

# STEPS

PATHWAYS COLLEGE

*Creating a  
brighter future*






# *A new way, a brighter future*

Welcome to STEPS  
Pathways College, an  
innovative education  
program pioneering  
the journey towards  
independence for young  
adults living with a  
disability and autism.





A man with a beard, wearing a tan fedora-style hat, sunglasses, a black t-shirt, and white shorts, is sitting on a sandy dune. He is barefoot and has his arms crossed over his knees. To his left, the leg and arm of another person wearing blue jeans and a green shirt are visible. A black and white sneaker lies on the sand near the man's feet. The background is a blurred landscape of sand dunes and sparse vegetation under bright, warm light. A thick white wavy line is in the top left corner, and a green wavy shape is in the bottom right corner.

STEPS Pathways College offers an immersive learning experience, carefully designed to unlock each student's potential.

Within the guidance of our secure and supportive community, we foster an environment where students thrive, empowering them through the development of skills, knowledge, and self-reliance.









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# Welcome

## to STEPS Pathways College

### Principal's Welcome

Welcome to STEPS Pathways College. It's an honour to be the principal and a part of this amazing College.

As the first and only College of its kind in Australia, we provide a holistic and unique educational experience for our students in a co-educational, live-and-learn setting.

And while STEPS has been delivering disability support and education for nearly 40 years, we're immensely proud of our College today and our plans for the future.

We believe our role is to show our students what's possible and to provide opportunities that help them to find and fulfil their potential.

We also believe that learning takes place everywhere. Beyond providing pathways to the future, we're here to help our students become people who will go on to make meaningful contributions to their community.

I encourage you to visit our beautiful College campus and meet our committed and professional staff, and some of our amazing students. We look forward to welcoming you into our College family.

#### **Stephanie Patey**

Executive Principal and CEO  
STEPS Pathways College

### A message from the Managing Director

#### **Inspiring students to achieve**

Our aim is to encourage each and every student to strive to achieve greatness in their own lives through newfound independence realised at STEPS Pathways College.

Students will learn how to make those important decisions and choices in life that lead to happiness and the attainment of life goals.

While at the College we want our students to grasp every opportunity to learn and grow – be creative, explore, make friends, take extra time to study, ask questions, and be brave.

Skills and experiences gained at STEPS Pathways College will help students create a life of their own design. I look forward to sharing the exciting journey of our students as they embark on their pathway to independence.

#### **Carmel Crouch AM**

Managing Director  
STEPS







Growing a  
brighter  
future  
for our  
community

Autism  
Treasures

Autism  
Treasures



# Our Commitment

## *Creating a brighter future*

At STEPS Pathways College, we are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of our students.

We aim to empower them, providing opportunities for learning and growth that extend beyond traditional education.

Our focus is on life skills and independence, providing practical training that enables our students to navigate the world with confidence and self-reliance.

In line with STEPS' commitment, we strive to open doors to new possibilities and foster a sense of accomplishment that can change lives for the better.





# Our Values

## Courage

Courage is at the heart of our mission at STEPS Pathways College. We encourage our students to step outside their comfort zones, to tackle new challenges, and to embrace the journey towards independence. We also embody courage as an institution, pushing boundaries in educational methodologies, striving to make a real impact on our students' futures.

## Integrity

We are committed to creating an environment that champions honesty, transparency, and accountability. We encourage our students to practice integrity in their actions, fostering a sense of responsibility and respect for themselves and others. Our pledge is to deliver our promise of independent living skills education without compromise.

## Respect

We believe in treating each individual with dignity and consideration, valuing their unique perspectives and contributions. Our students learn to apply respect in their daily lives, appreciating diversity and the importance of mutual understanding in building harmonious relationships.

## Understanding

We strive to understand our students' aspirations, strengths, and challenges, tailoring learning to meet their unique needs. We encourage empathy and understanding among our students, fostering a supportive community where everyone feels seen, heard, and valued. Through this, we aim to nurture compassionate individuals who are equipped to contribute positively to society.





# Our Approach

## Knowledge, Experience & Understanding

We've been helping people with a disability pave pathways to independence since 1989. Our dedicated team is not only experienced in disability support services but deeply committed to fostering the growth, confidence, and potential of each student.

