

MEDIA RELEASE

Inaugural School Resilience Fund Provides Direct Support to Local Schools

DATE

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INAUGURAL SCHOOL RESILIENCE FUND PROVIDES DIRECT SUPPORT TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

Glenelg Shire schools will now have access to discretionary financial support to assist students facing hardship, thanks to the newly established School Resilience Fund.

This initiative, made possible through a partnership between Beyond Bank and United Way Glenelg, ensures primary and secondary schools can directly provide assistance to students in need.

The fund, launched this year, allows schools to apply for up to \$500, with allocations based on student numbers and specific needs. Schools have the flexibility to use these funds at their discretion, ensuring immediate support is available for students experiencing difficulties such as illness, family crises, transport costs, or the need for essential school supplies and clothing.

Nicole Carr, Executive Officer of United Way Glenelg, emphasised the importance of this initiative in supporting student well-being and participation:

"Every child deserves the opportunity to thrive at school, no matter their circumstances. The School Resilience Fund gives schools the flexibility to provide direct support to students facing hardship," she said.

"A small amount can go a long way in ensuring students have access to essentials like school uniform, camp fees, or emergency assistance when they need it most."

Grant Howland from Beyond Bank highlighted the organisation's commitment to building stronger communities through meaningful partnerships:

"Beyond Bank is proud to partner in launching the School Resilience Fund, reinforcing our belief that every child should have the opportunity to learn without financial barriers. This initiative ensures that schools can respond quickly and effectively to student needs, making a real difference for families across the region."

The School Resilience Fund provides an annual funding opportunity, with schools required to submit an acquittal at the end of each term to track the trends in student needs. Importantly, this process respects student privacy while ensuring accountability in how funds are used.

Schools across Glenelg Shire have already begun accessing these funds, making a tangible difference in the lives of local students.

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