

Celebrating positive everyday moments

Cooking garlic prawns, starting a first job, and graduating from high school are just a few ways we ensure that our children, young people and families experience love, care, safety, choice of decision-making and empowerment in their lives at Lifestyle Solutions. We are proud to share positive everyday moments from the lives of the children we support, highlighting how we bring our commitment to life.

Garlic prawns were on the menu when L, a young person we support in Western Australia, decided to cook dinner for her brothers. Her support team lent a hand, chopping ingredients and encouraging L to remain focused. She was excited and impressed with the results of her handiwork and her brothers both agreed, giving her a big thumbs-up of approval.

Being awarded the title of class captain for the semester was an exciting honour for J from New South Wales. His house manager pinned the badge on him while the rest of his team cheered from the sidelines. J rushed home afterwards to proudly show off his badge, which recognises his leadership, kindness toward his peers, and positive engagement in the classroom. His team supported and encouraged his positive behaviour at school throughout the year, and he enjoys and looks forward to attending each morning.

Starting her first day of work at a Reject Shop in New South Wales marked a significant step toward independent living for H. Since beginning this position, she has maintained a calm demeanour around others and has become more open about her future. Her team supported her achievement by helping with resume writing and choosing appropriate interview clothing. They provided reassurance and encouragement as she completed her online learning modules, expressing pride and admiration for her accomplishment.

Inspired by Olympic gold medallist Simone Biles - who spent part of her childhood in foster care - siblings A and S from Queensland dressed up as Olympic gymnasts for their school's "Dress Up as What You Want to Be When You Grow Up" day. Both girls attend gymnastics club a few days a week after school, where they initially experienced anxiety and doubts about their abilities. Their support team shared Simone Biles' story, highlighting that she started from a similar position and encouraging the girls to believe, "We can do that too". On the big day, the girls awoke excitedly at 3 am. They researched Olympians' hairstyles, dressed in their leotards and school tracksuits and donned plastic gold medals before heading off for school.

Having completed a demanding three-day course in traffic management, J from South Australia is keen to start working as soon as possible. This motivated young man is keen to explore many options for his future, challenging his team to help him streamline his priorities and focus on a path that best suits his interests. He struggled with the early morning starts, but with encouragement and a gentle push from his team, he overcame this obstacle and achieved his goal. He is proud of his accomplishment and plans to undertake an additional two-day program to enhance his chances of securing a job.

Returning to school after being unable to attend for the past year was a big step forward for S from New South Wales. Although he does not often express himself verbally, his radiant smile speaks volumes about how he feels about re-engaging with school and reconnecting with his peers. His

support team and school worked closely together to ensure all his physical and emotional needs were met as he returned to class. His school day has already been extended to two hours twice a week, with plans to increase this based on his progress and comfort level.

Attending her high school graduation and receiving her certificate was a thrilling achievement for P from Western Australia. As the first person in her family to finish year 12, she felt a sense of pride and appreciated the encouragement she received from her family. Her care team supported her by taking her on a memorable trip to get her nails painted blue, shopping for a dress and attending the graduation ceremony as her guests. Although she faced challenges in attending school due to medical concerns, she consistently did her best and never gave up. Her support team is incredibly proud of her for persevering despite the obstacles.

Staff are dedicated professionals who find immense satisfaction in seeing the young people in care thrive. They consistently encourage young people to persevere and cultivate a determination to succeed. When a child in their care achieves a goal or overcomes an obstacle, staff feel great pride and admiration for their success. Care providers are committed to ensuring staff feel valued, safe and cared for in the vital work they do.