The curriculum at STEPS Pathways College is a testament to our expertise and commitment. Created by our skilled education and training team in collaboration with our behavioural support and occupational health specialists, and pathways to employment teams, it's more than just a set of classes—it's a roadmap to independent living.

Our comprehensive understanding of the disability support landscape, underpinned by decades of working closely with young people with disabilities and autism, has enabled us to design a holistic curriculum that is thoughtfully tailored to each student's needs. It provides a contextualised learning experience aimed at not just imparting knowledge and skills but also fostering the ability to apply these skills effectively in real-life scenarios.

We don't just prepare our students for the now; we equip them with the skills and confidence they need to live independently, both now and into their future.





# Pillars of Independence

Our approach to fostering independence is guided by three pillars: **Self, Knowledge, and Connection.**

Each pillar supports the other, creating a holistic, balanced approach to learning and growth. We firmly believe that by understanding oneself, gaining relevant knowledge, and establishing meaningful connections, our students are empowered to lead truly independent lives. This comprehensive and interconnected approach forms the cornerstone of our unique educational offering at STEPS Pathways College.

## Self

We emphasise self-discovery and self-care as vital aspects of independence. We encourage our students to delve into their own interests, strengths, and aspirations, while also focusing on their physical and emotional wellbeing. Understanding oneself forms the foundation for achieving personal and independent life goals.

## Knowledge

Building on the foundation of self-understanding, we foster a rich learning environment where students acquire essential skills necessary for independence. Our comprehensive curriculum not only equips our students with practical life skills, but it also aids them in setting realistic goals and strategising ways to achieve them. Knowledge is the key that unlocks the door to a successful and independent life.

## Connect

The journey towards independence doesn't occur in isolation. Thus, we advocate for strong community ties and meaningful interactions. Our students are provided with ample opportunities to connect with others, build friendships, and participate actively within their community. Connection creates a network of support, enhances social skills, and enriches the students' overall experience.

- What do I want?

- What am I good at?

- Keeping safe and well

Self

Knowledge

- What do I need to know to achieve my life goals?

Connect

- Community
- Meaningful Interactions

- Friendship
- Support



# Learning at Pathways



## Unlocking Potential

At STEPS Pathways College, we understand that every student is unique and we are committed to nurturing their aspirations while equipping them with essential life skills. Our comprehensive curriculum respects the pace and learning style of each student, guiding them confidently towards a self-reliant future.



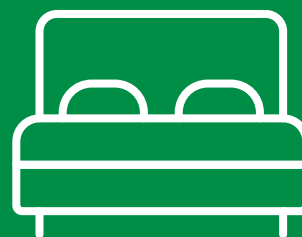
# Progressive Paths to Independence: Our Portfolio

STEPS Pathways College's portfolio caters to diverse needs, ensuring our students find the right fit for their journey towards independence.



*Day College*

The **Day College**, offers an immersive educational experience. Students engage directly with the curriculum and community, practising real-life skills within a supportive framework.



*Boarding College*

The **Boarding College** is a unique residential experience, where students build confidence and capability, experiencing independence in a secure and supportive environment.

The Day College and Boarding College both stand on its own merit, yet offers the potential to act as a stepping stone for those students ready to embrace the next challenge in their journey. Together, these reflect the diverse pathways to independence that STEPS Pathways College proudly offers.

*As parents, we've always had a dream for Sebastien that he'd be fully included in our community and for him to pursue his dreams. We want him to have a life as good as his sisters, and he will. We can already see that pathway opening up in front of him, so it's very exciting."*

*Brian, father of STEPS Pathways College student*



# Empowering Independence: STEPS Pathways Day College

The Day College is our core offering at STEPS Pathways College, established from our commitment to fostering independence and growth in young adults living with a disability and autism. With a curriculum that echoes our 30+ years of expertise in disability support, the program can span up to two years, immersing students in key areas of learning that promote self-reliance and community participation.

Leveraging the unique approach of experiential learning, the program empowers students to attend in-class sessions three days per week, where skills essential for independent living are unpacked, learned, and subsequently applied in the community. This immersion cultivates a deeper understanding and mastery of these skills, fostering a sense of control and autonomy over their lives.

Our curriculum is carefully structured around specially designed key learning areas aimed at nurturing a holistic understanding of the essentials for an independent life. To supplement this learning, students can participate in elective subjects such as gardening skills, hospitality, and employment pathways.

