



REALISING CHILDREN'S POTENTIAL  
THROUGH EDUCATION

# ABOUT ARDOCH



SUPPORTING  
EVERY CHILD'S  
POTENTIAL

Educational disadvantage is a significant issue in Australia. One in three children in disadvantaged communities have not reached important developmental milestones by the time they start school. Without targeted, quality intervention programs, most of these children will fall further behind each year, severely limiting both their educational and life outcomes.

Ardoch works closely with schools, early learning centres, communities, corporates and other education partners to identify the needs of children facing disadvantage, and provides targeted education support programs for classes. We help to build foundational skills in literacy and numeracy, connect children with positive adult role models, and enhance social skills and confidence so that children can learn effectively and reach their full potential.

Ardoch supports children and young people who may be experiencing disadvantage, on multiple levels: individual, family, school and community. Entrenched, systemic social issues such as inter-generational poverty and unemployment, racism, discrimination, inter-generational trauma for First Nations peoples and family violence contribute significantly to disadvantage and have compounding effects. This creates enormous challenges for children and young people to engage in education or see a pathway to a brighter future.

Children are more likely to succeed when they enjoy their learning, Ardoch's programs we aim to make education relevant and fun. Helping to increase children's confidence and engagement with their education.

## WHO WE WORK WITH

Ardoch partners with schools that have an Index for Community Socio-educational Advantage (ICSEA) value under 1000, which means they are identified by government as facing disadvantage. More than 4600 schools in Australia across the government, independent and Catholic sectors have an ICSEA value of under 1000.

We also use the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) together with community data about socio-economic disadvantage to identify target areas for our early years work where young children are particularly vulnerable when they start school.

Ardoch currently partners with over 135 early years centres and schools around Australia supporting thousands of children every year.

We work predominantly in metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria in communities facing disadvantage. We also deliver programs in other target areas throughout Sydney, Brisbane and Perth. Our programs support children as young as three years old, through to those preparing for tertiary study.

## OUR PROGRAMS

Our education support programs aim to increase engagement in education, build aspirations and enhance learning outcomes for the children we work with. These help develop skills in literacy and numeracy, provide positive adult role models and develop social skills in children and young people in need of additional support.

Ardoch's **Literacy Support** delivers early intervention programs to improve the literacy and language skills of children in their crucial early and primary school years.

Ardoch's **STEM Support** provides a suite of programs to foster children's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) skills in fun, engaging and relevant ways.

Ardoch's **Wellbeing Support** includes engaging and relevant of incursions and excursions as well as other experiences to highlight the importance of their wellbeing.



## WHY PARTNER WITH US

Ardoch's programs have proved effective in providing children and our education partners with practical and effective support to improve educational outcomes.

- **After six months with Ardoch support, 67% of students showed greater academic improvement than anticipated.**
- **79% of students showed greater confidence in their ability to learn.**

We work to help children and young people create their own vision for what their future, and inspire them to engage in their education. We provide real world experiences and trained volunteers so that children can practice and improve their skills to reach their full potential.

## CONTACT

To find out more email: [info@ardoch.org.au](mailto:info@ardoch.org.au) or phone 1300 ARDOCH.