



# **ET AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

A Year of Achievement, Growth  
& Community Impact



# Welcome to Our Year in Review



ETASC staff and Alumni members at the end of year Alumni Gathering

Our review of 2024 highlights milestones, accomplishments, and contributions from our students, staff, and partners. We are committed to empowering our community through education, training, and support, and look forward to continuing this work in the years ahead.



# Message from the Chairperson

It is my pleasure to present the 2024 Board Chair Report for ET Australia. In the face of government funding cuts and economic challenges, ET Australia remains committed to delivering high-quality education and support to our students. The board remains passionate about our mission to help individuals reach their full potential, and it is gratifying to witness this happening across our school and adult training programs.

The board extends its appreciation to all our staff members, especially CEO Tony Mylan, for their dedication and enthusiasm for our students. Tony's three decades of service have been crucial in defining the vision and accomplishments of ET Australia. The warmth and commitment exhibited by our staff at the third Year 12 graduation highlighted the connections, engagement, and respect shared with students. The potential the staff see in our students is truly inspiring and pivotal to the continued success of ET Australia.

Our strategic direction focuses on expanding our educational offerings and enhancing our digital presence to better serve our students and community. We are committed to continuous improvement and innovation in our programs to ensure they meet the evolving needs of our learners. The board's governance framework ensures that we maintain high standards of accountability, transparency, and ethical conduct in all our operations. This framework supports our strategic goals and helps us navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

The success of our organisation is demonstrated by the student and staff retention rates and employment/further study outcomes achieved by our students. Despite the economic challenges posed by the reduction in government funding and increasing employment costs, ET Australia has maintained financial strength through prudent management and strategic planning.

In 2024, we celebrated numerous achievements and contributions from our students, staff, and stakeholders.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the Board. I am inspired by working alongside exceptional people with a heart for the young, often marginalised young people of our region.

Tim Cornish  
Chairman



Training College student Kim who completed her qualification in Ageing Support



ETASC Assistant Principal and Year 10 Student



# Message from the CEO

Our commitment to quality education and training has empowered many individuals to pursue their goals.

ET Australia Secondary College (ETASC), an independent high school for Years 7 to 12, delivered a NESA-accredited innovative education model. The HSC results for our Year 12 graduates were outstanding, with every student excelling. ETASC Year 10 students benefited from Future Me Week and work experience.

ET Australia continued offering services through its adult training college, providing traineeship training and assessments across the Central Coast. Our Training College also secured extra funding for Loss and Grief training.

Students in both ETASC and our Training College reached significant milestones, transitioning to higher education and the workforce.

This year at ET Australia saw remarkable achievements, growth, and community impact. Our staff, students, and partners were crucial to our success. We remain dedicated to excellence and adapting to our community's evolving needs.

Tony Mylan  
CEO



Year 11 student with ETASC's Wellbeing Support Dog, Buddy



Aunty Robyn Reid at the Alumni Launch



ETASC Alumni members at the end of year Alumni Gathering



# Community Engagement and Events

## Alumni Launch

Our Alumni Launch was an opportunity to reconnect with graduates, share stories, and celebrate achievements. We were inspired by the success stories shared by our alumni and the influence of connections and relationships.

## NAIDOC Week Celebrations

We celebrated NAIDOC Week with activities including presentations, workshops, and a Conversation Cafe with local Aboriginal Elders. The theme, "Keep the Fire Burning! Blak, Loud & Proud," highlighted the strength and vitality of First Nations cultures.

## Bay to Bay Running Festival

ET Australia takes pride in sponsoring the Bay to Bay Running Festival, an event that saw enthusiastic participation from both our students and staff. This festival not only promotes health and fitness but also fosters community spirit and engagement. Participation in the Bay to Bay running festival is an example of our commitment to community involvement and the well-being of our students.