Each student's journey is personal and distinctive. We respect this by ensuring regular check-ins and customising the learning experience according to individual needs and progress. As students progress, they can explore options such as continuing their education through the Boarding College, or seeking opportunities within the broader STEPS community.

STEPS Pathways Day College represents a harmonious blend of rigorous learning, engaging community participation, and personalised support, enabling students to carve their pathways to independence.

learning



community



education





# Boarding at STEPS Pathways College

## A Journey Towards Independence

At STEPS Pathways College, we offer more than education. We design experiences that empower young adults with a disability and autism to stride confidently towards an independent future. Our most advanced program providing students with life-changing skills is the STEPS Pathways College Boarding Program.

## A Unique Living Experience

The Boarding Program provides a safe and secure residential setting, fostering an environment of supportive camaraderie. Here, students live and learn together, enabling them to navigate daily tasks, build relationships, and experience independent living. It's a life-changing step into a world where students discover their abilities, express their personalities, and manage their own spaces.

## Everyday Skills, Every Day

Living at STEPS Pathways College is a dynamic lesson in life skills. Students participate in daily chores, meal preparation, and personal budgeting, each task a stepping-stone towards self-reliance. The boarding experience is enriched by access to amenities such as fully equipped kitchens, laundry facilities, and recreation zones.

## Supportive Learning Environment

Our team of dedicated support trainers is always on hand, providing guidance and assistance, as students transition from learning to living independent lives. Their approach merges professional expertise with a nurturing, supportive presence, developing students' confidence to navigate life independently.

## Community and Connection

Beyond practical skills, our Boarding Program also cultivates a sense of community and promotes meaningful connections. Students engage with peers, develop friendships, and contribute to the vibrant college culture. These social interactions equip students with interpersonal skills necessary for community participation and forging supportive networks.

Our Boarding Program is an immersive journey, a seamless blend of learning and living. It embodies the essence of STEPS Pathways College's approach to learning: fostering independence through education, experience, and connection.





## A Day in the Life of a Boarding Student

At STEPS Pathways College, boarding students embark on an exciting journey towards independence every day. They thrive within an environment that encourages growth, exploration, and the formation of lasting relationships.

### Days

Days begin with students managing their own morning routines with support from trainers, learning how to prepare their breakfast and tidy their living spaces. This mimics real-life independence but with a comforting safety net of support.

In the classroom, students delve into knowledge building activities, encompassing areas like healthy living and financial literacy.

Afternoons might be filled with shopping, meal planning, learning new cooking skills, or excursions that support learning and community connections.

Students may also choose to take part in health and recreational activities that promote holistic wellbeing.

### Evenings

Evenings allow time for students to relax and unwind, enjoying time with flat mates in their own apartments. They can also choose to spend time in one of the College's communal areas to share meals and enjoy the company of other students before bedtime.

### Weekends

Just like everyone living independently weekends are for enjoyment, but there are still some responsibilities such as household chores. Weekends for boarding students are filled with social outings, quality relaxation time, and home maintenance, mirroring everyday life scenarios.

During the holiday periods over Easter and Christmas, students can return home or choose alternate arrangements, providing the opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends.

**At STEPS Pathways Boarding College, each day is an empowering step towards a future of self-reliance.**

connection



wellbeing





# Fun & Friendship

At STEPS Pathways College, learning extends beyond the classroom into a world of creativity, fun, and friendship.

Weekdays are filled with activities that foster joy and camaraderie among our students. Weekends are a time for exploring the wider community – visiting local markets, enjoying nature walks, having beach BBQs, and attending movies.

These experiences are designed not just for recreation, but to promote friendships and social connections, helping our students to thrive personally and socially, and preparing them for a confident, independent future.

*There's acceptance here.  
There's true friendships  
that are being formed  
and hopefully lifelong  
friendships."*

*Kim, mother of STEPS Pathways  
College student*

## Camping at Stradbroke Island

The annual camp on South Stradbroke Island is a wonderful escapade that offers our students a vibrant blend of fun, friendship, and adventure! Hosted in partnership with The Southport School (TSS), our students are invited to experience the thrill of camping at their top-notch facilities in the June school holidays.

