



AN UPDATE FROM THE MATER DEI FOUNDATION

"In my seven years as Principal of Mater Dei in Camden I have never yet met a parent who wants sympathy. What they want is opportunities for their child. My firm belief is that every single student we have a Mater Dei has potential to be unlocked. That's why I have a vision for these young people, for now and for the rest of their lives, I want to see each of them realise the greatness within themselves". Tony Fitzgerald CEO/Principal

This month the Mater Dei Foundation has launched a new campaign to attract donations for Mater Dei's new hospitality training centre. It's not just a building; it's the first step in a whole new way of providing lifelong learning opportunities and meaningful work for our young people. Young people like Kyle:

Kyle is in year 10. His favourite subjects are music and cooking. He is not sure what opportunities will be available to him when he finished school. He loves cooking and is enjoying his hospitality training describing what he is learning in his classes he says "We go out and buy groceries. We cook nachos and potato wedges and fish and chips. My job was cutting up the potatoes and the vegetables for the salad. We also made chicken wraps and salad."

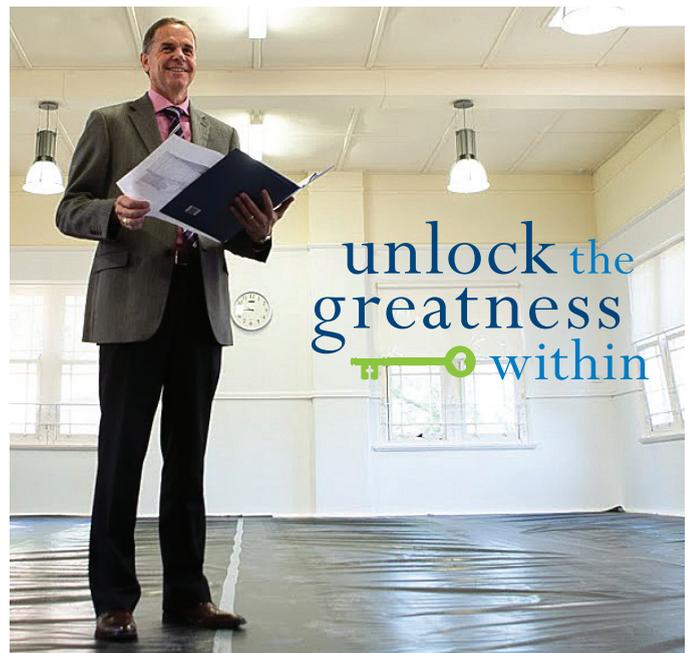
With the right training and support, Kyle has the ability to be a valuable member of a workplace. And when he does go out into the community property prepared, he'll show people how much he has to offer. That in turn begins to break down community attitudes that see people who have development delays or intellectual disabilities as less than able.

Training and helping young people get real jobs will start to change that view.

If you would like to help, and to see videos that bring this campaign to life, as well as student stories, please call Simone on 02 4654 8708 or visit www.unlockgreatness.com.au.

The Foundation is very grateful for recent donations from:

Trustees of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan \$2,950, Margaret Fitzgerald \$1,000, David Southwell \$1,000, Michael and



Marianne O'Dea \$1,000, Mr T and Mrs M Caroll \$950, Herbert Ho \$800, Mr Paul Grew OAM \$500, Lioness Club of Camden \$500, Rotary Club of Camden \$500.

Grants to Mater Dei in 2015 totalled \$81,560, including \$45,000 towards School scholarships and \$36,560 towards Living Skills scholarships.

We would like to also welcome all our new members. We remain truly grateful for your support. We will be in touch with you individually soon with updates on how your donations are helping our young people.