## End-of-year Alumni Gathering

ET Australia hosted an End-of-year Alumni Gathering, where alumni shared stories and learned about the power of connections and relationships



ETASC and Training College Alumni members with MP Liesl Tesch, Aunty Robyn Reid and CEO Tony Mylan at the Alumni Launch



Deputy Principal Lachlan Scott, CEO's Executive Assistant and Aboriginal Liaison Officer Jessica Pitscheider, Aunty Elaine Chapman and CEO Tony Mylan during ETASC's NAIDOC Celebrations

# Contributions to Our Scholarship Fund

ET Australia is deeply grateful for the generous contributions that directly support our student scholarship fund, enabling educational opportunities and development for our students. In 2024, 27 students received scholarships.

The remarkable contributions our generous donors make enhances our capacity to support students in need, fostering a strong culture of generosity within the community.



# Training College

The Training College achieved remarkable success in 2024, with the following highlights:

- Completion of qualifications by numerous students, including CHC33021 Certificate III in Individual Support.
- Successful work placements and employment offers for students in partnership with local aged care facilities.
- Completion of practical simulations and hands-on experiences, preparing students for real-world scenarios.



Employment Program with Alino Living students with Trainer Michelle



Employment Program with Alino Living students with Aged Care resident



Trainees Kiera, Izabelle and Darlene had the privilege of connecting with Rhonda, a resident at Peninsula Villages and recalling old memories while flicking through her photo album



Students from the Evening Aged Care Employment Program with Alino Living pictured approaching the end of the first work placement block at Killarney Court Aged Care Facility.



# Highlights

## Practical Simulations

Training College students engaged in practical simulations on-site with trainers. These hands-on experiences are key to preparing students for real-world scenarios and challenges they will face in the workplace.

## Graduation and Job Readiness

Our Certificate III individual support program delivered in February 2024, in partnership with The Salvation Army Aged Care had amazing outcomes with 100% of students invited to apply for employment positions before completing their training. The goal is to provide quality, meaningful training that gives students the best chance of securing a rewarding career in the aged care industry.

## Peninsula Villages Traineeship Program

Congratulations to the group of trainees who completed the Peninsula Villages Traineeship Program and earned their CHC33015 Certificate III in Individual Support.

## Individual Support Unit

Students engaged in practical simulations like bed bath scenarios, preparing them for real work experiences.



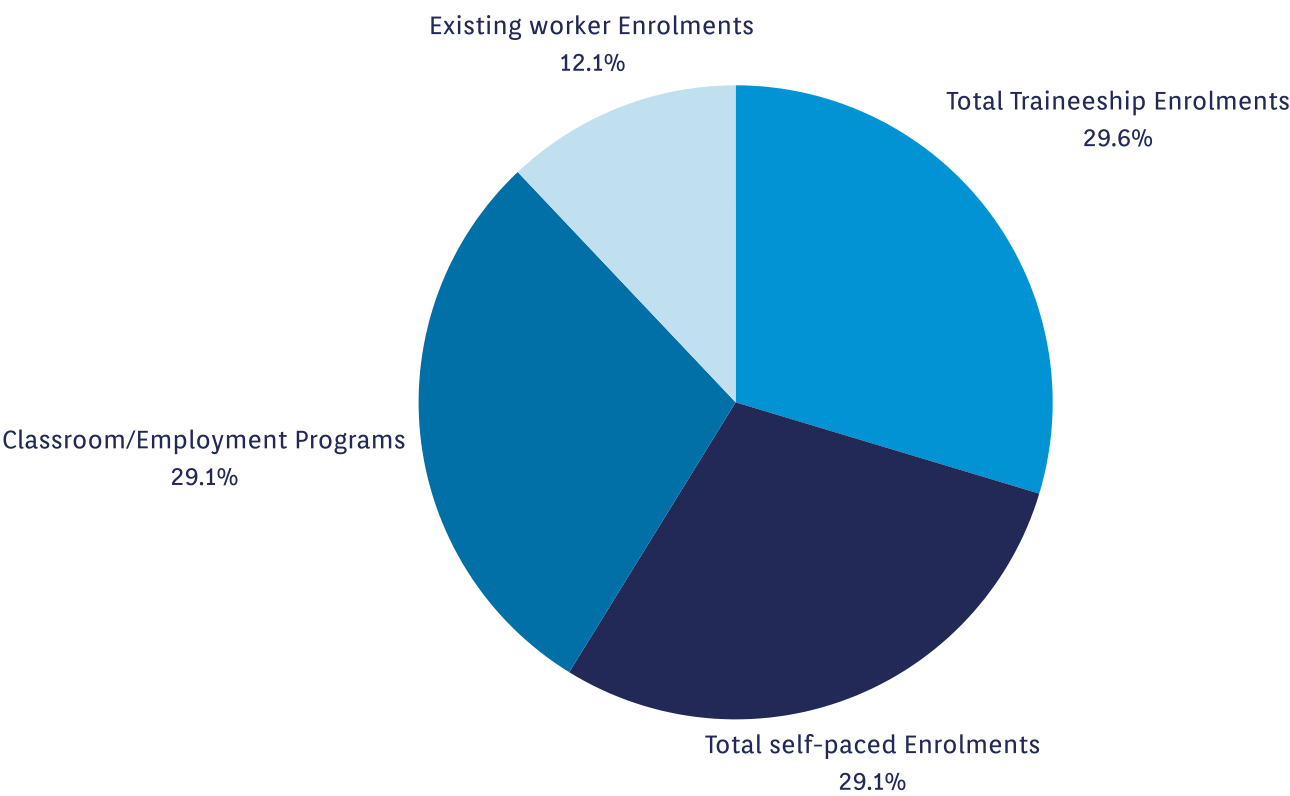
Employment Program with Alino Living students with Aged Care resident