The adventure begins with pre-camp preparations, providing students with hands-on experience in travel planning. They'll learn what to pack, essential camp items to bring along, and the art of preparing for a trip, enhancing their skills in organisation and decision-making.

Once on Stradbroke Island, our students will immerse themselves in a plethora of exciting activities in a stunning natural setting, fostering a spirit of adventure and exploration. But it's more than just a camp. It's an opportunity to extend their social interactions beyond the college, building bonds of friendship and experiencing the joy of holidaying with peers.

What's more, TSS senior students will be there to assist, facilitating an enriching environment of camaraderie, mutual learning, and support. It's an experience that will bolster their independence, while ensuring their wellbeing and enjoyment take centre stage. Our annual camp is more than a trip – it's a cherished memory in the making!

independance



creativity





# Wellbeing

We believe that wellbeing extends beyond the classroom, contributing significantly to the personal growth and happiness of our students. At STEPS Pathways College students are immersed in a holistic environment designed to cultivate physical health, emotional resilience, and social connections.

Our students learn the essentials of healthy living, from mastering the art of cooking nutritious meals to participating in regular physical activities, such as gym workouts and maintaining our vibrant community garden. We understand that a healthy body fosters a healthy mind and leads to positive learning and personal outcomes.

But wellness at STEPS Pathways isn't just about physical health. We provide an enriching social atmosphere that encourages interaction, collaboration, and the building of lifelong friendships. These social experiences are vital for emotional wellbeing, self-esteem, and the development of valuable interpersonal skills.

We take pride in our robust support structure, featuring dedicated Student Support Officers and Behaviour Support staff. These professionals are committed to fostering a nurturing and safe environment, assisting with conflict resolution, emotional wellbeing, and emotional regulation. They work tirelessly to ensure every student feels valued, heard, and supported.

Moreover, we believe in the power of mindfulness. It's an integral part of our approach, promoting self-awareness, stress reduction, and emotional balance. Through mindfulness, our students gain the tools to navigate life's challenges with grace and resilience.

**Our students' wellbeing is our priority, and we are committed to providing a nurturing, safe, and engaging environment for them to grow and flourish.**





# Pathways to Employment

Preparing students for employment is not only an important aspect of their journey to independence but also a fundamental component of personal development.

Building a future with meaningful employment enhances self-esteem, fosters social connections, and provides a sense of purpose.

Our unique programs, like the Cafe, Gardening and Cookery Skills Programs are designed to equip students with practical skills that are in demand in the real world, supporting their chances of success in their chosen careers.

## Café Skills Program

Students at STEPS Pathways College have the opportunity to gain the essential skills needed to take on every aspect of their new independent lives. To help our students become work-ready, we have created a fully functional training cafes, Café on George, at our Caloundra campus.

Our training café is open to the public and operates exclusively with young adults with disabilities and autism to help them learn industry skills, as well as important employability skills, in a safe and supported environment.

Students have the chance to undertake valuable training and work experience, learning skills such as how to make coffee, create sandwiches, serve customers, take orders, and maintain kitchen hygiene.

Any profits made at Cafe on George go directly back to supporting students at STEPS Pathways College and creating a brighter future for young adults with a disability and autism.

*My son Thomas is 30 years old and has Down Syndrome. He graduated from STEPS Pathways College and moved to Melbourne, where he is living his dream."*

*Marie, Mother of  
STEPS Pathways College graduate*





## Gardening Skills

We're proud to offer our unique STEPS Gardening Program, an innovative blend of nursery skills and vocational training designed to equip students with essential skills while fostering a love for nature.

The Gardening Program allows students to explore an array of competencies in horticulture, such as plant and weed identification, propagation, and the cultivation and harvesting of vegetables and herbs.

Our STEPS Gardening Program also extends into retail garden skills and garden maintenance, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the field. We place a strong emphasis on Workplace Health and Safety (WHS), ensuring our students are well-versed in best practices.

The STEPS Garden Centre is a chance for students to expand their horizons, make new friends, and grow their skill sets in a nurturing and supportive environment. They'll also gain practical knowledge and confidence, enhancing their potential for future employment opportunities.

## Cookery Skills

Students learn how to work safely and efficiently in a professional kitchen setting. They practise food safety and hygiene, prepare a range of fresh ingredients, and develop confidence using kitchen tools and equipment.

