



A fee-free school for young people disengaged from mainstream education

Re-engaging young people through connection, dignity and purposeful learning



Why This Matters Now

- 1 in 5 young people in Australia are disengaged from school
- Increased anxiety, trauma, neurodivergence and disrupted pathways
- Mainstream settings are often unable to respond effectively
- Disengagement leads to long-term social and economic impact



www.southernskiesmontessori.org.au



Our Response

Southern Skies Montessori is establishing a fee-free Special Assistance School on the Sunshine Coast for Years 4–9 students who require a different educational pathway.

Our model brings together:

- Montessori pedagogy
- Trauma-informed practice
- Small class environments
- Strong relational support

**Outcome:
Re-engagement, belonging,
and meaningful learning.**



Montessori Approach

Hands-on, self-paced,
deeply engaging learning



Relational Staffing

High adult-to-student
ratios and youth
workers



Fee-Free Access

No financial barriers
for families



Why This Will Work

- 30+ years Montessori experience (global)
 - Proven school leadership
 - Expertise in diverse learning needs
 - Strong governance
- 

What Your Support Makes Possible

- Re-engage students who have disconnected from education
- Improve wellbeing, confidence and attendance within 6 months
- Provide a pathway back to learning and future opportunities
- Strengthen families and community connection

Together, we can establish a permanent educational pathway where young people **rediscover belonging, purpose, and hope.**



We would welcome the opportunity to share more about how you could be involved.

We are seeking \$200,000 in establishment funding from a small group of partners to launch our first Sunshine Coast campus in 2027.

This investment will support:

- Montessori learning environment setup and fit-out
- Two experienced educators from day one
- Student enrolment and wellbeing supports
- Early operations as enrolments grow

This **provides a six-month runway**, enabling students to begin while government **funding phases in.**

Join Us as a Horizon Partner

We are inviting a small group of Sunshine Coast partners to help bring Southern Skies Montessori to life.

Why Partner With Us

- Align your organisation with a high-impact local initiative
- Demonstrate commitment to youth wellbeing and education
- Be recognised as a founding partner in a first-of-its-kind model

Lead Partners \$50,000 – \$75,000

A small number of Lead Partners will anchor the project and play a key role in bringing the school to life.

Founding Partners \$20,000 – \$25,000

Founding Partners form the core group supporting the school's establishment and early delivery.

Community Partners \$5,000 – \$15,000

Community Partners support key elements of SSM's setup and early programs.

As a Horizon Partner, you will be:

- recognised on our website
- featured in launch communications
- acknowledged at our opening event
- offered ongoing partnership opportunities

Join us as a Horizon Partner
— [click here](#) —

Southern Skies Montessori is a registered not-for-profit. While contributions are not tax-deductible at this stage, we are grateful for the support of businesses choosing to invest in their local community.