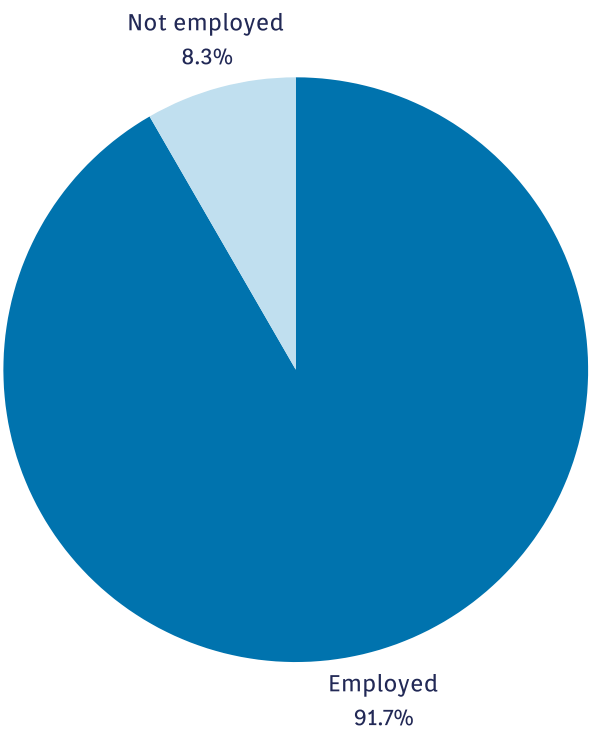
Training College trainees who completed the Peninsula Villages Traineeship Program with Trainer and Assessor Lynda

# Training College Outcomes

199 students enrolled between 1 January and 31 December 2024, showcasing our training programs' popularity.



Job Seeker Outcomes: The Training College also saw outstanding results in job seeker outcomes, with a significant percentage of students securing employment within three months of completing their qualifications. This success is attributed to our quality training programs and strong industry partnerships.





# Training College Simulations

Our Training College has been active, with students participating in practical simulations and completing work placements with the guidance of our trainers. These experiences are crucial for preparing students for real-world scenarios and challenges in the workplace.



