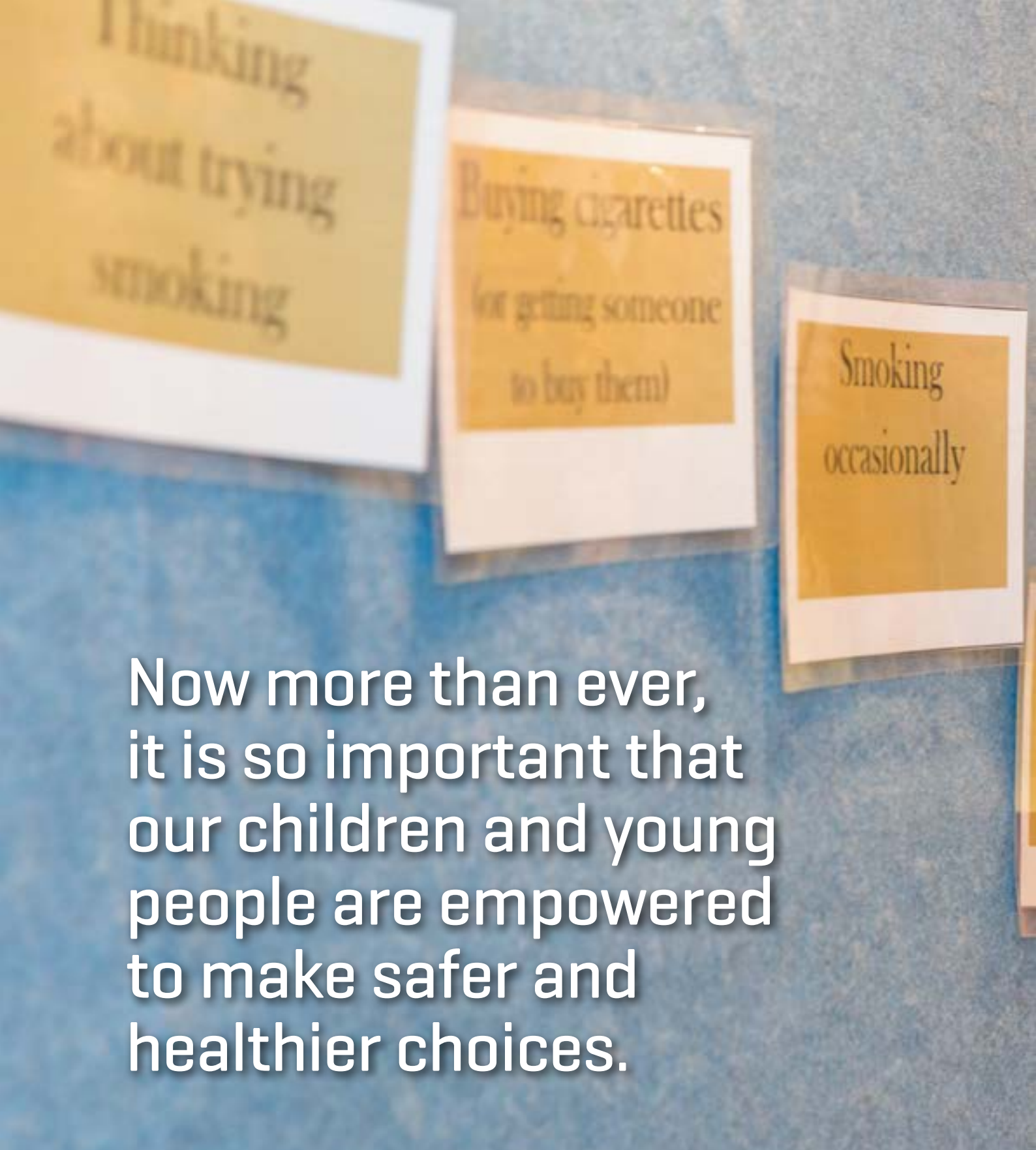




Life Education Australia

2016/17
Annual Report





Now more than ever,
it is so important that
our children and young
people are empowered
to make safer and
healthier choices.



