

EVERY
CHILD'S
Potential

2021

ARDOCH

CORPORATE

VOLUNTEERING

PROGRAMS

ABOUT ARDOCH

Ardoch is a children's education charity focused on improving educational outcomes for children and young people in disadvantaged communities. Our 2025 vision is to become Australia's most impactful education partner supporting children in disadvantaged communities.

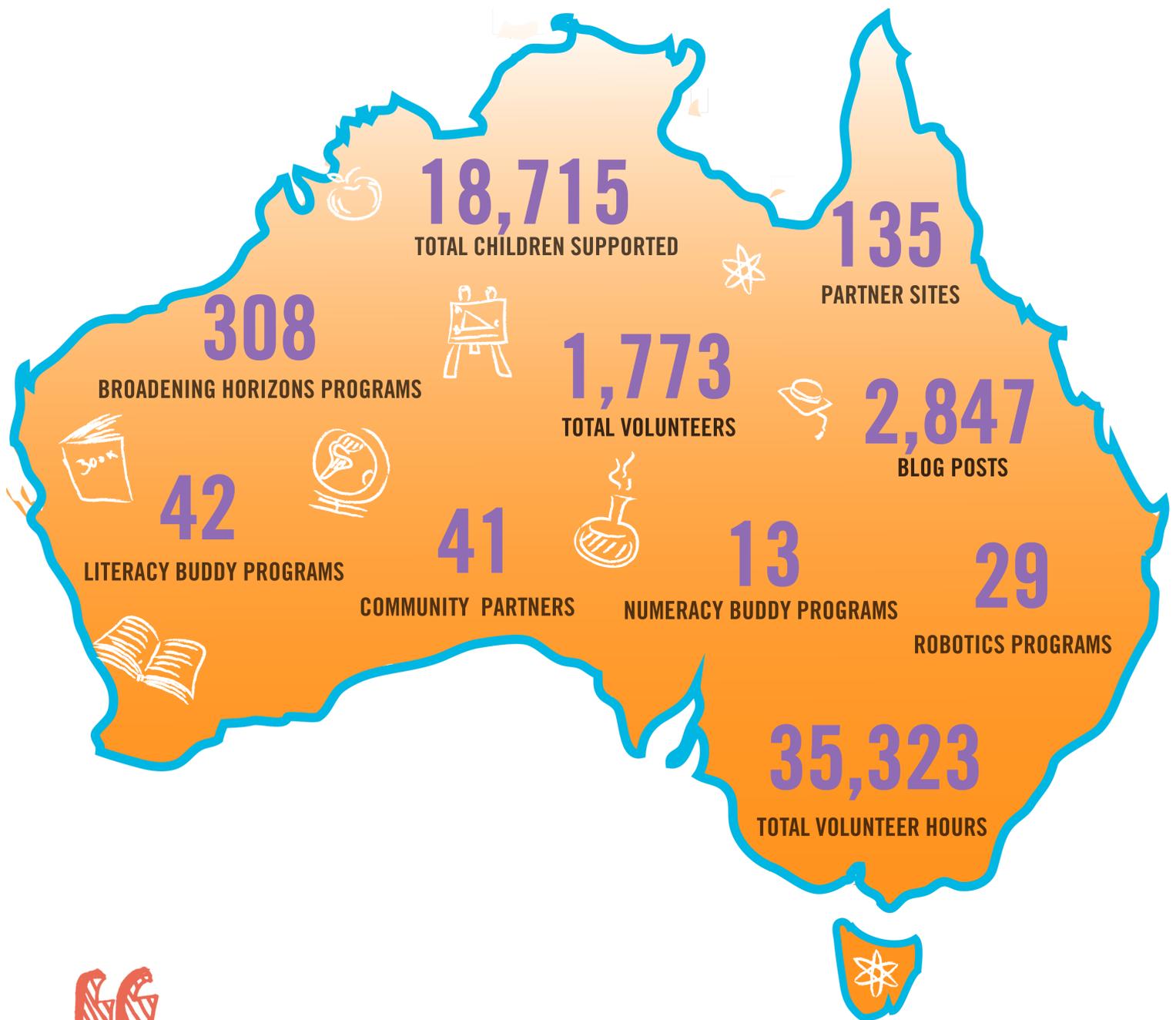
Our mission is that every child's potential should be realised through full participation in education. This belief inspires us to increase engagement in education, build aspirations and enhance learning outcomes of children in disadvantaged communities. We mobilise community and workplace volunteers to support schools and early childhood services. We also advocate for and seek to influence policy change to reduce inequity in education.

Ardoch has worked for over 30 years to build the capacity of secondary and primary schools, early years services and communities. Ardoch's programs support the education of children by developing skills in literacy and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths), providing positive adult role models and increasing aspirations by broadening the horizons of children and young people.

We rely on the support of philanthropy, corporate partners and the community to raise over \$3 million each year. More than 90 percent of our revenue comes from fundraising efforts.



Our 2019 highlights



We mobilise community and workplace volunteers to support schools and early childhood services.

With a team of less than 20 paid staff and an annual turnover of under \$3M cash revenue, we have significant impact through our award winning volunteer programs.

- Kylee Bates, Ardoch CEO



LITERACY BUDDIES

IT'S THE WRITE THING TO DO

WHY LITERACY BUDDIES IS IMPORTANT?

Multiple studies in Australia have demonstrated an unacceptable link between the socio-economic status (SES) of students and their educational outcomes. Across all three subject domains, students from the highest SES quartile substantially outperform students from the lowest SES quartile. The equity gap represents almost three years of schooling for all subject domains." (Ceda, Insights on Inequality, April 2018).

Reading changes lives, it opens doors to opportunity, imagination and empowerment, breaking the cycle of poverty and crime but we have to start early.