Training College students engaging in practical simulations on-site



Training College students engaging in practical simulations on-site with Julian the mannequin



Training College students engaging in practical simulations on-site



Training College students engaging in practical simulations at Alino Living with Trainer and Assessor, Michelle



# ETASC and Training College Student Success Stories

## Mary

An ET Australia alumna, was honoured at the Gosford Rotary Pride of Workmanship Awards for her dedication and positive work attitude. Mary, who graduated from the Training College in 2022, has been working as a nurse at the Gosford Hospital, where her commitment to patient care and professionalism have earned her this prestigious accolade.



Mary Farrell being honoured at the Gosford Rotary Pride of Workmanship Awards

## Ben

A Year 11 student at ETASC, received a Certificate of Recognition for his commitment to his Certificate III in Accounts Administration. Ben has been balancing his academic responsibilities with his vocational training, demonstrating exceptional time management and dedication to his studies. His instructors have noted his keen interest in finance and accounting, predicting a bright future for him in the field.



ETASC Year 11 student Ben receiving his certificate of recognition

## Jai

Completed her CHC43015 Certificate IV in Ageing Support, demonstrating excellent knowledge and care for residents. Jai has been applying her skills at a local aged care facility, where she has earned the admiration of both residents and staff for her empathy, patience, and expertise in aged care. Her achievement in completing this certification demonstrates her readiness to make a significant impact in the aged care sector.



Trainer and Assessor Fiona with graduating student Jai

## Jemma

Congratulations to Jemma Ward for receiving the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Academic Excellence in Year 12 from the University of Newcastle! This prestigious award recognises outstanding academic performance and dedication to studies.



Deputy Principal Lachlan Scott and Student Learning Support and Careers Coordinator Elissa with ETASC student Jemma



# Empowering Future Generations

Empowering individuals through education and training



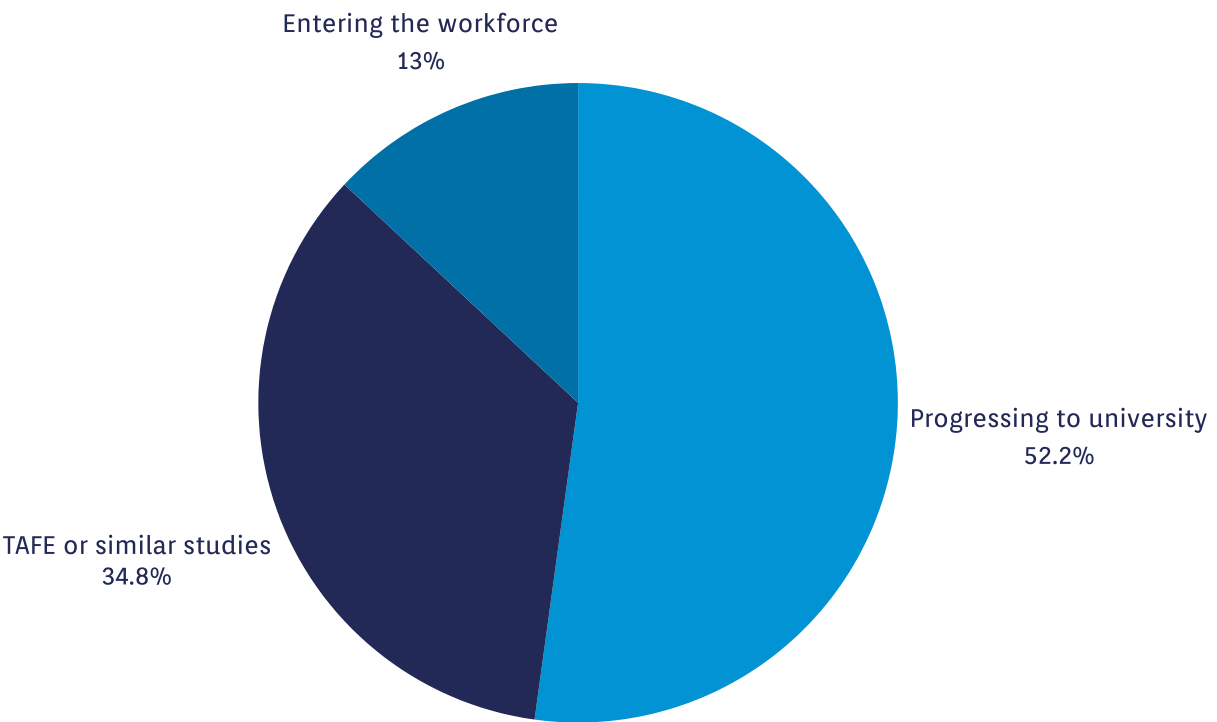
Year 12 students during their final biology lesson at the ETASC Science lab

