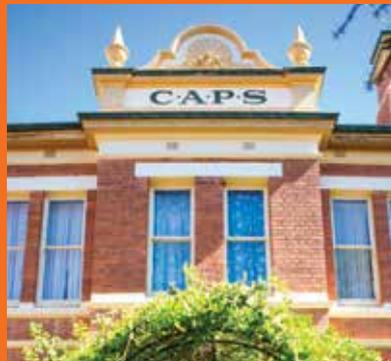


# WELCOME TO CAPS Coolgardie

*A school that builds character*





# Learning for life

*Welcome to Coolgardie's Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School (CAPS Coolgardie).*

**T**he school has a rich and engaging history of achievement and accomplishment in educating Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal children.

It's a shining example of how instilling a desire with its students (and their families) to achieve academically, make the most of their talents to better themselves and the community, and embrace a respect for life-long learning results in young people with bright futures.

CAPS Coolgardie is uniquely placed to understand and guide Aboriginal students. The school is guided by a parent-directed Aboriginal board which for more than 35 years has demonstrated the true meaning of student success and self-determination.

Its 'learning for life' philosophy runs like a golden thread through the school. Steered by the leadership of the school principal, the board and

accomplished, passionate teachers of all nationalities who embrace the school's Christian principles of respect, care and a desire to educate and build skills to support students to live well, CAPS Coolgardie is a very special place.

Nurturing each and every student's unique qualities allows each and every student to flourish to their full potential.

Numeracy and literacy as well as science, sports and



the arts are at the heart of the curriculum, to expand knowledge, understanding and learning opportunities for its students. But more than that, the curriculum

and education program fosters a strong social conscience, personal respect, and leadership skills that contribute to the ability of students to make sound decisions in their future lives.

### A SCHOOL THAT BUILDS CHARACTER.

The establishment of CAPS Coolgardie was driven by Aboriginal parents and local Aboriginal people who were frustrated by the existing systems and low standards of schooling available to their children.

Their aim was to ensure

that a quality education could be available to Aboriginal children, where students would be inspired to learn and come to understand the life-long rewards of a quality education and its positive impact on their lives.

CAPS Coolgardie was born out of a desire to give students the chance to develop and achieve their potential, applying the same values to raising and educating current and future Aboriginal students as they had experienced themselves at Mt Margaret Mission.

philosophy has created an environment where students flourish and are encouraged to have a strong sense of self-worth and a respect for others. As a result many CAPS alumni have gone on to great things around the world.

### A WORLD VIEW

CAPS students are continually exposed to transformative learning opportunities, Christian

from all over the world, inspired to be part of this incredible crucible of opportunity.

And just as the world comes to CAPS, there are also opportunities for students to travel overseas and experience new opportunities. For instance recent trips include a visit to the US to see first-hand how high-achieving college basketball and other careers are pursued and managed.

This enables students to learn that high-level success for talented people is underpinned by dedication, not only to sport but also to academic achievement, respect and other values consistent with the ideals of CAPS Coolgardie.

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*"Each person has incredible worth and gifts that should be given the opportunity to develop to allow them to achieve their potential."*

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*It's all about broadening minds, extending experiences and opening up opportunities.*

### THE DESIRE TO SUCCEED

Give your child the chance to be part of their own CAPS Coolgardie success story. Talk to our friendly staff today about enrolling and becoming part of the next chapter in CAPS Coolgardie's roll of honour.



### EVERY CHILD HAS GIFTS

Every CAPS Coolgardie student is given a precious gift - the opportunity to achieve their potential. This

values, diversity and a recognition of expansive prospects for their futures through education and a desire to succeed. Their teachers arrive in Coolgardie

# 1

## Christian Values

Christian values are at the heart of the CAPS approach to learning and living, helping students to build skills and learn to live well.



# 2

## Learning & Success

CAPS students develop a love of learning and a desire to succeed that helps them all through life.

# Why become a CAPS student?



## Our top ten great reasons to enrol ...

# 3

## Strengths & Talents

At CAPS our students are able to find their individual talents and strengths



# 4

## Caring

CAPS has a great record of caring and success in understanding the needs of each of its students.

# 5

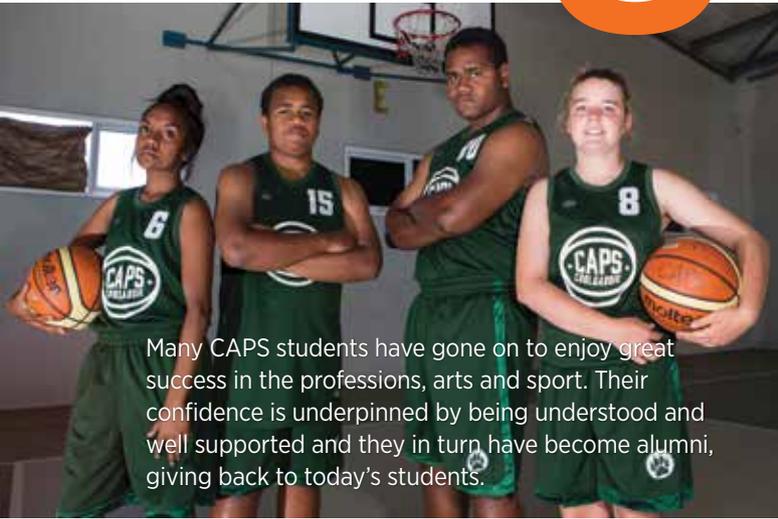
## Creativity & Innovation



CAPS values creativity and innovation. Our students are encouraged to enter competitions such as the state-wide Science Talent Search competition. We won first prize in this competition for our entry in 2016. #amazing.

