

THE SASY WAY

*SASY is a safe place for
young people in need
of something different.*

BLUEPRINT



SPECIALISED ASSISTANCE SCHOOL FOR YOUTH

We acknowledge the Kaurna people
as the traditional custodians of the
lands and waters of the Adelaide
region and we pay respect to Elders
past, present and emerging.

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Our Vision

To create a caring environment, where disengaged young people, with complex needs, are reconnected through holistic educational experiences that improve wellbeing and reignite their interest in learning.

Our Values

Respect

For self and others, including both character and culture.

Trust

Be honest, sincere and seek the truth.

Acceptance

Respect and welcome others’ diversity.

Resilience

Care for self and others as we build our capacity to try new things.

Connection

Nurture authentic relationships to self, others, and our environment.

Celebration

Share opportunities, possibilities, voices, grow community and bring joy.



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WHAT

The Specialised Assistance School for Youth (SASY) is a fee free independent secondary Specialised Assistance School (SAS) operating specifically for disengaged young people who have complex needs between the ages of 13 and 25.

We offer a safe place for young people to reignite their learning through Holistic Practices that support their health and social emotional wellbeing as the precursor to personal growth and community engagement.

SASY is innovative in its practice, flexible and responsive in its delivery, and focuses on providing an environment which enables young people to recognise and achieve their potential. Through research and practice, SASY's unique approach to reconnecting young people to learning is made up of the following four components: holistic learning, restorative practice, trauma informed practice, and an inclusive community.

We acknowledge that academic and personal growth best occurs in a safe and supportive environment where physical, emotional, cognitive and behavioural development is supported as part of a holistic learning approach.

SASY recognises that wellbeing influences learning, and meaningful learning enhances wellbeing, which is why education and wellbeing are deeply intertwined throughout all programs. This directly supports young peoples' social and emotional development to self-regulate, self reflect and grow their readiness to learn.

Across SASY's individual and collaborative learning, we support the development of what we call the SASY 5Cs; character, culture, capacity, connection and celebrate, which are specifically designed to develop young people at SASY into lifelong learners, who are reconnected, with a newfound meaning and purpose and increased holistic wellbeing.

We believe that all young people have the right to learn and be supported with personalised care, fair assessment, collaborative and individual learning programs, practice critical and creative thinking, find their voice, and actively engage in the community as an individual with a positive sense of self.

WE DO



“

*They taught me hard truths, but also caught
me when I spiraled.*

”

SASY Student 2023 (wished to remain anonymous)

THE

SASY

WAY



ENROLMENT

- Disengaged / Disconnected.
- Mental Health / Social / Emotional Challenges.



FOUNDATION

- Safe Relationships First.
- Wellbeing as Central.
- Wellbeing & Teaching Staff Working Side by Side.
- Young Person Centred.
- Individual Pace & Choice.
- Learning By Doing.



HOLISTIC PRACTICES

- Holistic Learning.
- Trauma Informed Practice.
- Inclusive Community.
- Restorative Practice.



SASY's 5Cs

Connection. Character. Culture. Capacity. Celebrate.



SERVICES & CONNECTIONS

- Social, Housing, Emotional, Physical, & AOD Supports & Learning.
- Student Meals, Outreach, Adventure, Gym, Psychology & Allied Health.
- Industry, Community, Further Study & Employment Connections.



OUTCOMES

- Holistic Wellbeing.
- Meaning and Purpose.
- Lifelong Learners.
- Reconnected.



To Do Different, We Think Differently

SASY is taking bold steps to shift the schooling narrative by listening to the needs of our young people and responding with care.

We understand that our world is complex and constantly changing, therefore we consciously seek innovative ways to meet the needs of young people and make them feel confident and able to thrive.

At SASY there are no uniforms, no fees, no bells, no traditional classrooms, no principal, no year levels, no exams, and no one way of doing things.

We invest in connection first, focusing on the journey rather than the destination. We believe in time without pressure, we listen, seek opportunities, celebrate successes, build successful habits, encourage voices, ask questions, support the individual and above all, we care.

