

You are a Champion



Thank you for
helping Australian
children in need.



**The Smith
Family**

Learn today, change tomorrow.

Artwork by Loujane



Welcome to **The Smith Family**



Thank you for becoming a Champion. Your ongoing generosity will help Australian children in need overcome educational inequality caused by poverty. You are giving them the chance to reach their potential and create better futures for themselves.

That's a gift that will last a lifetime.

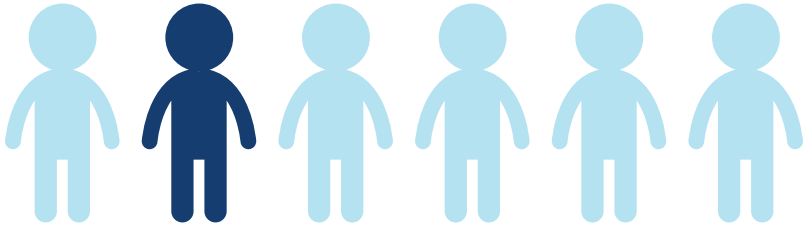
From all of us at The Smith Family, and from the many children you are helping – thank you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Doug Taylor', written over a white background.

Doug Taylor
Chief Executive Officer

Why we need **Champions like you**



In Australia today, 1 in 6 children and young people are living in poverty. This can have a devastating effect on a child's life.¹

1 Poverty in Australia, 2023, ACOSS/UNSW Report.

You are stopping children from falling behind at school.

Children living with disadvantage often lack the support and materials that should be available to every Australian child, and as a consequence, may fall behind in their learning. Your ongoing support helps remove these barriers that poverty puts in the way of their education.

You are stopping children from losing their self-belief.

Without the learning support all children need, a student may start to disengage at school. Our out-of-school programs are proven to build a child's skills, boost their confidence, and help them stay motivated at school so they can unlock their full potential and access all the opportunities they deserve.

You are stopping children from feeling that they do not belong.

All children should have an equal chance to access educational support, regardless of their financial circumstances. Your generosity helps provide that support to children and young people living with disadvantage, so they can complete Year 12 and further their study or gain employment.

Champions like you are helping children to overcome educational inequality caused by poverty and giving them hope for a brighter future.

How you are helping



“I hope you know how life-changing your support is. You’ve given children like Audrina stepping stones to take on the path to more amazing opportunities,” said Melita.

Audrina, *Learning Club* participant and her mum Melita

Your donations provide vital programs outside of school, so children in need can make the most of their time at school.



Learning Clubs: provide a safe and supportive out-of-school learning environment where students can access expertise and resources to help them with homework, numeracy and literacy.



student2student: an 18-week program that pairs students who are behind in their reading with trained buddies who work with them to build their skills and confidence.

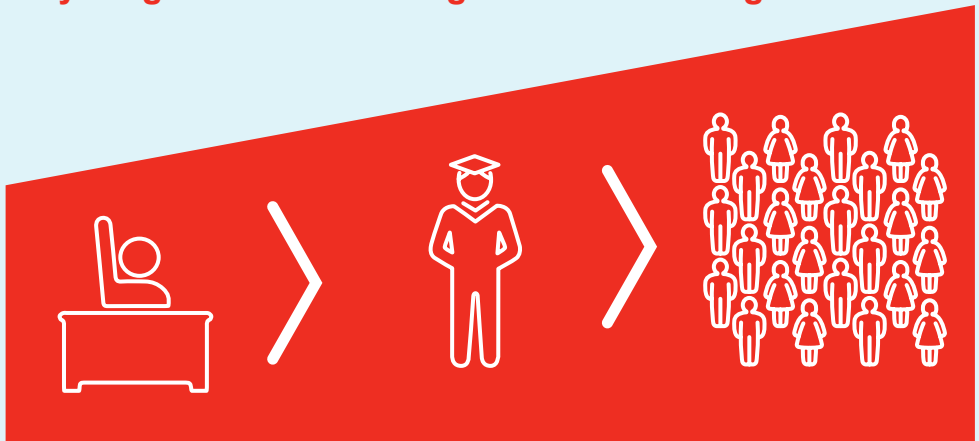


SmArts: connects students in Years 8 to 12 who are interested in creative arts with organisations and professionals, so they can access valuable guidance about study and career pathways.

