



INCLUSION FOR ALL AT MATER DEI SCHOOL CAMDEN

Based in the Macarthur region and established as a special school in 1957, Mater Dei provides early intervention and therapy services for babies and children with a development delay and education and living skills programs for young people with an intellectual disability in years K-12, as well as support to their families.

The underpinning philosophy for all that Mater Dei does is 'Inclusion for all'. Much of their work is focused on providing opportunities and experiences that will help their children and young people develop the skills and confidence they need to be fully included as members of their communities.

One such success story is that of Kate Feeny. Kate was a graduate of Mater Dei in 2011, and believes firmly that her time at Mater Dei set her up for the job she now has at Aquafit.

We interviewed Kate to find out a bit more about her experiences at Mater Dei and beyond:

Kate, what was it like being a student at Mater Dei? It was really good being a student at Mater Dei. I made a lot of nice friends.

What would you say was the best thing about your time at Mater Dei? Being school captain.

Were there any special programs you took part in at Mater Dei? Yes, I did a TAFE course, I worked in a preschool and worked in an office.

How do you think Mater Dei prepared you for your job at Aquafit? Mater Dei taught me about responsibility and we worked on a lot of skills to help me when I left school through the Structured Work Place Program.

What's the best part of your job at Aquafit? I like everything I do at Aquafit because I get a lot of variety and I like the members.

There are many students like Kate who Mater Dei support through their journey. This is where they need to call on the support of the broader community. The funds raised by the Mater Dei Foundation are crucial to ensure that the School and its services can continue to help these young people and their families every step of the way, both now, and in the future. Without regular support, the Mater Dei Foundation cannot provide the funds for vital services to help children and young people with particular needs, and their families.

With your regular support Mater Dei can:

- Continually upgrade and maintain their facilities and resources to provide a contemporary and innovative education to all students
- Keep pace with the latest technology so that every student may benefit from an education that will enable them to achieve their personal best
- Further expand their Inclusive Schooling, Community Access and Structured Work Place Programs to create more opportunities for students like Kate to become fully participating and valued members of their community
- Meet the ever increasing demands for its services with more highly skilled staff and better transport solutions

The greatest benefit your regular support will provide is financial security for the Mater Dei Foundation so that it may plan for the future with certainty



Your regular gift will help support a student like Kate, and their family. If you can help please

1) Fill in the coupon in the brochure that is included with your Superstar magazine, and return in the reply paid envelope OR

2) Contact Simone Wilson in the Development Office at Mater Dei: 02 4655 7481, simone@materdei.org.au