1/3

of young people aged
12-17 say they drink
alcohol with the intention
of getting drunk



**1 student
in every 4**

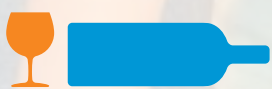
in Australian schools
is affected by bullying,
including cyber bullying



More than

40%

of 17 year olds
have smoked



33%

of 17 year olds
have consumed
alcohol in the
last 7 days



ICE

29%

of 17 year olds
have used drugs
like cannabis and
amphetamines

If bullied
young
people
are up to



9 times
more likely to have
suicidal thoughts



30%

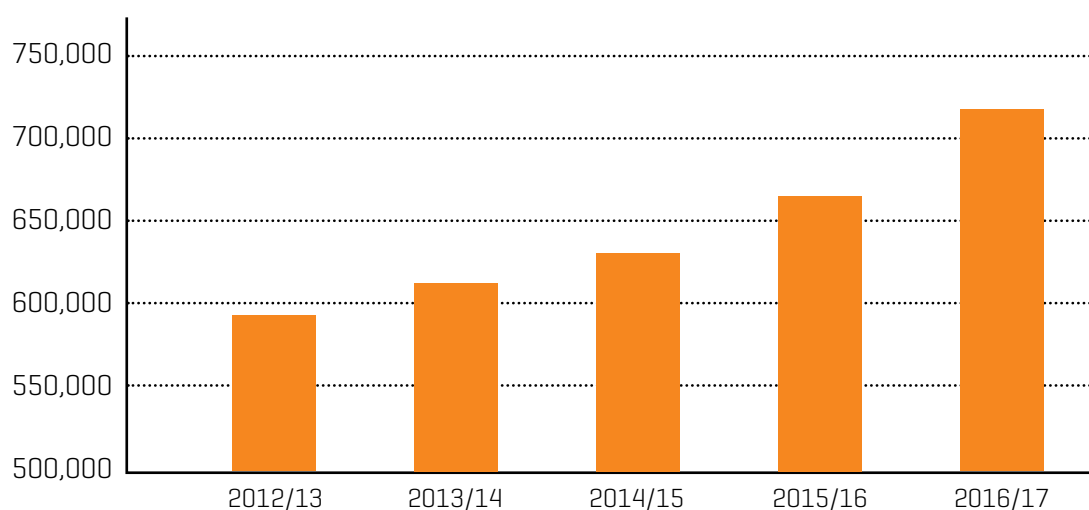
of young people
aged 15-24 years
are now overweight
or obese

Chairman's Message

Now, more than ever, the children and young people of Australia need our help to make safer and healthier choices.

In 2016/17 we delivered our program to 710,000 children in schools right across the nation. That's 115,000 children more than participated 4 years ago when we set a base from which we have since grown significantly.

Student participation in the Life Education program



This growth in program participation is clear evidence of the relevance and usefulness of the Life Education program to schools and their students, their teachers and their parents. When we have the opportunity to expand the delivery of our program, because we have the sustainable funding to do so, we are able to generate demand for the program from schools keen to take advantage of the support we can provide their community.

Why? Because of the critical relevance of our work in these local school communities.

One of the highest priorities for parents in these communities is that their children grow up developing safe and healthy habits – that they develop the wellbeing necessary for them to live active and fulfilling lives. I have been associated with the work of Life Education for 30 years. Our recent growth and development is some of the most meaningful and exciting that I have witnessed over this period. We are better placed now than we have ever been to ensure this priority gets the attention it deserves.

I was fortunate enough to know our founder, Ted Noffs, and feel confident that he would be well pleased with the manner in which we are giving expression to his vision for our work. Ted was motivated by a core belief in the uniqueness and specialness of each and every child – that each was a marvel full of awesome possibility. And our responsibility was to provide them every opportunity to truly understand this – to understand the importance of caring for their body, their mind and their spirit if their humanity was to flourish – if they were to fully express their unique potential.

