydney suburb of Dural.

The program is a new model, involving a small community of students living together in a home setting with Aboriginal house parents. The program is unique in its difference from other boarding and educational options available to young people as it is built on the knowledge that if Aboriginal students are going to succeed when they are away at school, they need to feel connected to home and culture. DEEP provides the extra educational and emotional support required to ensure young people have the capacity and ability to live away from community and family and succeed academically.

DEEP specifically caters for students who would not necessarily qualify for conventional scholarship programs. Homing students together from the same region enables for a stronger



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focus on culture and provides a more supportive environment to increase boarding and educational success. The program has operated as a pilot producing significant success in its first 2 years of operation. The academic outcomes of the students have soared, attendance is 100% (excluding sick days) and the confidence and aspirations of students has increased immeasurably. The program is currently changing the lives of 12 students from the East Kimberley. Our ambition is to provide that opportunity to a greater number of children in the future.

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This program is an important link in the socio and economic development of the people of the East Kimberley Region.

Education and employment are the keys to breaking the welfare cycle and DEEP will play a role in helping to create future leaders.

A key strength of the program is the strong commitment shown by our partners Pacific Hills Christian School and the Dural Baptist Church. PHCS is providing the required educational support and resources to close the educational gap between our students and their non- Indigenous peers.

The Dural Baptist Church plays a key role in bridging the social connection of our Kimberley Kids and the Dural community. Tutors and mentors are delivering both educational homework classes as well as support around extra curricula activities such as music and sport.

The Dural Education Excellence Program aspires to change lives and communities through the power of education. If you would like further information on DEEP or if you would like to consider a financial contribution, please contact Natasha Short at [Natasha.Short@wunan.org.au](mailto:Natasha.Short@wunan.org.au) or call (08) 9168 3881

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

For its part, Wunan is committed to continuing to provide operational funding for existing and future students (approx. \$25,000 per annum per student) to enable them to graduate year 12.

Dural Education Excellence Program is changing lives and changing communities through education - Please join us on this important journey.

[WWW.WUNAN.ORG.AU](http://WWW.WUNAN.ORG.AU)



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