In 2024, Year 10 students participated in both the work experience program and Future Me Week, gaining valuable real-world experience and new skills. The work experience allowed students to engage with businesses, which generously hosted them, while Future Me Week offered hands-on workshops, guest speakers, and presentations on critical topics such as budgeting, resilience, employability, and resume writing. Notable speakers included Liesl Tesch, Paralympic Champion and MP, and Phoebe O'Kane, Marine Biologist and ETASC Graduate. These activities provided students with practical knowledge and insights, preparing them for future careers.

# ET Australia Secondary College (ETASC)

Student enrolment numbers for 2024 reached the school’s notional maximum, demonstrating the growing demand for our educational programs.

ETASC has continued to excel in 2024, with the following successes and outcomes for our 23, Year 12 students.



Year 12 Graduation Celebration  
Year 12 students marked their final school day with a graduation celebration at the Crowne Plaza in Terrigal, celebrating their achievements with friends, family, teachers, and staff.



# Volunteer Spotlight

Jenny is one of our incredible volunteers who has supported ETASC's HSC students for three years now.

Her connection to ETASC started through her close friendship with Christina, our Stage 6 Curriculum Coordinator and Business Studies Teacher. With years of experience as a podiatrist and a natural passion for helping others, Jenny brings a warm and caring approach to her volunteering role. Her dedication reflects the supportive environment we strive for at ETASC.



Volunteer Jenny receiving a token of gratitude from ETASC



ETASC would like to extend a huge thank you to our wonderful HSC reader/writer volunteers. In 2024, 15 incredible individuals stepped up to support our Year 12 students during their HSC exams. We're so grateful for the kindness and commitment you've shown to our students and our school.