We have come a long way from the first Life Education classroom developed by Ted and his supporters in the Wayside Chapel in Sydney's Kings Cross in 1979. The extent to which we have succeeded in delivering such a unique and valued educational experience, year on year, to so many young Australians – over 6 million when last estimated – is testimony to the power and relevance of our founder's vision and the perseverance and hard work of our CEO David Ballhausen and all our staff, volunteers, and supporters. I offer my sincere thanks to you all.



Together with a number of my colleagues, I will shortly be retiring as Chairman and stepping down from the Board – this being a requirement of our Constitution. I want to acknowledge Paul Siviour, Lyn Thurnham and Clare Payne, who have provided long standing service to the organisation as fellow Directors. I also acknowledge Alan Cadman (NSW) and Mike McAuliffe (WA) who, in addition to service on the National Board, have also provided leadership over a considerable period at the State level.

There is a positive momentum developing across the organisation as we seek to build on our relevance to society, our position as the largest and most trusted provider of health and drug education to Australia's children, and the opportunity we have to significantly grow our reach and impact. I encourage everyone associated with this important work to remain committed and continue to work hard. I wish you all the very best of luck.

Tony Hasham AM
Chairman





Life Education is Australia's
largest provider
of health and drug education
to school children



We work in over

4,200

schools and preschools
across Australia



710,000

school children participated
in our program last year



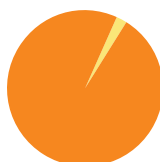
130

specialist
educators



100

mobile
classrooms



98%

of teachers
recommend our program



Every day
Life Education helps
children make safer
and healthier choices

Since its inception in 1979,
and **over 6 million** school children later,
Life Education is still helping children
make safer and healthier choices.

How Life Education works

Our program comprises a significant array of purpose built, issue specific, age appropriate resources for use by our Educators, the Class Teacher and parents, as well as the students themselves. The program is designed to be delivered to small class groups at least once a year, every year, over the course of a student's schooling, inclusive of their preschool years.



We encourage our school partners to think of our program as a 'must have', that sees us working in their school community, year on year, developing in their students, over time, those critical life skills necessary for them to make their own safer and healthier decisions.



Our Program

Highly interactive and engaging educational sessions are delivered to students by professionally trained, specialist Educators employed by Life Education.

Our Educators consult with the Class Teacher before visiting a school, to understand the needs of each class and ensure the program is tailored to best meet these needs.

