



QSA Notes

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QSA partners with Wattle Pathways to support refugee youth leadership

Cressida Hall | QSA Executive Manager

QSA is delighted to announce a new partnership with Wattle Pathways, an education social enterprise dedicated to advancing educational equity and civic participation for refugee and asylum seeker young people in Victoria.

The 12-month initiative will support refugee youth through a combination of subsidised academic tutoring, youth leadership development, and civic education, reaching students, young leaders and families across south-east Melbourne. At its heart, the project invests in young people's strengths, aspirations and capacity to contribute positively to their communities and to Australian society.

This partnership comes at a time when some of the communities involved have been frequently in the public spotlight for negative reasons. QSA and Wattle Pathways are proud to be working alongside these communities in a way that tells a different story: one of leadership, resilience, learning and belonging.

Focusing on education and youth leadership

A group of refugee and asylum seeker secondary students will receive weekly, individual tutoring to strengthen educational outcomes and confidence. In parallel, twenty-five young refugees aged 16–24 will be supported to work in small, mentored groups to design and lead their own initiatives addressing barriers to education and civic participation. The project also includes community information sessions for parents, recognising the vital role families play in young people's educational success and civic engagement.

Wattle Pathways is led by educators and community leaders with lived experience of forced displacement and migration. Their work reflects a deep commitment to equity, inclusion, and social cohesion, and to the building of informed civic engagement, values that strongly align with QSA's vision of positive peace.

By supporting refugee youth to succeed academically, develop leadership skills and engage confidently in civic life, this partnership contributes to stronger, more connected communities.

QSA looks forward to seeing the impact of this collaboration and to sharing the stories and achievements that emerge over the coming year.

Cressida Hall, QSA Executive Manager

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