Program Investment:

\$10,500 ex. GST

Approx. 20-25 workplace volunteers - dependent on class size



Ardoch developed the Literacy Buddies® program 20 years ago and has since grown this program to now deliver over 40 per year in VIC, NSW, WA and QLD with diverse organisations as valued partners.

Ardoch's Literacy Buddies® program is a letter exchange program where we match a class of approximately 25 primary school students with a corporate partner, pairing individual students 'Little Buddies' and corporate volunteer 'Big Buddies'.

Monthly, hand-written letters are exchanged through the year with two visits facilitated - a mid-year School visit, and an end-of-year Workplace visit - deliverable both in face-to-face or virtual formats to support remote working. The program is designed to give the children a real life context to practice their writing and composition skills and to increase engagement and confidence in literacy.

The program is also aimed at building the aspirations of the children by bringing them in contact with positive working role models.

NUMERACY BUDDIES

SUPPORT THAT COUNTS



WHY IS NUMERACY BUDDIES IMPORTANT?

In today's society, children are preparing for a changing future workforce. Children need opportunities to develop innovation, problem solving, critical analysis and creative thinking skills, but students in disadvantaged communities miss out and can become disengaged. Research shows the importance of engaging primary students in STEM so interest continues through secondary school into work and study pathways.

Numeracy Buddies was first delivered in 2016 and matches a class of primary school students 'Little Buddies' with a team of workplace volunteer 'Big Buddies'. Buddies then solve maths problems together through an on-line blog.

Numeracy Buddies helps children improve their maths skills by allowing them to verbalise key concepts, and by making maths an interactive and fun activity. It also builds the aspirations of the students by introducing them to positive working role models, which they may lack in their immediate surroundings.

The program runs over two terms and includes a visit to the school and also at the Big Buddies' workplace - with both visits able to be delivered face-to-face, or virtually to support remote working arrangements

75% of the fastest growing occupations require science, technology, engineering and maths skills, yet only 16% of Australia's tertiary graduates have STEM degrees (PwC, 2015).

Program Investment:

\$6,500 ex. GST

**Approx. 15 Workplace Volunteers,
dependent on class size**

PROGRAM IMPACT

In January 2018, Ardoch engaged Nous Group (Nous) to conduct an independent evaluation of its Literacy Buddies® and Numeracy Buddies programs.

In consultation with Ardoch, Nous designed a pre and post program survey to capture data from teachers on the functional achievement and classroom engagement of each student. The post program survey also asked teachers to assess for each student whether the program had contributed to progress in these areas.

LITERACY BUDDIES®

70% of teachers attributed student participation in Literacy Buddies® as contributing to.....

53%

of students progressing **twice as much** as expected in a six month period and of these, **34%** making two year's academic progress

Students who completed **six** or more Literacy Buddies® letters demonstrated more **academic progress**



Of the four areas of the literacy curriculum, Literacy Buddies® had the most significant positive impact on **grammar** and **coherence**

49%

of the students making progress in their **self-belief, interest, persistence, and ability to identify and use strengths**

NUMERACY BUDDIES

63% of teachers attributed student participation in Numeracy Buddies as contributing to.....

The typical student making strong progress in **self-belief, understanding strengths and persistence**



66%

of students progressing **twice as much** as expected over six months, in the numeracy curriculum field of data

The **typical student** progressing **twice as much** as expected over six months, in the numeracy curriculum field of **algebra**

$y = \cos x$



Teachers think Numeracy Buddies has more of an impact on **girls** than boys

Linking adult mentors with students in the classroom through regular correspondence is found to be a valuable intervention to support student academic progress and engagement.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



“The Sustainable Development Goals are the fundamental cornerstone to secure future economic and business growth... It is not possible to have a strong, functioning business in a world of increasing inequality, poverty and climate change.”

- Paul Polman, Unilever CEO and Commissioner, Business and Sustainable Development Commission.



Ardoch's mission is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to realise their potential through full participation in education.

Accordingly, in line with the United Nations' 2030 Global Goals for sustainable development, our work aligns with Goal 4: Quality Education which aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Education liberates the intellect, unlocks the imagination and is fundamental for self-respect. It is the key to prosperity and opens a world of opportunities, making it possible for each of us to contribute to a progressive, healthy society.



Our Programs work towards having the greatest impact in these key targets areas:

TARGET	4-2	TARGET	4-4	TARGET	4-6
	EQUAL ACCESS TO QUALITY PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION		INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS		UNIVERSAL LITERACY AND NUMERACY

THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING



“Corporate Volunteering is positively related to employee engagement, organisational commitment and job satisfaction. This presents companies with an excellent tool to impact not only the communities, but also employees’ wellbeing and the financial bottom line.”

- Associate Professor Dr Debbie Haski-Leventhal, Macquarie Graduate School of Management corporate volunteering report

High-performing companies find ways to enrich the employee experience - leading to purposeful, productive and meaningful work.

The 2017 Deloitte Global Human Capital Trends report has identified “Employee Experience” as a key trend in a rapidly changing area of work and reflects seismic changes in the world of business.

With the world of work changing substantially in 2020, now more than ever it is critical for organisations to understand and improve the employee experience in order to increase engagement, teamwork and connectedness. In a highly competitive global economy, providing an engaging employee experience will help companies succeed in attracting and retaining skilled employees.

Research has found that:

- 78% of employees believe it is very important to work for a company that is socially responsible, and
- 64% of employees who participate in corporate volunteering were significantly more committed to remain at their employer than those who had not volunteered (57%).

Macquarie Graduate School of Management, 2013

Research shows that corporate volunteering programs are a strategic asset to help achieve business goals and it is increasingly important, especially within the growing millennial workforce, for employers to be seen as socially responsible.

79% of respondents rate “Employee Experience” as important or very important.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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