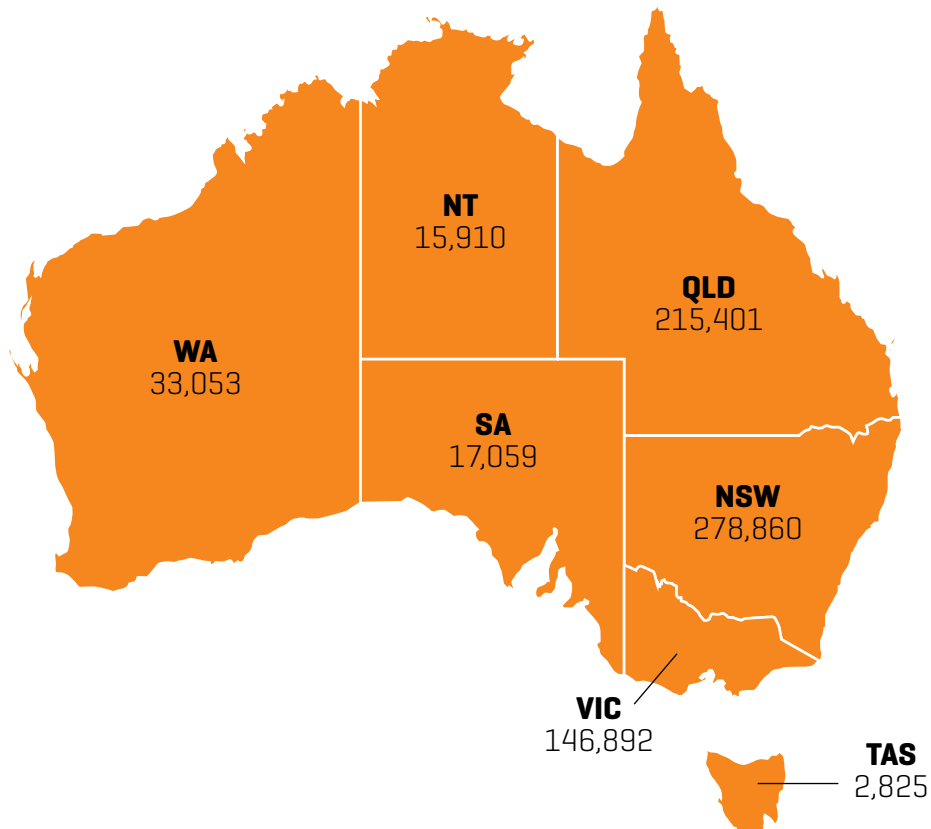
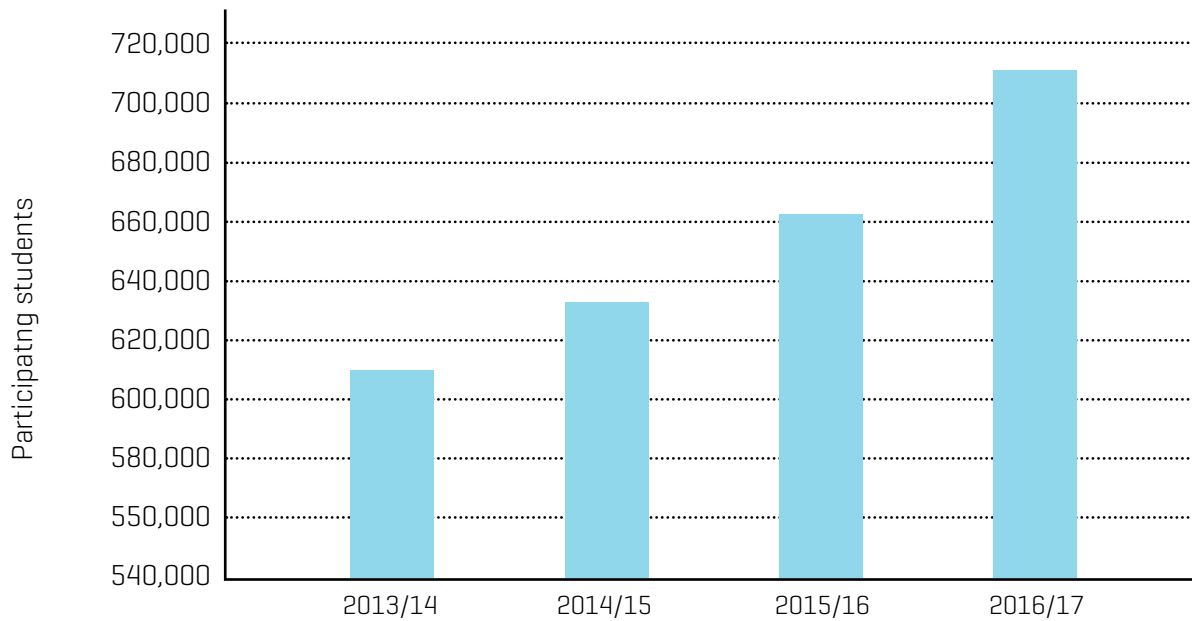
The Class Teacher is provided with an extensive range of curriculum-aligned resources to support the delivery of further educational sessions in the classroom.

Life Education delivers its program in schools using our mobile classrooms. This unique experiential learning space helps children retain what they learn.

Program Delivery

We continued to generate strong growth in student participation in our program in 2016/17.

Student Participation



In 2017/18 we expect to deliver our program to more than 735,000 school children across Australia.