You are creating **better futures**

Research shows that keeping students in school longer is a highly effective way to help them break the cycle of poverty.¹ Our programs give students the skills and knowledge to feel confident, participate in class and have a positive attitude towards school.

The impact of your support will have a lasting effect on young Australians living with disadvantage.



Short-term outcomes

Our programs help improve students' literacy, numeracy and ability to keep up in class. They also build aspirations and motivation to stay at school.

Long-term outcomes

Students complete Year 12 and go on to work, further education or training.

Societal outcomes

With more young people in employment, an improved ability to contribute economically and socially can strengthen communities.

¹ Lamb, S & Huo, S (2017) *Counting the costs of lost opportunity in Australian education*, Mitchell Institute Report No 2/2017.



Trey, *SmArts* participant

“If I didn’t have help from The Smith Family, I wouldn’t have opportunities to do these activities, which help my education. I got a lot of things out of the *SmArts* program. It’s given me a big confidence boost and ideas for a future career path,” said Trey.

Ebonie wants to give her daughters the world – you are helping her do it

Ebonie loves to encourage her daughters Lily and Holly to dream big! But as a single mother working full-time, Ebonie is chronically time poor. She's also experiencing financial hardship.

That's why Ebonie was thrilled that Lily and Holly could access the extra learning support all children need to succeed, thanks to you.

Lily has a warm personality and a way of looking out for others that is far beyond her years – and Ebonie wants to ensure that adversity does not hold her back. At one point, Lily was too shy to practice reading out loud in class, putting her at risk of falling behind. “With me working full-time, I find it difficult to make time to sit down and read the books with her, so she can get the extra practice,” Ebonie says.

Thanks to your support, Lily and Holly were able to join our *student2student* and *Learning Club* programs.

Through the *student2student* program, Lily was matched with a peer buddy to read over the phone. These sessions helped Lily get that extra reading time she needed to feel confident to use her voice in class. “After a few sessions, Lily opened up and had a wonderful experience. Her reading has improved a lot – she's now at the same standard as the rest of her classmates,” Ebonie says.

Ebonie is also delighted at the experiences Lily has at *Learning Club* where she gets extra maths practice with volunteer tutors. “Lily loves maths, and we've found that incorporating maths into cooking is really fun,” Ebonie says.

As Lily starts to prepare for high school, a laptop is a staple for homework and research. It worried Ebonie that she and the girls would have to rely on one old laptop between them which barely worked. She couldn't afford a new one.

Through the *Digital Learning Essentials* program, Lily was offered a refurbished laptop to help her keep up and thrive at school. Ebonie is so grateful that Lily can now have reliable access to opportunities her classmates have.

Every parent wants their child to set their sights high. With the learning support you help provide, Lily can now fully participate in learning and achieve all she aspires to and works so hard for.

Ebonie and her daughters Holly and Lily



“My kids’ education is very important. I want to say a big thank you to the generous supporters, but that’s not enough for what they’ve done to help them,” said Ebonie, Lily and Holly’s mum.

Frequently asked questions

Q. When will my gifts be deducted?

A. Your gifts will be deducted on the first of each month (or nearest business day), depending on the date you selected when you signed up.

Q. When will I receive my tax receipt?

A. Each July we will send you a consolidated tax receipt for all donations made in the financial year.

Q. Why monthly gifts?

A. Supporting a child throughout their education takes commitment. We know that long-term and consistent educational support is the key to helping a student reach their potential and create a better future for themselves.

Monthly gifts provide us with a consistent funding stream so we can help students in need at all stages of their education, from pre-school to high school and on to tertiary studies if they choose.