We Think Differently

WHO WE ARE

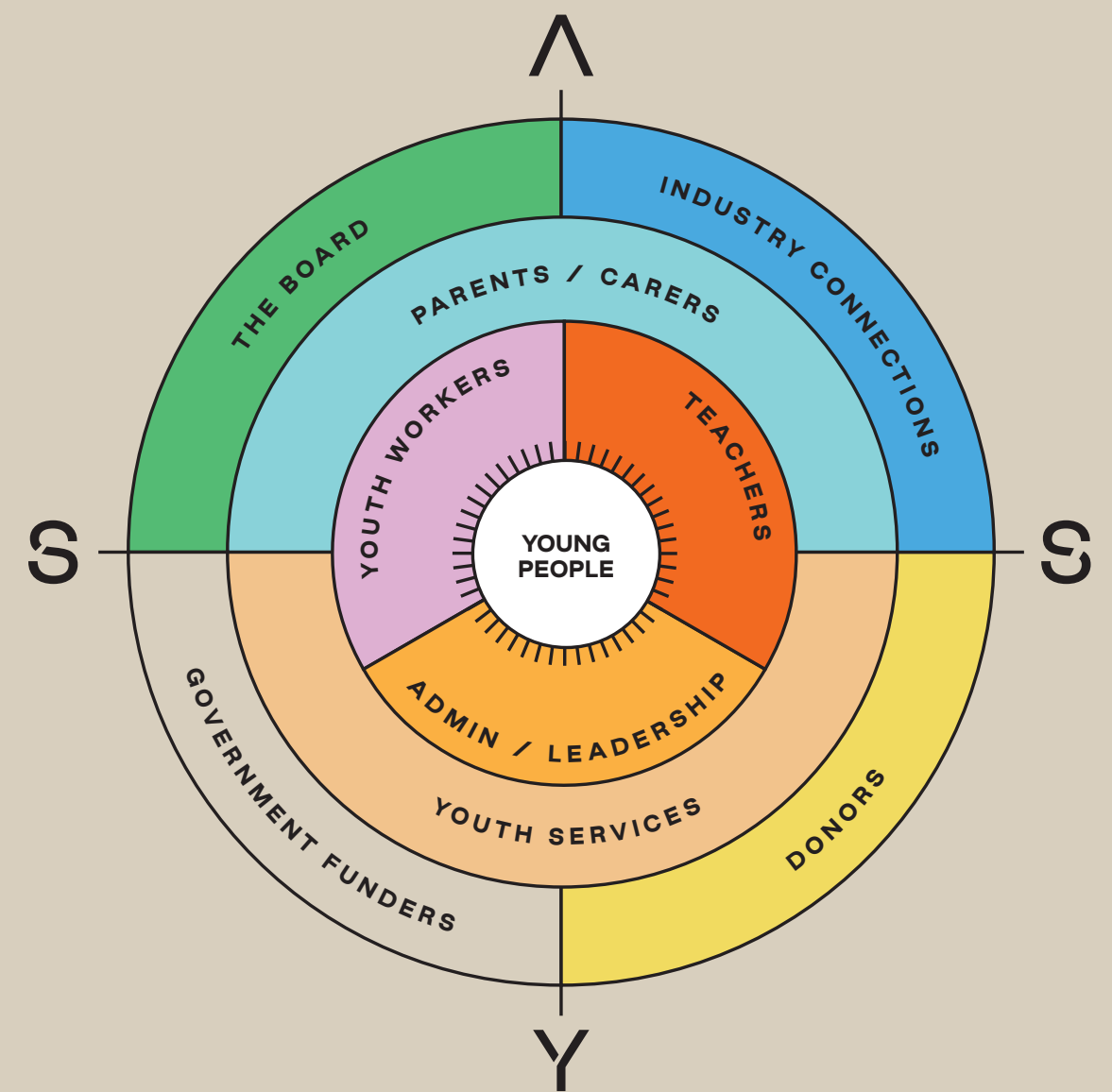


We share a wellbeing commitment, that has young people at the heart of all we do.

SASY works side by side young people with a team of collaborators. Every staff member plays a pivotal role in the varying stages of a young person's life at SASY, discovering new ways of looking at the world, while building the skills needed to inhabit it.

Our team is made up of youth workers, teachers, and admin staff. The equal balance between teachers and youth workers is part of what makes SASY unique. Collaboration is vital in delivering workshops, overseeing learning, supporting well-being, and building paths to best suit young people's goals.

We also work closely with health and community services, and student's families and friends. Together, we make a strong community, and take part in a journey that is impactful and memorable.



Our young people are surrounded by supporters encouraging them to find direction in life.

WE

CELEBRATE CONNECTION, CHARACTER, CULTURE + CAPACITY.

Share opportunities, possibilities, voices, grow community and bring joy.

Nurture authentic relationships to self, others, and our environment.

Explore who we are, what we think, feel, and do.

Expand how we understand other people, places, our values, our communities, and the world.

Grow knowledge and wellbeing through memorable experiences.



SASY 5Cs

This is the heart of everything we do.

At SASY we support young people to develop authentic connections, explore and strengthen their identity and character. We focus on building positive culture with new perspectives to grow their capacity and celebrate young peoples' learning as they move through SASY and beyond.

SASY 5Cs inform our Holistic Practice, supporting young people to navigate the world and grow with confidence to step bravely beyond SASY.