We support teachers
with resources to provide
additional complementary
learning in their classrooms



Teacher Evaluation summary

Over 1,000 teachers responded to a 22 item online questionnaire undertaken after the program had been delivered, and post visit activities had been completed. Here are some of the results that demonstrate that Life Education plays an invaluable role in helping young people make safer and healthier choices



97% of Teachers

rated the delivery of the Life Education program by our Educators as good to excellent



94% of Teachers

agreed or strongly agreed that our program met the needs of their students



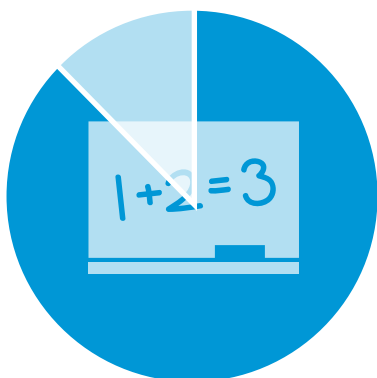
87% of Teachers

indicated they would use Life Education's print or online post visit resources



91% of Teachers

rated the quality of resources as good to excellent



87% of Teachers

indicated that our Educators assisted them in their own classroom practice



97% of Teachers

would recommend that their school re-book Life Education

Life Education reaches children and young people across the country – including those in the most remote areas of the Northern Territory



New in 2016 / 17

As children head back to school amid renewed concerns about cyber-bullying, Life Education announced the launch of its new program module, **Relate Respect Connect**, aimed at teaching children aged 10-13 how to build safe and respectful relationships. The launch of the program received significant media and public interest with Life Education featured on television, radio, online and print news channels.



RELATE RESPECT CONNECT

Years 5 - 6

A unique, contemporary module that explores building positive, safe and respectful relationships. Presented via a series of fictitious video blogs that resonate with young people moving through upper primary school and beyond this module focuses on:

- understanding how to respect ourselves and others
- identifying characteristics of positive relationships
- strategies to help maintain positive online and offline relationships
- strategies to respond to unsafe or disrespectful situations online and offline
- the importance of relationships to our own and others wellbeing

This brings to a conclusion a concerted investment program undertaken over the last 2-3 years, that has seen us comprehensively refresh and upgrade our preschool and primary school program content. In addition to the resources used by our own Educators, supporting their work with class groups, a major effort has been made to create a suite of 'best in class' online resources to be used by the class teacher, prior to, and post our school visit.

Thanks to funding from Bio Island we have recently created new online teacher resources for our middle primary school module – *Mind Your Medicine*.



MIND YOUR MEDICINE

Years 3 - 4

Using a friendly game show format *Mind Your Medicine* develops students' understanding of medicines and their safe use, positive communication, strategies for managing conflict, stress, and bullying and explores how feelings influence the choices that we make.

- factors that influence someone's sense of self-worth
- techniques for effective communication
- identifying the impact of different factors on health and wellbeing
- strategies for managing stressful situations
- medicines as drugs & the consequences of their misuse

The Raymond E Purves Foundation supported our development of new online teacher resources for our upper primary school module – *Think Twice*.



THINK TWICE

Years 5 - 6

Using distinctive animated and vox-pop videos, this module tackles the topic of drinking alcohol in an age appropriate context. Students explore concepts such as the effect that alcohol has on body systems, myths and facts about alcohol, laws relating to its sale and reasons why people choose not to consume alcohol.

- myths and facts surrounding the use of alcohol
- strategies for responding to encouragement or pressure to drink
- physical, social & legal consequences of alcohol use
- strategies to reduce harmful effects of alcohol on self and others

This has completed this phase of program investment. Our attention now shifts to parents, and how we can better support them to best support the safer and healthier development of their children. We are also keen to look at the opportunity for us to be able to directly and meaningfully engage with the students themselves, day-to-day, beyond the limits of our visit to their school. This is exciting mission-led work, all motivated by the desire to continue to enhance the impact of our work.

