Established in 2010, the Origin Foundation is our philanthropic arm, and focuses on using education to break the cycle of disadvantage and empower young Australians to reach their potential. Equality of educational opportunity for Indigenous students is one of the Foundation’s key areas of focus.

One initiative making a positive difference is the Gawura specialist primary day school for young Indigenous students from Sydney’s inner suburbs. Housed within St Andrew’s Cathedral School in Sydney’s CBD, it was set up in 2007 as a collaboration between St Andrew’s and the Indigenous community of Redfern.

Children at Gawura have achieved greater than the national average in NAPLAN tests. The first Gawura graduate has gone on successfully through St Andrew’s secondary school and has entered university. This is also a goal for Izak (pictured), a former Gawura school captain. Izak is now a student at St Andrew’s Cathedral School and planning a career as a doctor. Each year, 25 young Indigenous students undertake Gawura’s intensive literacy and numeracy program in an environment that celebrates and strengthens Indigenous culture.

On completing year 6, Gawura graduates like Izak are offered secondary scholarships to St Andrew’s Cathedral School. Our Foundation is proud to be supporting the progression of the Gawura model, to help more Indigenous students like Izak succeed.

Our Grants Program also focuses on addressing the gender imbalance in science, technology, engineering and maths education, equality of educational opportunity for rural and regional students and helping to build a stronger community sector.

Read more about our partnership with Gawura.
Read more about the Origin Foundation.