The Lasting Sparke Scholarship Fund

Our Purpose

The Lasting Sparke Foundation exists to **advance the education of Australian children** by providing scholarships for secondary school study. Scholarships are awarded on **merit** or for **equity reasons**, including financial hardship, socio-economic disadvantage, or other barriers that limit access to education.

What We Fund

Scholarships support secondary school students by helping cover:

- Tuition and school fees
- Uniforms, books, and essential supplies
- Technology required for learning
- Transport or other participation-related costs
- Enrichment activities that strengthen educational outcomes

Who Can Apply

Scholarships are available to Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia who:

- Are enrolled or intending to enrol in secondary school
- Demonstrate **merit**, **need**, or both
- Can show how the scholarship will meaningfully support their education

How Recipients Are Selected

Applications are assessed through a fair and transparent process:

1. **Eligibility Check** – ensuring the student meets merit or equity criteria
2. **Assessment Panel Review** – evaluating academic potential, personal character, and need
3. **Optional Interview** – understanding the student's goals and circumstances
4. **Board Approval** – final endorsement of recommended recipients

All decisions are made independently, documented clearly, and free from conflicts of interest.

Our Commitment to Fairness

The Foundation is guided by principles of:

- **Equity** – supporting students facing disadvantage
- **Merit** – recognising achievement and potential
- **Integrity** – ensuring impartial, ethical decision-making
- **Child Safety** – protecting the wellbeing of all applicants
- **Privacy** – safeguarding personal information

Transparency & Accountability

We maintain clear records, report annually on scholarship outcomes, and continually review our processes to ensure they remain fair, effective, and aligned with our mission.