New for
Life Education

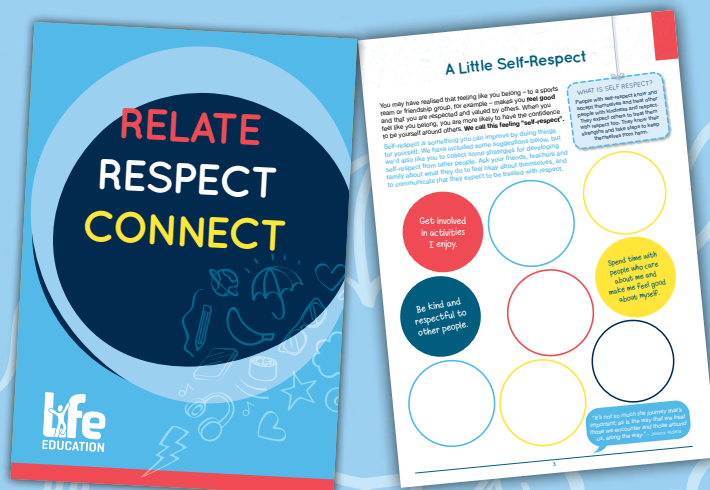
RELATE RESPECT CONNECT

Year 5, 6 and 7

Why is it important?

Opportunities for students to learn how to treat others with respect helps them to develop pro-social moral values and these, in turn, create a 'moral map' for them to use throughout their lives. Engaging in respectful relationships also assists students to create a self-perception of themselves as 'good people'. The skills needed to build positive and respectful relationships, effective communication, and decision making in social situations are fundamental components for promoting resilience and positive mental health as well as future academic and career success.

Interactive student session delivered by our highly experienced Educators.



For teachers and students in the classroom

- pre-visit activities
- interactive online resources
- comprehensive student workbook and sticker
- links to supporting resources

For parents and carers at home

- tip sheets and videos to support conversations and learning at home

"A school culture that promotes respectful relationships also facilitates and enhances engagement and learning"

- Dr Helen McGrath

Supporting students to develop and maintain
safe and respectful relationships.

Our Fundraising

Business partnerships

In June 2017 we were delighted to announce a brand new three year partnership with iSelect.

Our Major Sponsor



We continue to enjoy a strong, mutually beneficial relationship with a small number of additional business partners:



We are extremely grateful for the pro-bono support we receive from:



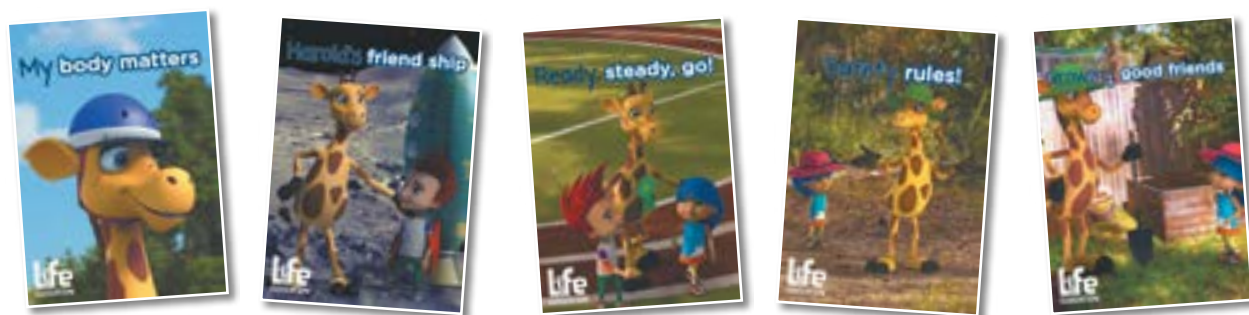
Life Education Foundation

The Life Education Foundation, established by our Chairman Tony Hasham in mid-2015, raises funds to support the ongoing growth and development of the Life Education program. The financial support Life Education has received from the Foundation over the last 2 years has been critical in funding the significant investment made in our program content.