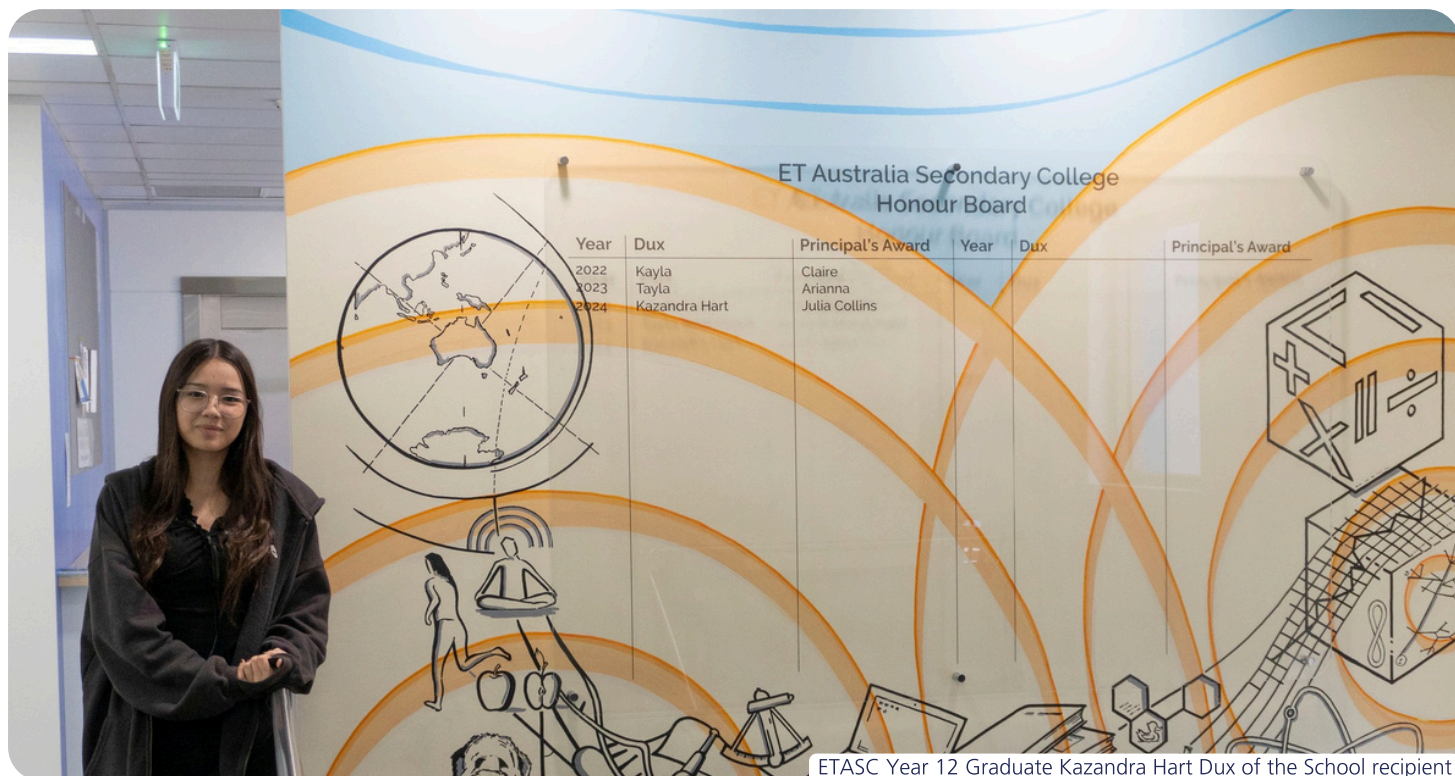
Thank you for being an invaluable part of our ETASC community!