Teamwork, timing, and clear communication are key areas of focus, giving students a strong foundation for both home cooking and future employment.







## Mini Woollies

Developed in partnership with Woolworths Group, our immersive Mini Woollies space replicates a functioning supermarket within a classroom, complete with shelves, signage, baskets, registers and branded uniforms.

The initiative offers students the opportunity to practise numeracy, communication and customer service skills in a safe and supportive environment.

## Pathways to Plate

Pathways to Plate is a holistic journey with purpose and heart.

Through STEPS Pathways College's Garden Skills, Cookery Skills and Café Skills programs, students learn how to grow fresh produce, prepare meals with support from trained chefs, and help bring their creations to life for others to enjoy.

Created through a unique collaboration between our College, STEPS Café on George, STEPS Garden Centre and STEPS Pathways Charity, this initiative connects what our students grow and cook in class with the food and products enjoyed by our community.

*I'm happy to have the trainers in my life they are all really awesome."*

Kate-Lyn,  
STEPS Pathways College graduate



# Campus & Facilities

Students from all corners of Australia choose STEPS Pathways College as their home away from home.

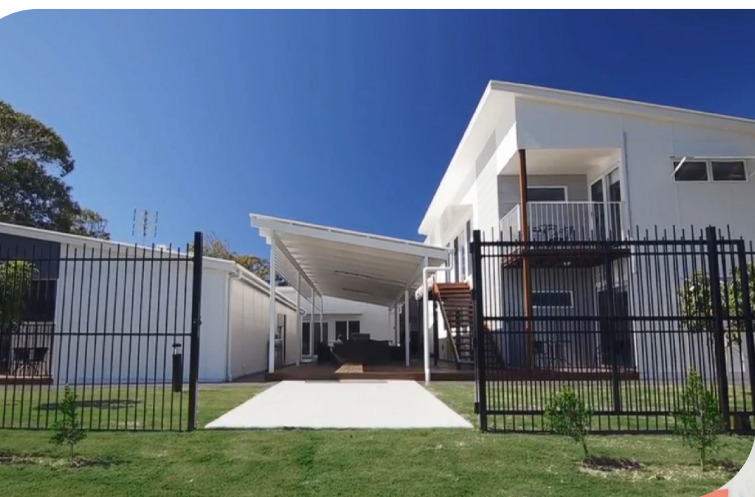
Our College campus is designed to create a sense of community, while beautiful living spaces, and our convenient location make it a welcoming place for our students. Here, they don't just study – they thrive, develop lifelong bonds, and truly love every moment of their College journey.

## Location

Nestled within the radiant Sunshine Coast, STEPS Pathways College enjoys a picturesque setting in the heart of Caloundra. Our beautifully landscaped campus is framed by breathtaking coastlines and accessible beaches, creating an idyllic backdrop to our dynamic learning community.

Students are never far from essential amenities with shops, recreational facilities, and a wealth of health and support services all within close proximity.

Caloundra offers a welcoming community and an enviable lifestyle that seamlessly blends the freedom of self-reliance with the rich benefits of this vibrant region.





## Boarding Apartments

Boarding students at STEPS Pathways College enjoy the comfort of our elegantly designed, fully equipped apartments, meticulously planned to replicate a true independent living environment.

Within their apartments, each student enjoys the privacy of their own spacious bedroom, a personal bathroom equipped with contemporary fixtures, and a private patio providing a tranquil retreat.

The apartment complex incorporates shared spaces that foster friendships and mutual respect. A well-appointed, shared living room gives students the chance to get together to talk and share experiences, while the kitchen, a hub of learning and creativity, encourages students to develop their cooking skills.

The outdoor entertainment area is the heart of social interaction, offering a refreshing space for gatherings, celebrations, or a space to unwind.

At STEPS Pathways College, we understand the balance between personal space and community living, providing our students with the perfect environment to develop both independence and a sense of belonging.

## Campus Facilities

Our campus at STEPS Pathways College is a testament to harmonious living and learning. The landscaped outdoor areas and lush green spaces offer a soothing space for everyday activities. Here, students can enjoy a variety of recreational amenities, from challenging friends to a friendly game at the volleyball courts to contributing to our thriving community garden.