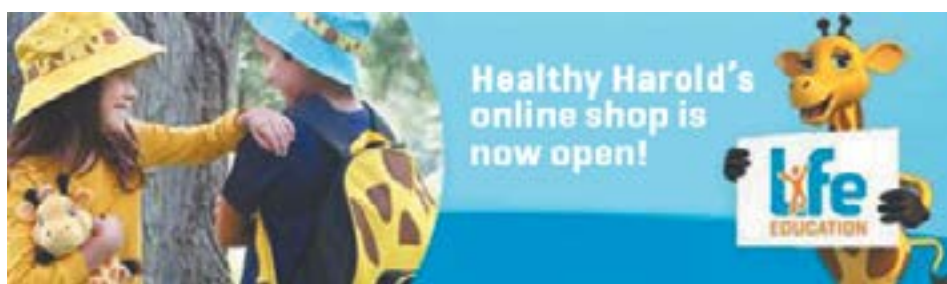
During 2016/17 we were delighted to welcome Garry Browne AM as the 6th Inaugural Guardian of the Foundation, joining Dick Smith AC, Grahame Mapp AM, Harry Triguboff AO, Marcus Blackmore AM, and Paul Wheelton AM. Garry is the Chief Executive and Managing Director of Stuart Alexander. He recently joined the Board of Life Education Australia, and was appointed to the role of Deputy Chairman at its 2016 Annual General Meeting.



The Foundation supports initiatives that are catalytic in nature – that offer the prospect of positive and material change. In 2016/17 the Foundation funded the completion of a major project we reported on last year – the comprehensive development of 5 brand new modules for students in the junior primary school age range, supporting learning in relation to body knowledge, food and nutrition, benefits of physical exercise, hygiene, personal safety, and relationships.



Furthermore, in 2016/17 the Foundation co-funded the development of *Relate Respect Connect*, reported previously. It funded the comprehensive redevelopment of our main digital asset, our website, which will enable greater engagement with schools, teachers, parents, students and donors. It also supported the development of our online merchandise store, the ongoing development of our branding, resource development in support of our work in South Australia, and the undertaking of a literature review that will inform the development of our work in the secondary school years.



Other Trusts and Foundations

We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support of one of Australia's largest independent family philanthropic funds, Gandel Philanthropy, whose funding enabled us to proceed with the development of our new upper primary module – *Relate Respect Connect*, reported previously. We also wish to acknowledge the ongoing and much appreciated support of the Raymond E Purves Foundation.



Australian Government

Having first advised us in early May 2017 that Life Education was to be de-funded, and in response to a very strong public reaction against this decision when it was made public in late May 2017, in July 2017 we finalised a new 5 year funding arrangement with the Department of Education and Training.



Board of Directors



Tony Hasham AM
[Chairman]



Shaun Bonett



Garry Browne AM



The Hon Alan G Cadman OAM
[NSW]



Helen Karabassis



Professor
Geoff Masters AO



Mike McAuliffe
[WA]



Peter Morgan
[QLD]



Clare Payne



Paul Siviour



Lynette Thurnham



The Hon Justice
David M Yates



Robbi Tims
[SA]



Tommi Husband
[NT]



Tom Costopoulos
[VIC]

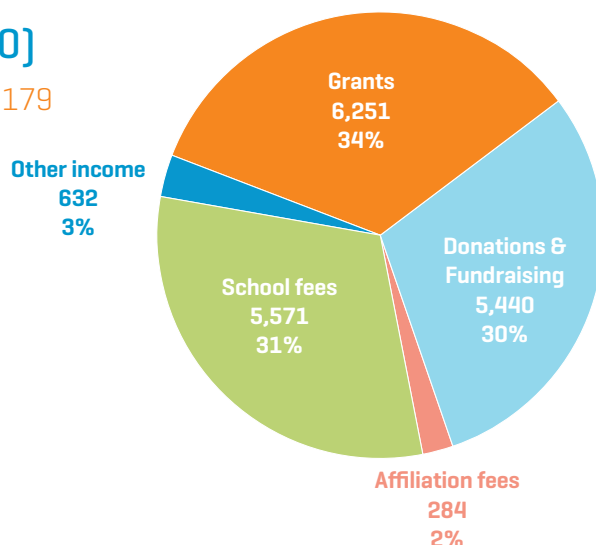
Clare Payne, Paul Siviour and Lynette Thurnham resigned as Directors in November 2017. Sue O'Malley and Alex Collinson were appointed Directors in November 2017. Tony Hasham, Alan Cadman and Mike McAuliffe will resign as Directors in March 2018.

