



First Nations Education – Clontarf Foundation

The Australian Government will provide \$32.8 million to support the Clontarf Foundation to continue their program for the 2025 school year. Extending the Foundation’s program by a further year will support up to 12,500 First Nations boys and young men to engage in school.

How will this initiative work?

The Clontarf Foundation provides First Nations boys and young men with in-school support as well as before, during and after school activities to make school more attractive, engaging and purposeful.

Why is this important?

Programs that support educational engagement and pathways to further education and employment are critical to retention and longer-term success of First Nations students.

The program plays a pivotal role in engaging First Nations students through a combination of sports and education and is attributed to increased attendance, retention and overall academic performance. Support for the Clontarf Foundation contributes to Closing the Gap in Year 12 attainment (Target 5).

Who will benefit?

First Nations boys and young men will benefit from the support the Clontarf Foundation provides. Clontarf Foundation works with students who would otherwise not attend school or have low school attendance.

In 2022, the Clontarf Foundation reported that 834 boys completed Year 12, and 84% of boys who completed Year 12 in 2021 remained in jobs or further education 12 months after leaving school.

The National Indigenous Australians Agency, through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS), provides commensurate funding for girls’ programs which support approximately 12,600 places in ‘girls academies’, including through the Stars Foundation.

How much will it cost?

The Australian Government will invest \$32.8 million to support the continued work of Clontarf.