



“Being an IBY mentor has been very rewarding. It is great to empower young people to see a possible future, and help them believe they can be part of it.”

—
Shawn Hindmarsh, Emerson.



Who we are and what we do

‘You can’t be what you can’t see’

Many students in Australia are deprived of the chance to connect with industry mentors and have a limited vision of what they can achieve in life.

IBY (Inspired By You) is purpose-led organisation committed to making a meaningful social impact on communities from CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) backgrounds.

Through IBY programs, we empower students to create possibilities and support them in meeting their goals through:

- STEM Career Pathways
- Interviews with Impact
- Empower though Connection
- Recognising Strengths



Our team has grown

We can't do this alone, we are delighted to welcome to the team:

- Jessica Comans - Board Secretary and Business Manager.
- Vanessa Mitchell - Board Member & Director Marketing and Communications.
- Kavi Katuwandeniya and Amrisha Kanagaraj - Two program leads for IBY STEM career pathways programs.

These new team members join:

Manvinder Randhawa, Founder & Director, Community Engagement & Programs;
Reshma Devi Founder, Non-Executive Director; and
Simon Kelman, Board Member, Treasurer.



“IBY provided the expertise and excellent support needed for our students to gain first-hand knowledge of the job interview experience. IBY conducted mock interviews for our Vocational Major and Work Related Skills students. Their invaluable guidance and personalised touch was refined to meet our Westall curriculum and students' needs. The result was an outstanding success and student feedback even more so. Thank you so much IBY! We look forward to an ongoing relationship with your company.”

Gary Bottomley, Vocational Major Teacher
Westall Secondary College



International Women's Day event

International Women's Day morning tea in March at Hampton Park Secondary College was a great success.

Three professional women from Emerson Automation Solutions and Ivecco, attended the morning tea and provided industry insights to a Business Management class of year 12 students.

IBY mentors, Rita McDonald and Blaire Race, interacted with students at the school sharing their career stories and what real world industry experience looks like across technology, engineering and business marketing.



Careers Expo

IBYs Careers Expo at Westall Secondary College saw five mentors; Lee Marshall, Doris Loncar, Amrisha K, Carl Emmanuel Hita, and Nimisha Mathew, across Science, Technology and Engineering from Microsoft, Emerson, and Melbourne University. The mentors interacted with students inspiring them by answering questions about career opportunities and pathways in workplace.

It was an incredible experience to see so many students queuing up to meet IBY mentors.

This event has opened up further opportunities to nurture students' interest and talent in STEM areas.



“Educating and providing young people with real world experiences is essential for any student to successfully transition from secondary school into the workforce. At Westall Secondary College, mock style interviews help our students experience the recruitment process from start to finish.

Manvinder and her team from IBY Inspire provided our school with support to act as Interviewers, providing valuable and meaningful feedback to our students and an experience for which they were extremely grateful.

The invaluable support that IBY inspire gave our students left them feeling confident to tackle the next steps in the learning journey and ready for life beyond school and into the world of work.”

Travis McIntosh, Vocational Major Coordinator
Westall Secondary College

Empower through Connection

The ‘Empower through Connection’ workshop in July saw two mentors, Blaire Race and Kavindie Katuwandeniya, and the facilitator Karen Vergara share their journeys with high school students at the Kensington Community Hub.

In addition, the ‘Embrace your Identity’ workshop at the same venue in August saw mentors, Kanchan and Tusa Kapugamage from nbn discuss personal identity, its importance, and how they used identity as a power to forge their careers.

Through engaging activities and heartfelt conversations, students explore their strengths, passions, and career aspirations. The events were a true celebration of diversity, resilience, and the power of mentoring.



Dive into Coding

The Dive into Coding Workshop in October saw Kavi Katuwandeniya and Lee Marshall from **Microsoft** and **CSIRO** share their incredible journeys, shedding the light on the possibilities in the technology world.

We ran the coding in Python workshop for over 40 students from Westall Secondary College, kicking off with a human algorithm activity to set a tone of collaboration, before coding fundamentals.

Given 70% of these students are likely to consider software development as a career, it's a privilege to have made some impact in their future.

Big thanks to IBY dedicated mentors and our invaluable partners at South East Community Links, who made it possible for us to positively influence the lives of these students.



This year we partnered with:

*South East Community Links
Wyndham Tech School
Westall Secondary College
Hampton Park Secondary College
Kensington Community Hub
Westall Community Hub
Lyndale Secondary College*

Reached over 350 students!

Work experience

nbn provided positions for five IBY students, thanks to its new **work experience** program in September.

Four students from Lyndale Secondary college, and one from Hampton Park Secondary College, attended the nbn offices to experience working with techies and telecommunication engineers. Experience with software development and learning about AI and Robotics in problem solving has opened eyes to possible career in the exciting world of technology.

Finally, this year we completed an **'Interview with Impact'** workshop followed by mock interviews for over **35 students** at Westall secondary college in October, with **five mentors**, Shawn Hindmarsh, Aparna Jha, Mehaboob Mohamed, Amrisha Kanagaraj and Nimisha Mathew, preparing students for their dream jobs. This was followed by a **Speed Career Networking** event in December attended by Madan Purusottaman and Rita McDonald.