The shared BBQ area provides a welcoming place for students to socialise, relax, or engage in outdoor study sessions in a warm, communal atmosphere.

Students also have the unique opportunity to get a taste of vocational life with our on-site cafe, the charming Cafe on George, and our vibrant Garden Centre. These facilities serve not only as popular gathering spots, but also as hands-on learning environments where students can acquire practical skills for future employment.

At STEPS Pathways College, we've created a diverse and inclusive environment that balances education with practical life experiences, promoting both personal growth and community engagement.

## Keeping students safe

Ensuring the wellbeing and safety of our students is our topmost priority at STEPS Pathways College. We provide round-the-clock support with a dedicated staff member always available to assist, guide, or simply lend a sympathetic ear if and when required.

The entire STEPS Pathways College campus is safeguarded 24/7 with external CCTV cameras, ensuring a secure and serene learning and living environment. At STEPS, we ensure our students feel at home while they take confident strides toward their future.





# Charity

## *STEPS Pathways Charity - Together we can do amazing things*

STEPS Pathways Charity fuels the heart and mission of STEPS Pathways College, driven by a single, powerful goal: to empower every young adult with a disability and autism to lead an independent and fulfilling life they truly deserve.

In 2017, the local Sunshine Coast community came together to build what was then affectionately dubbed 'the College the Coast built.' STEPS Pathways College opened its doors later that year, and since then, the community and philanthropists from across the country have reached out to offer their support.

As we continue adapting to meet our students' evolving needs, and the needs of all young Australians with a disability and autism, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions made by our generous supporters through STEPS Pathways Charity. These funds aid in the purchasing of state-of-the-art equipment and resources, growing our programs and accessibility to future students, and developing innovative initiatives championing equality and independence.

By supporting STEPS Pathways Charity, you invest in more than just our students at STEPS Pathways College. You are helping to create a brighter, more inclusive world where disability and autism are not barriers but stepping stones towards resilience, determination, and triumphant independence.

In Australia,  
**1 in 5 PEOPLE**  
live with a  
disability.





# STEPS Grand Winter Ball

Held every winter, the STEPS Grand Winter Ball is our premier fundraising event raising funds for STEPS Pathways College.

It is also the region's most anticipated black-tie event – a special night of celebration, fine dining, live entertainment, generosity, joy, and warmth as the community spirit of our region shines.

Over the years many Australian icons have joined us to help raise funds and champion our cause at the STEPS Grand

Winter Ball including Liz Cantor, Kerri-Anne Kennerley, Lincoln Lewis, Samantha Heathwood, Anthony Callea, Tim Campbell, and the sensational Paulini Curuenavuli, as well as famous chefs Adriano Zumbo and Alastair McLeod.

We're forever grateful to our event partners and our incredibly generous community who raise funds with us every year to create a brighter future for young Australians with a disability and autism.





# Autism Treehouse Christmas Party

A favourite in our community, our renowned Christmas Party has become an unmissable event for many families located across the Sunshine Coast and surrounds.

Held in an inclusive and welcoming environment, the event provided a safe space for young people with disability and autism, allowing everyone to enjoy the festive spirit together.

Highlights include:

Rides, slides, rock climbing wall, play zone, petting zoo, Santa visits, delicious food and drinks and so much more!

## Steps for STEPS

Steps for STEPS embodies the spirit of hope, determination and community that defines STEPS Pathways College.

This inspiring event sees our extraordinary students journey 20 kilometres, mirroring their transformative journey towards independence.

Their steps, filled with courage and resolve, resonate with our mission to shape a brighter, more inclusive future.

This event not only raises crucial funds for the college but also elevates awareness, reminding us all of the strength that lies within every individual.

As our students walk, every step is a testament to their potential and the lifechanging journey that unfolds at STEPS Pathways College.







## Our Ambassadors

### Melissa Doyle AM

STEPS Pathways College Ambassador

Melissa Doyle AM officially became a STEPS Pathways College Ambassador in 2025 after hosting our 2024 STEPS Grand Winter Ball.

Her voice amplifies ours, shining a light on the need for inclusive and holistic education and the power of community-led change.