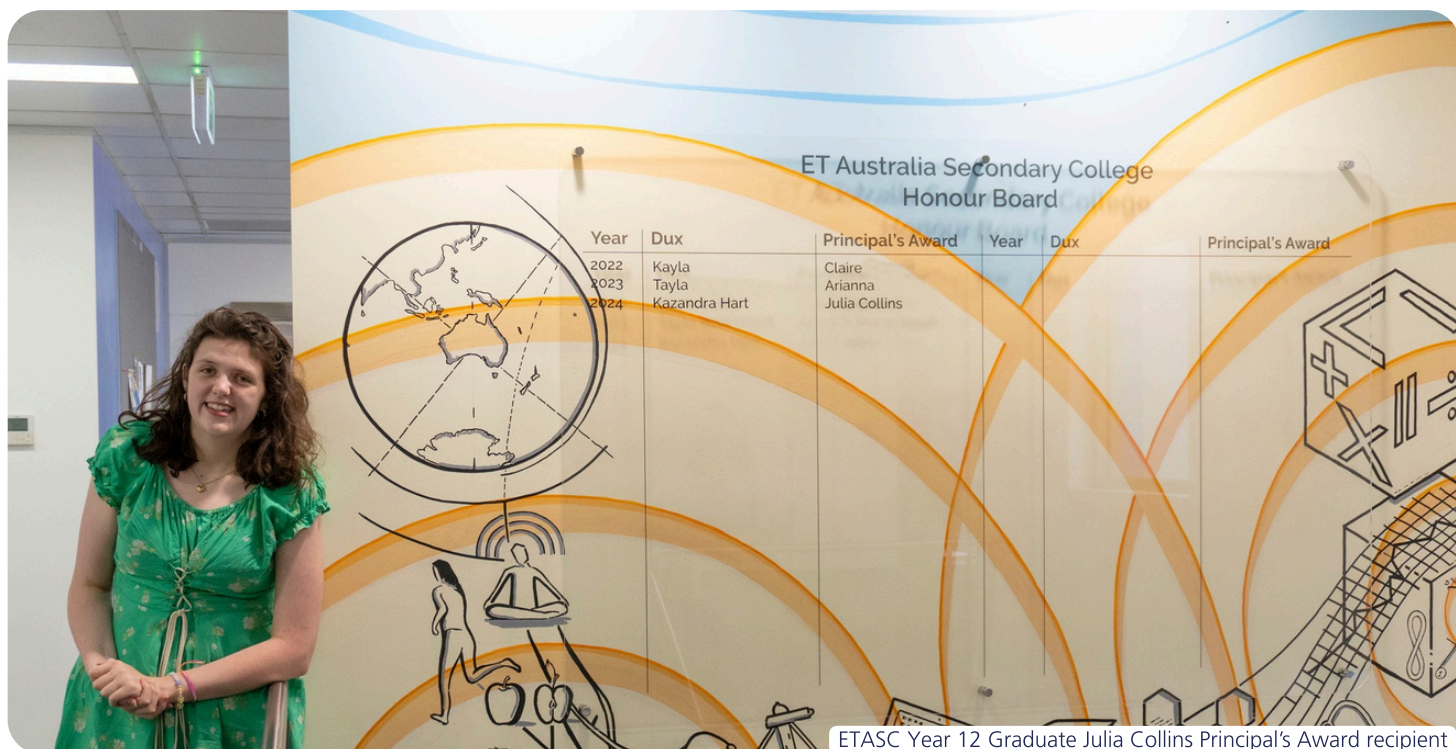
# Highlights

## Year 12 Award Recipients

The 2024 Year 12 award recipients were displayed on the ETASC honour board, with congratulations to Kazandra Hart (Dux of the School) and Julia Collins (Principal's Award).



ETASC Year 12 Graduate Kazandra Hart Dux of the School recipient



ETASC Year 12 Graduate Julia Collins Principal's Award recipient



# Highlights

## Future Me Week

Year 10 students participated in Future Me Week, which included hands-on workshops, inspiring guest speakers, and valuable presentations designed to equip students with life skills and career insights. Topics covered included budgeting and money management, resilience and well-being, employability skills, and resume writing. Guest speakers included Liesl Tesch MP (Paralympic Champion & NSW Member of Parliament) and Phoebe O’Kane (Marine Biologist & ETASC Graduate).



## Work Placement

Year 10 students completed their second round of work placement for the year, gaining valuable real-world experience, learning new skills, and increasing their confidence thanks to the support of work experience hosts.





# Highlights

## HEXCREMENT Board Game

Marcela, one of ETASC's Student Learning Assistants, and her husband created HEXCREMENT, a family-friendly board game centered around dung beetles. Some students played the game, which aims to engage people in discussions about conservation and the environment.



## Interactive Workshops with Consent Labs

All ETASC students participated in interactive workshops with Consent Labs, learning about respectful relationships, boundaries, consent, and the importance of respectful communication.



## Cooking Experience with Chef Luca

Year 8 students enjoyed a hands-on cooking experience with Chef Luca and the team from Piatto Perfetto, learning key French terms related to ingredients and cooking techniques while making traditional French crepes.





# Highlights

## Year 7 and Year 8 Camp

Stage 4 attended School Camp at The Great Aussie Bush Camp. Students participated in various activities that encouraged them to step out of their comfort zones and engage in new experiences.





# Highlights

## Year 10 Celebration Assembly

ETASC held its annual Year 10 Celebration Assembly to recognise the accomplishments of the Year 10 students and celebrate their achievements.





# Highlights

## Year 9 STEM Design Challenge

Year 9 Gifted and Talented students investigated Bernoulli's Principle and the Venturi Effect, designing and building a prototype spray gun powered by a battery-operated blower.



## Clean4shore

ETASC students participated in a clean-up of local waterways with the Clean4shore crew, removing waste and learning about environmental conservation.