# 8

## Arts & Sport



Many CAPS students have gone on to enjoy great success in the professions, arts and sport. Their confidence is underpinned by being understood and well supported and they in turn have become alumni, giving back to today's students.



# 6

## Diversity

When you come to CAPS you see the world. Our teachers are drawn from many nationalities, coming to Coolgardie to be a part of an amazing school.

# 9

## Learning & Understanding

When you become a CAPS student you enter a wonderful world of learning and understanding with Christianity, strong values and faith at its heart.

# 7



## Self-determination

CAPS is uniquely placed to understand and guide its Aboriginal students, because the school is guided by a parent-directed Aboriginal board that has shown the value and true meaning of self-determination over many years.

# 10

## Confidence & Skills

At CAPS you can be yourself and develop the confidence and skills that are uniquely yours, guided by a school experience you will look back on in future years with great pleasure.



# People power

*CAPS is a special place for many reasons  
but perhaps most importantly because  
it puts its students first.*



Established in 1981 and located in Coolgardie, the birthplace of the great gold rush a century earlier, CAPS opened under the initiative of a group of Aboriginal people and parents, many who had been raised in the Goldfields on the Mount Margaret Mission.

After such a positive experience of their own schooling, and with an unwavering commitment, CAPS' founding members have created a nurturing environment to foster the spiritual and educational growth of their students. Their aim was simple – to

offer their children the same high academic standards they had received as students. It's a shocking fact that at the time CAPS was formed, Aboriginal students weren't yet allowed to study beyond Year Ten. Today many CAPS students are tertiary educated.

## **HIGH HOPES, HIGHER STANDARDS**

The benefits of providing equal learning opportunities to students, regardless of

their heritage, are clear to see. Just take a look at the school staff, board and alumni. Having a father who studied and performed in New York's Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre laid the groundwork for Principal **Kurtis Leslie** (pictured left).

While studying his Masters of Education, he joined an exchange program at the University of New Mexico. Now he's the inspiring Principal of CAPS with a vision of fostering a sustainable culture for the next generation of Indigenous students striving to reach their full potential.

Board member **Priscilla Tucker**, whose parents were founding members of CAPS, believes the strong values of the school's Christian heritage helps the students make the right choices in following their paths.

Meanwhile American-born teacher **Leonora Sunstorm** believes the personal connection she makes with each student ensures education becomes a personal learning experience.

With an Australian and international line-up of teachers, and students often drawn from remote

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*"I loved coming to school wearing my uniform and proudly singing Christian songs with two music directors Mrs Black and Mr Duncan Phillips. CAPS has taught me to be an ambassador on stage just as well off the stage."*  
**Delly Stokes**, (pictured right) lead singer of Yabu Band

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communities in the Kimberley and Pilbara, a variety of groups, cultures and languages are represented.

United in the belief that each student can go beyond their expectations, the teaching staff ensure their students are continually exposed to learning opportunities locally and internationally as well as academically, culturally and artistically.

### STORIES OF SUCCESS

After 35 years of successful operation, CAPS has had countless success stories. For example, fundraising efforts by students for overseas study was recognised at a corporate level, such as Anglo Gold Ashanti, and several Aboriginal Native Title groups, who generously provided sponsorship for basketball training in the US.

An extraordinary musical

talent who has helped promote Indigenous music greatly, an ex-CAPS student, **Delson 'Delly' Stokes** will be well-known to many. With his brother Boyd and Jade Masters on drums, Delly has taken Yabu Band to great heights. Their song, Petrol, Paint and Glue was nominated as single of the year at the prestigious



Deadlys music awards and they are four-time WAMI (West Australia Music Industry) award winners. And it all started for Delly right here in the 1980s at CAPS.



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**Enrol now and give your child the opportunity to tell their own success story.**

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# What people say about CAPS Coolgardie

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"On my many visits to CAPS Coolgardie, I have been particularly impressed with the way the students go about their work. They are attentive and have a great sense of inquiry in their studies. All students are keen to learn for their success at school and for their futures beyond."

Ron Gorman, Deputy Director of AISWA (Association of Independent Schools WA)



"I unequivocally state that the instruction, tuition and social endeavours undertaken by the Coolgardie CAPS organisation is equal to, and in some cases surpasses, the accepted Western World Education Standards. Apart from my professional opinion I also state that my grandson is a beneficiary of this school and I therefore have an invested interest and understanding at the grass roots level"

Robin Wade, AAFC (Australian Air Force Cadets) Training Officer



"Once we put our kids in, everything worked out really good for our kids. One of our kids had problems in his speech and learning before he came to CAPS. He is now confident and counting more, sharing what he has learnt at school with us. He is really getting up there. They come home with homework all the time too, even the little ones, which shows they are learning."

Chantelle Gleeson, CAPS parent



"My name is Denise Lynch, I was one of the first students at the Christian Aboriginal Parent-Directed School in 1981. It was my second year in high school, and first time away from home. The school was small, but most of the children were boarding, including myself, because we were mostly out of town Aboriginal kids. During that year I became head girl, which was exciting coming from a small town. I also had to model the first uniforms for the schools which they were preparing. I met a lot of friends along the way, who I am still friends with to this day."

Denise Lynch, former student and Administrator and Community Leader for the Kurrawang Community



"Before I came to CAPS I could only read short sentences. Now I'm a fluent reader and have the confidence to speak up in front of the school."

Illiam Nargoodah, 2016 Year 12 graduate

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