Our Financials

The following is a summary of Life Education Group's 2016/17 financial performance:

Income (\$'000)

Total Income: \$18,179



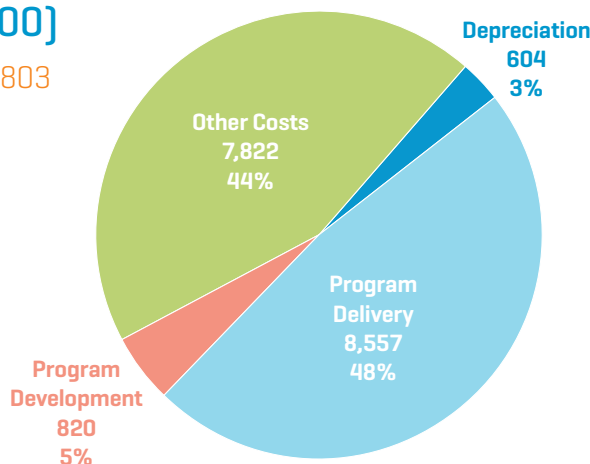
\$6.25m Grants



\$5.44m
Fundraising
and Donations

Expenditure (\$'000)

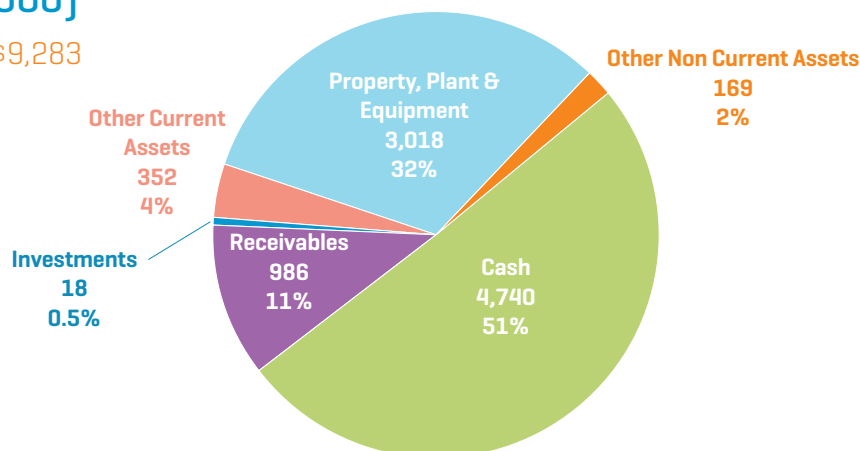
Total Expenditure: \$17,803



\$376,000
Net surplus
Improvement of
\$0.51m on last year

Assets (\$'000)

Total Assets: \$9,283



Life Education Australia [LEA] is a company limited by guarantee. It owns and is responsible for developing the Life Education program (essentially each module and its content, the teacher resources, the student workbook, the parent resources). LEA is also responsible for quality assurance and program evaluation as well as national marketing and partnership activities. The members of LEA include its separately incorporated Affiliated Member organisations – Life Education NSW, Life Education Victoria, Life Education Queensland, Life Education South Australia, Life Education Western Australia and Life Education Northern Territory. The program is delivered across Australia by these Affiliated Members in their respective jurisdictions. As such each Affiliated Member organisation is responsible for employing Educators, developing and maintaining Mobile Classrooms, promoting the program to schools, and overseeing its delivery. The financial information presented above is provided as a guide only. This information has been extracted from the financial statements of the entities comprising the Life Education Group. These consolidated figures have not been audited.

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