## Year 11 Market Day

Year 11 students set up small stalls to sell products, showcasing their business skills and entrepreneurial spirit.





# Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)



Aboriginal artist Courtney Garstang, Jessica Pitscheider - CEO's Executive Assistant and Aboriginal Liaison Officer with ETASC Students during the unveiling of their collaborative artwork piece

Our RAP outlines our commitment to building respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. This year, we have launched initiatives aimed at promoting cultural awareness and inclusivity. We work alongside Indigenous leaders and community members to foster a deeper understanding of First Nations cultures. Our 2024 highlights included:

- Nginarayinggai Ngura (Our Place): ETASC unveiled an artwork created in collaboration with Aboriginal students and local Aboriginal artist Courtney Garstang.
- NAIDOC Week: ET Australia celebrated NAIDOC Week with various activities, including a presentation from Reconciliation Australia's Narragunnawali team, an Aboriginal art workshop, and a Conversation Cafe with local Aboriginal Elders.
- Indigenous Literacy Day: ET Australia participated in Indigenous Literacy Day, an annual event highlighting the importance of literacy within Indigenous communities across Australia.
- Cooinda Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) Awards: ETASC students were recognised for their efforts, improvement, excellence, and achievement in Aboriginal education.
- Central Coast Reconciliation Gathering: ET Australia participated in the 2024 Central Coast Reconciliation Gathering hosted by Coast Shelter.
- RAP Working Group: Members of the ET Australia RAP Working Group attended the Central Coast NAIDOC Community Day at Wyong Race Club, celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.



# Strategic Plan

ET Australia's strategic plan outlines our commitment to holistic learning, sustainability, community and partnerships and organisational culture. This year, we have made significant progress towards our goals:

- **Holistic Learning:** Future Me Week aligns with the strategic goal of preparing students for future employment and study opportunities by equipping them with life skills and career insights.
- **Cyber Safety Talk:** This initiative supports the strategic goal of providing a safe learning environment.
- **Community + Partnerships:** The Alumni Launch aligns with the strategic goal of developing, leveraging, and multiplying networks and relationships.
- **Volunteer Spotlight:** Highlighting the contributions of volunteers supports the strategic goal of fostering a sense of family within our learning community and improving staff and student well-being.
- **Organisational Culture:** ET Australia staff participated in an annual staff development day, engaging in various professional development activities.
- **Sustainability:** The Greater Central Coast Community Funding Initiative nomination aligns with the strategic goal of expanding and diversifying services and enhancing our commitment to corporate social responsibility. Additionally, we secured a grant for the installation of solar panels. This initiative aims to significantly reduce our carbon footprint and promote sustainable energy practices within our organisation.



ETASC Student Learning Support and Careers Coordinator with ETASC Alumni members at the end of year Alumni gathering



ET Australia Staff at East Coast Beverages enjoying a day dedicated to staff wellbeing and boosting morale



ET Australia Training College Alino Living Employment Program student with a resident at Killarney Court



# Looking Ahead

We remain dedicated to empowering our students, supporting our staff, and making a positive impact in our community. We value the ongoing support of our partners and stakeholders and anticipate another year of growth, innovation, and success.



ET Australia Training College Staff at the R U OK Day Breakfast Event



# Acknowledgement and Thanks



ET Australia Training College Staff Member Jess Newman, Training College Graduate Riley and ETASC Graduates at the Alumni end of year gathering

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported ET Australia and contributed to our success. Your dedication and commitment have been instrumental in helping us achieve our goals and make a positive impact in our community.

We acknowledge and thank:

- Our students, for their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to learning.
- Our staff, for their dedication, creativity, and unwavering support in providing quality education and training.
- Our stakeholders, for their continued support and collaboration in helping us achieve our mission.
- Our community, for their engagement and support in our various initiatives and programs.
- Our board, for their guidance, leadership, and strategic direction.

Your collective efforts have been crucial in fostering a supportive and enriching learning environment. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey and for your continued support. Together, we will continue striving for excellence and creating opportunities for our students and community.