HOLISTIC PRACTICES



**Supporting the whole person,
engaging body, mind, emotion,
imagination and spirit.**

Holistic Learning

Holistic Learning is an approach in education that recognises the interconnectedness of all aspects of a person's life, including their physical, emotional, social, and intellectual wellbeing. This recognises that young people learn best when they are engaged in learning experiences that are meaningful and enjoyable. Wellbeing and education are merged into the same learning experiences.

SASY is committed to providing an engaging holistic educational experience that supports individuals to explore and discover who they are and how they learn. Programs are intentionally designed to enhance young people's wellbeing needs, made up of individual and collaborative learning opportunities, to develop the skills and resilience needed to navigate life's challenges with confidence and optimism.

At SASY this looks like:

- Reconnecting young people to safe learning environments and safe adults.
- Embedding meaning and purpose through engaging learning experiences by doing.
- Growing holistic wellbeing and connections to community.
- Developing agency and independence as lifelong learners.

Trauma Informed

Traumatic experiences can lead to disconnection from school and learning. Research shows that trauma can adversely affect how the brain develops and can impact on a young person's capacity to concentrate and learn, affecting the rest of their lives.

We create a whole-school culture that serves as a foundation for all young people to heal, learn and experience success at school and beyond no matter their experience.

At SASY this looks like:

- Awareness of a young person's past trauma and triggers.
- Create safe and welcoming environments with predictable routines and rhythms.
- Foster opportunities to connect people to the space, each other, and the community.
- Speak openly, learning together, and focusing on emotions.

Restorative Practice

Working restoratively enables us to build our SASY community. We believe all young people can make positive changes in their lives; therefore, we work to respond and repair, aiming for safety and fairness for all.

Restorative practice is about creating and nurturing meaningful relationships. It is a way of being, thinking, interacting, teaching, and learning – with enabling strong relationships at the centre of all we do, every day.

At SASY, this looks like:

- Safety and respect for all.
- Participation that is voluntary with informed choice.
- Fair, consistent, unbiased responses.
- Taking responsibility: reflecting, understanding, owning and actioning.

Inclusive Community

At SASY we are proud supporters of young people. They are safe, seen, heard, and celebrated. Their life circumstances and adversities faced do not define them. We promote equity, access, and opportunity. All young people are invited to participate with agency and voice.

We take active steps to further learn and seek to dismantle discrimination and proudly acknowledge that our work takes place on Kaurna Country.

At SASY, this looks like:

- Intentionally creating a safe place for people who have been excluded by society.
- Connecting young people to community and health services.
- Supporting wellbeing, with individual case management.
- Provide leadership opportunities and promote young people's voice.
- Celebrates young people to grow positive self-worth.



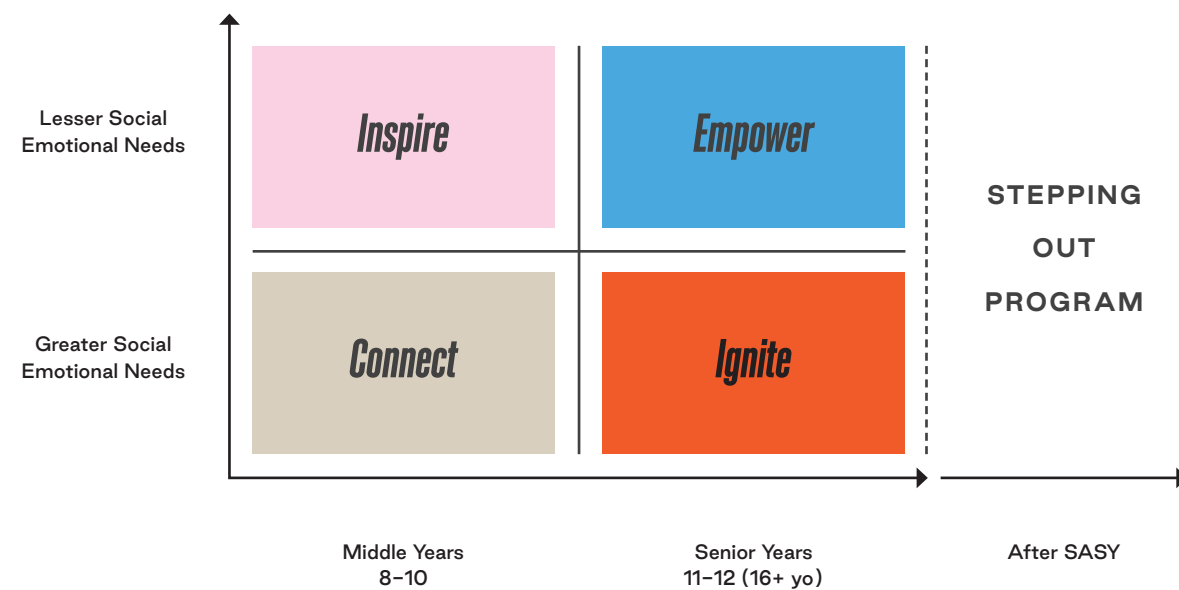
The Hubs



SASY operates with four student Hubs, each with a team of staff creating a unique space to learn.