*"Every parent wants their child to reach their full potential and lead a fulfilling life. I'm honoured to be able to offer my support to STEPS Pathways College and ensure as many young people as possible can benefit from the services offered."*

Melissa Doyle AM  
STEPS Pathways College Ambassador



### Nate Nelson

STEPS Pathways College Young Ambassador

Proof that no one is too young to make a difference. At just 11 years old, Nate Nelson had raised over \$15,000 in support of our STEPS Pathways College students.

He walked more than 50km across multiple Steps for STEPS fundraising events, speaks publicly about our mission, volunteers every school holidays, and has become a beloved friend to our students and STEPS team.



# Friends of Pathways

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all of our friends and partners of Pathways.

These extraordinary supporters share our vision for the future, and have become an integral part of our journey contributing significantly to the lives of people with a disability and autism.

Their generosity and unwavering belief in our students have empowered us to continually reach towards a future where each person is given the opportunity to thrive, embracing independence with confidence.

We're moved by the trust and commitment shown by our community of friends and partners. Their ongoing support lights our path and continues to make a world of difference in the lives of our students.



"I'm absolutely honoured to be a part of such an innovative program like STEPS Pathways College, something that is going to actually change the future prospects for these young people."

**Brendan Wavell-Smith, Director  
Prima Commercial Fitouts**

"I really looking forward to seeing students go through STEPS Pathways College! As a Dad, I am especially proud to be in a position to be involved in supporting young people to live independently for the first time."

**Brett Mills, Dealer Principal  
Ken Mills Toyota**



"I think to a large extent a lot that we take for granted in terms of opportunities to study and opportunities to enter the workplace are denied to people with a disability, and unless that is brought to the fore and unless people have conversations about that, I think it will continue to happen."

**Jason Van Der Walt,  
Managing Director ion Smart Business Solutions.**

"Knowing that there is an organisation out there like STEPS Pathways College, is not only a massive relief, it's probably the only real viable option for our children to go on to transition to work or another pathway they want to explore. Traditional models of College and uni won't work well with our kids, so having that available is a real relief and something we are really excited by."

**The Lee Family  
Jim Lee, Supporter and Father of a child with Autism**







"The Southport School, their students, staff, and P&C, have been an incredible to support to STEPS Pathways College and our students. They have, with complete generosity and selflessness, given their time, compassion, and goodwill to support our students and what we stand to achieve. I can't thank The Southport School enough."

*Carmel Crouch AM,  
Managing Director STEPS*





# Enrolment

Embarking on the path towards independence starts with enrolling at STEPS Pathways College. Our enrolment process is a thoughtful journey of discovery and evaluation designed to ensure we can best serve each student's unique needs and potential.

## ***The application process:***

### ***1. Introduction & Discovery***

Begin your journey at STEPS Pathways College with an in-person or virtual tour of our campus. This step provides a comprehensive understanding of our environment and a real feel of our vibrant College community. Whether you can make it in person or prefer a digital tour, we facilitate productive conversations with our trainers and principal. Our dedicated team is always ready for a phone consultation to answer your queries and guide you further.

### ***2. Assessment & Evaluation***

In this step, we focus on the abilities and potential of prospective students. Our experienced and compassionate team takes the time to carefully evaluate each prospective student's abilities, ensuring that they can thrive within our supportive living environment and successfully complete their studies.

### ***3. Enrolment & Guidance***

After approximately six weeks, we will make a thoughtful and informed decision. If enrolment at the College isn't the right fit at this time, please be assured that we are committed to each individual's path to independence. STEPS offers an array of alternative programs and services, providing independent living skills, community connections, and employment support, all customised to fit different ability levels.

*Seeing that all the other students are working hard to be independent like me just feels amazing, we're doing it together. STEPS Pathways College definitely has changed my life, it's the best thing that's happened to me, it's just incredible to be able to have the chance to live independently, it's just an amazing feeling."*

*Colby, Student.*



## College Fees

STEPS Pathways is not a government-funded program, which means students and families are required to cover all fees associated with enrolment and the cost of living at the College.

Students may however be able to access their individual NDIS funding to cover some or all College fees.

As an NDIS-approved provider, our staff can discuss how your NDIS package may assist with your enrolment and living costs at the College.

**STEPS Pathways College is an NDIS-approved provider and our staff can talk to you about using your NDIS package to fund their Program of Support at the College.**







# STEPS

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