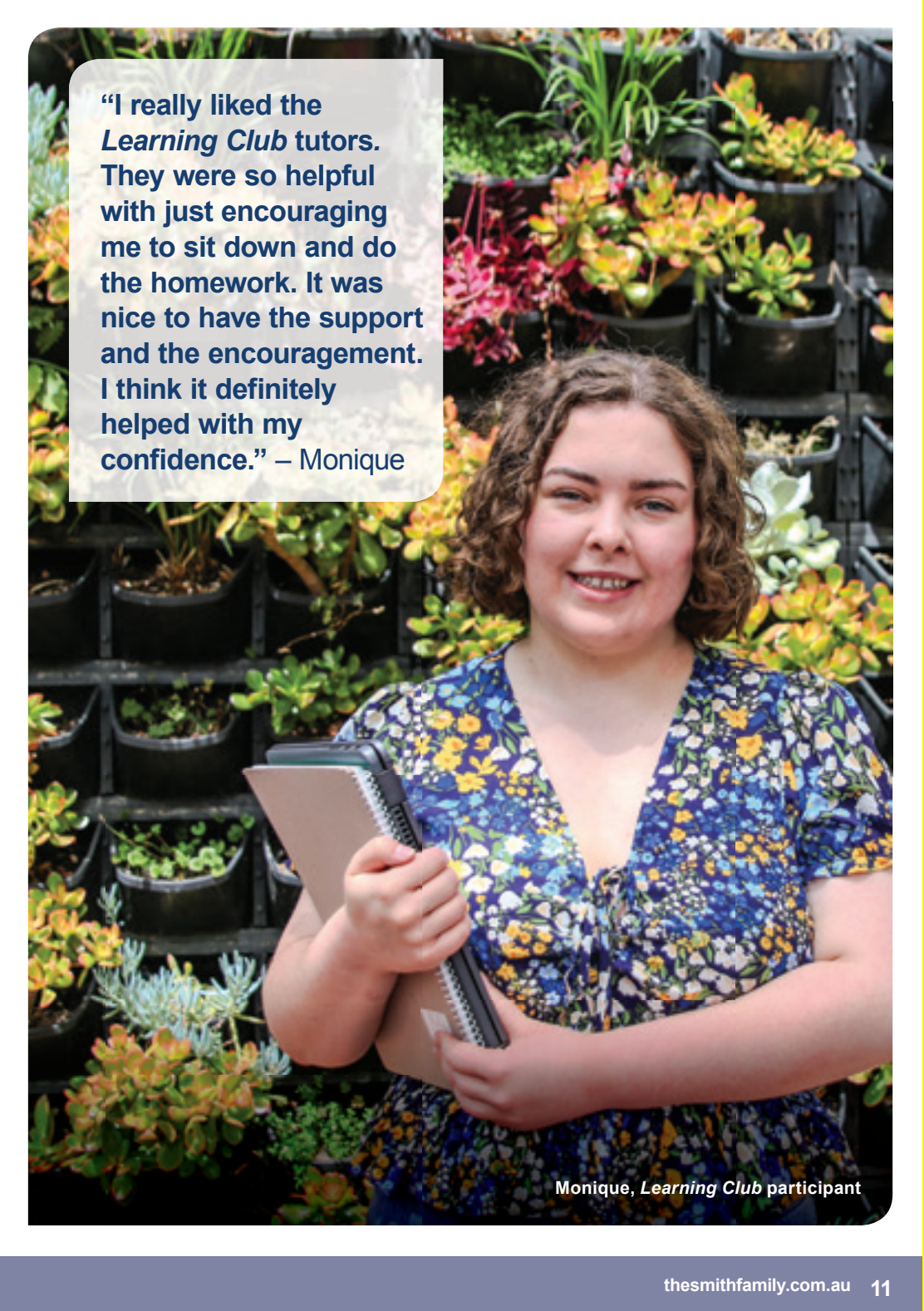
Q. What if I have any questions about my giving or need to update my details?

A. You can update your details online using our *My Smith Family* portal. Visit www.thesmithfamily.com.au/register

Alternatively you can contact us on **1800 326 459** or at champions@thesmithfamily.com.au



Learning Club participants do a homework exercise with their volunteer tutors



“I really liked the *Learning Club* tutors. They were so helpful with just encouraging me to sit down and do the homework. It was nice to have the support and the encouragement. I think it definitely helped with my confidence.” – Monique

Monique, *Learning Club* participant



Thank you for helping children get the most out of their education. If you have any questions about your monthly gift, please contact us on:

Email: champions@thesmithfamily.com.au

Phone: 1800 326 459

Mail: The Smith Family

GPO Box 5348, Sydney NSW 2001



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