



Georga Harris, Tyla Quick, Lily Weedon, teacher Lea Hooper, Ella Hall, Henry Packer and Tommy Hoddle.

Youth opps set to roll again

CLARE High School year 10 students will be given an opportunity to take part in a second round of the Youth Opportunities program in 2020, thanks to support from the Kade Macdonald Foundation (KMF).

The school began offering the 10-week program to students last year, but this year is in the fortunate position of being able to offer a second round of the personal leadership program to a further 18 students.

Teacher Lea Hooper said the support of the KMF, with \$2000 funding, meant the program could be extended.

"The school wasn't in a position to be able to fund the program so we wouldn't have been able to offer it this year, we certainly would not have been able to offer a second round," she said.

"It's lovely that in Kade's memory we

can use this money from the foundation in a way that will impact our students in such a positive way.

"Youth Opps has really strong links with improving kids self-esteem, goal setting and helping them feel good about themselves. The Kade Macdonald Foundation has similar goals and so it's great to see their support coming back to help our kids at CHS."

Year 11 student, and graduate of the Youth Opps program, Ella Hall agrees.

"Kade was a big part of our school community so it's nice that we continue to remember him and it's nice that we know the Macdonald family supports us as much as we support them."

Youth Opps helps participants boost personal growth, self-esteem, set goals, improve public speaking and confidence.

The next round of Youth Opps at CHS

will also include a parent program offering strategies to best support their children through the initiative.

Some of the past participants at CHS, now in year 11, said the opportunity had wide-ranging benefits.

Student, Georga Harris said Youth Opps led her on a personal journey of improving confidence.

"I struggle with making friends and communicating with people," she said.

"So, self-confidence and the way I perceive myself was something I was able to improve on."

Lily Weedon agreed. "I came away with a lot more confidence in myself and improved my public speaking," she said.

"I couldn't even stand up in front of the class and give a speech, but at the end of the program I stood up in front of about 100 people and did it."

Henry Packer said his self-improvement through being involved in the course had flowed into other areas of his life.

"I've learned how to better communicate and get on better with people," he said.

"My parents said there's been a good change in the way I communicate at home too."

Student Tyla Quick said it gave her an opportunity to improve her leadership skills and Tommy Hoddle said he would encourage other students to apply to be part of the program and he had been able to action some of his new skills to better communicate with his teachers.

The program is run by the Youth Opportunities organisation, with trained mentors leading the term-long sessions, and facilitated by CHS.

Partnering to support academic excellence and personal growth

EDUCATIONAL sites within the Mid North Partnership are committed to supporting ALL children and ALL families in our communities.

The Partnership has the capacity and expertise to offer Birth to Year 12 learning opportunities and all 13 sites work collaboratively to support academic and personal growth for all.

Public education proudly prioritises "children and young people are at the centre of all we do."

This is seen extensively throughout as we have successfully gained exceeding ratings for our preschool sites in accordance with the National Quality Standards; we are committed to student wellbeing (many sites implementing the highly successful Berry Street Education Model) and offer world class programs including quality STEM learning at Clare High and Burra Community schools.

A strong component of our successful Partnership is the commitment of all educators to work together within and across sites to share learning and evidence-based pedagogical practice.

All our educators use common language, targeted learning goals and strategically plan for each and every child.

All sites implement quality teaching and learning strategies and support learners to set visible, measurable and attainable goals, encouraging them towards further success. As a Partnership, we are prepared and ready for the transition of high school in Year 7 for 2021 after working through this process for many years and being a leader in the state in this area.

The Mid North Partnership also supports a range of long day care and childcare, family and educator-run playgroups, play centres, and OSHC services.

A majority of these services are offered to the wider community and also run throughout the school holidays. This shows a real strength of partnership and commitment from these 13 sites to welcome a diverse range of children and families.

For more information, contact your community's local leader to have further discussions about how we can best support your child/young person and your family in their education journey.



Clare High Catch Up

TO SEEK A WORTHY GOAL

VISION: Clare High School is a learning community that inspires, supports and challenges every young person to engage in achieving success, fostering education, social development and wellbeing.

Continuity of Learning in a strong Mid-North Partnership

It has been an absolute delight, having the opportunity to be the principal of CHS over the past 4 weeks. From day one, I felt welcomed, observed great classroom practice, engaged learners and felt the warm culture of the school community.

All students I spoke to from year 7 to 12, were able to tell me what they are learning, where they can find how they'd be assessed, and commented on their teacher's support. This is an embedded practice at Clare High School, and it provides a consistent approach from year 7 to Stage 2. What does that mean for our students?

- There is a progressive focus on increasing student academic expectations
- There is a stable approach to the way students and parents are communicated with
- Specialist curriculum areas build on each other year by year
- There is a continuum of what students need to know at the end of each year, to prepare them for the next
- When students arrive at year 12, they can focus on skills and content as they understand all other school processes.

Clare High is the destination site for feeder schools in the Mid North. I attended a recent partnership meeting, where there was a clear sense of authentic collaboration with maximising student outcomes at the core. We work closely with all primary schools and kindies, to ensure information sharing and to fully understand each student's needs when they arrive at CHS. Mid North partnership also has common pedagogical approaches like the use of Learning Design to plan lessons, which begins with investigating what prior knowledge learners bring with them. We realise the importance of our student's well being, and work together on addressing common challenges.

My sense of the partnership is that there is a sense of community, where all sites along with families, play a vital role in ensuring each child has the opportunity to achieve their very best.

I look forward to being a part of this journey, and thank you for the opportunity to work with your children.

Maciej Jankowski **Principal:** Clare High School









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