SASY allocates each young person a Hub in accordance with their age and social emotional needs. Each Hub is supported by a multi-disciplinary team of staff. Here, they have space to connect, which opens opportunities that inspires learning.

Middle and Senior school have two Hubs each, grouping young people by age but also considering their social and emotional needs. Staff support young people to transition between Hubs as they grow.



Middle Hubs Focus

Developing resilience and the confidence to grow safety, establishing strong connections, discovering passions, building self and social awareness while growing capabilities, skills and knowledge.



Senior Hubs Focus

Seeking opportunities, engaging in community and industry, building leadership and voice, strengthening confidence, and supporting future paths, (e.g. Employment, SACE, further education and VET).

THE



RHYTHM

Young people navigate their day by following their own learning rhythm.

SASY operates with a weekly rhythm (our timetable) – a balance of structure and flexibility supporting the needs of our young people. Middle and Senior Hub's rhythms are populated with programs and individual learning opportunities, all with a clear intent to best nurture young people's wellbeing and learning. Rhythms are communicated daily for predictability.

A SASY Day Invites Young People To

Rock Up

Fresh breakfast starts the day, followed by Hub connection time. A safe way to start each day, to be nourished and arrive with familiarity and a sense of belonging.

Switch On

Designed specifically to build relationships and foster Hub community through daily communication, activities and programs that stimulate engagement and spark curiosity.

Join In

Prime time for learning and deeper inquiry. Our Middle & Senior Hub's offer various collaborative programs and individual learning, allowing young people to choose what matters to them. The focus is collaboration, exploration, solution seeking and reflective thinking.

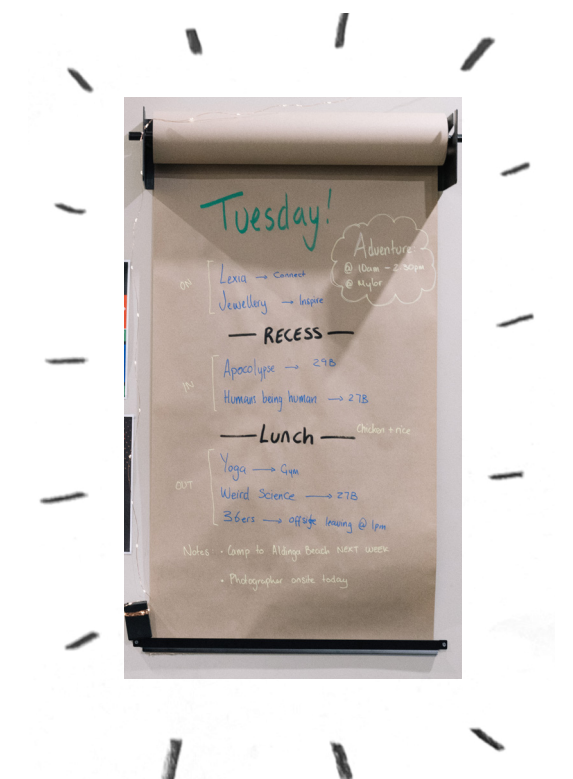
Stretch Out

The afternoon is designed to bring our SASY community together. Mixed aged programs provide opportunities for all to venture beyond SASY into the greater community.



What Might This Look Like?

You could find yourself paddling at the Beach, scaling a cliff in the hills, writing a book review in a café over a hot chocolate, painting a mural on an empty wall, training dogs for people in need, learning numeracy on a bike ride, skateboarding in our parks, or building and painting a ukulele... then also, if you are needing additional support, your Hub provides a safe space for you to land and connect.



MOVING THROUGH & *BEYOND*

SASY supports young people in their now, and what is to come next.

SASY aims to support young people develop the confidence to step bravely into the world, at a pace that feels right, with the knowledge and skills to do so.

SASY leads to many opportunities such as employment, VET training, SACE certificate, further education, community involvement, or industry engagement. Choice can be overwhelming, so we take time to discover and invest in opportunities, making positive memories for life.

SACE at SASY requires a minimum 3-year commitment for completion, with access to VET courses supported by the team.

After some time engaging at SASY, a young person should leave feeling celebrated, with a sound exploration of their character, our community and culture, and with the capacity and confidence to contribute to themselves and the world we live in.



Leaving
→
SASY

Student Outcomes

Life Long Learner



Renewed Meaning and Purpose

Increased Holistic Wellbeing

Reconnected

SPECIALISED ASSISTANCE SCHOOL FOR YOUTH

30 CHESSER STREET, ADELAIDE, SA 5000
P (08) 8227 0823 | F (08) 8227 0200
WWW.SASY.SA.EDU.AU | @SASY SCHOOL

