

Charities at the Heart of Our Houses

Service learning, when thoughtfully considered, continues to play an essential role in developing students' sense of civic responsibility. By serving others, we build meaningful connections within our community, discover purpose, cultivate empathy, develop new skills, and strengthen our confidence.

Each year, an important responsibility of our House Officers is to select a service organisation for their House to partner with. Throughout the year, all House members are provided with opportunities to engage with their chosen charity and explore the many ways they can contribute to the wellbeing of others. During pastoral sessions, House Officers will guide and encourage students to participate in activities that support their charity's goals. In addition, every House has a dedicated day in the school calendar to raise funds and create awareness for their selected organisation.

It is our pleasure to share the overviews of each House's selected charity for 2026, written by our Year 11 House Officers.

Mrs Sharna Kershaw
Dean of Community Learning

Mrs Fiona Brennan
Coordinator of Houses

Cambridge Charity: Ocean Heroes

This year, Cambridge is proud to support Ocean Heroes, an Australian-based charity dedicated to supporting individuals on the autism spectrum. Established in 2016 by Sam Moyle, Luke Hallam, and Tom Johnston, Ocean Heroes is a volunteer-run organisation committed to improving the lives of participants through free surfing events held in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment.



Through these sessions, participants are provided with opportunities to develop water safety skills, build confidence, strengthen social connections and experience the physical and mental health benefits of the ocean. Since its founding, Ocean Heroes has delivered more than 12,000 free surfing sessions across Australia, creating positive and empowering experiences for the autism community nationwide.

Cambridge looks forward to partnering with Ocean Heroes throughout the year to support their important work and contribute to a meaningful, lasting impact within our community.

If you would like to learn more about Ocean Heroes, please visit: <https://oceanheroes.com.au/>.

Cambridge House Officers: Yolanda Dolenac, Sophie Hassan, Eunice Choi, Victoria Cung, and Andrea Wang.

Cumberland Charity: Kicks for Kids Foundation

Cumberland House is thrilled to support Kicks for Kids in 2026. Founded by Mac Millar and inspired by his best friend, teammate, and a refugee he met when he was nine, Kicks for Kids is a volunteer-run organisation that provides sporting equipment, such as shoes, balls and other sports gear, to support children who may not have access to proper equipment.



We chose this foundation because it reflects Cumberland's values of kindness, teamwork, and helping young people stay active and confident. Through this initiative, we can make a real impact on children who want to participate in sport but face financial barriers. This charity also connects to Meriden's strong sporting spirit, making it especially meaningful for us.

Kicks for Kids has delivered over 6,800 balls, jerseys, and boots to children in 34 countries.

If you would like to learn more about Kicks for Kids, please visit: <https://www.kfkfoundation.org/>

Cumberland House Officers: Katya Abourchouce, Ashlee Kim, Chloe Tam, Julia Meaker, and Prapthi Ravindra.

Durham Charity: Joy of Giving

In 2026, Durham is supporting Joy of Giving, a charity based in Sydney. Their main foundational values include empathy and community, as well as education and the environment.

This charity is dedicated to giving preloved toys new homes and through recycling toys, creating more sustainable environments. These toys are given to children and families in need, while also teaching children who donate, the joy and gratitude of giving.

Joy of Giving provides the chance for children and families to feel seen and cared for in difficult circumstances. We are truly honoured to be supporting Joy of Giving and assisting their mission of serving disadvantaged children and families!



If you would like to learn more about Joy of Giving, please visit: <https://www.joyofgiving.net/>

Durham House Officers: Olivia Kim, Eva Gao, Protiti Karmaker, Annika Lou, and Suan Lee.

Kent Charity: Bonnie Support Services

Kent House is proud to support Bonnie Support Services in 2026, a dedicated not-for-profit organisation that provides crisis accommodation and vital support for women and children experiencing homelessness and domestic violence. Based in Sydney, Bonnie works to empower families to rebuild their lives through safe housing, counselling, advocacy, and practical assistance.



With a strong focus on dignity, safety, and long-term stability, Bonnie Support Services helps women and children move beyond crisis towards independence and renewed confidence. Their compassionate, trauma-informed approach ensures that every family is met with understanding, respect, and the practical tools needed to create a safer future.

We are honoured to partner with Bonnie this year and look forward to supporting their important work within our wider community.

If you would like to learn more about Bonnie Support Services, please visit: <https://bonnie.org.au/>

Kent House Officers: Shion Nam, Chloe Papageorgiou, Chloe Nguyen, Kaitlyn Hoang, and Keira Tan.

Lincoln Charity: St Merkorious Charity

This year, Lincoln will be supporting St Merkorious Charity, based in Strathfield. Their mission is to support vulnerable and marginalised people in Sydney, by providing access to nutritious food, clothing, and essential everyday items. Beyond meeting immediate needs, they also strive to offer advice and support toward long-term stability and independence.

They run several initiatives and events, with their primary focus on tackling food insecurity, by establishing kitchens and delivering hot, nutritious meals to people in need. The work of St Merkorious is also deeply rooted in strength found when working together, and the importance of acts of kindness and creating hope: values that Lincoln hopes to follow in all our service initiatives.

We are so excited to be able to support St Merkorious throughout this year and look forward to making a change in our local community.

If you are interested in learning more about St Merkorious, please visit: <https://stmerkorious.org.au/>



Lincoln House Officers: Kylie Zhang, Julia Chen, Sasha Troianskii, Chloe Zhou, and Cynthia Bui.

Norfolk Charity: Caretakers Cottage

Norfolk is proud to support Caretakers Cottage in 2026. Based in Bondi, Caretakers Cottage has transformed the lives of homeless youth for over 50 years. The organisation provides immediate assistance through an emergency crisis refuge, offers long-term support after crises, and advocates for stronger government policies.

Caretakers Cottage shelters children and young people aged 16 to 24 for up to 18 months and teaches them important life skills so they can rebuild their own lives and reach their potential. They also offer these ongoing support programs and one-on-one sessions to assist recovery and empower young people to move forward with confidence and stability.



If you would like to learn more about Caretakers Cottage, please visit: <https://caretakers.org.au/>

Norfolk House Officers: Cindy Shen, Iris Gai, Vivian Liao, Carla Najdek, and Miriam Shin.

Oxford Charity: Koala Kids Foundation

This year, Oxford House has chosen to support the Koala Kids Foundation as our chosen charity.



Koala Kids is a not-for-profit charity that brightens the lives of children and young people undergoing cancer treatment by providing fun activities, comforting resources, and heartfelt support for families and healthcare teams.

It was founded in 2005 by Nick Mandie, while he was a Year 7 student at Melbourne Grammar School. The organisation now supports more than 2,000 patients each year across Australian hospitals including The Royal Children's Hospital and The Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, both located in Melbourne.

Guided by values such as happiness, empathy, and collaboration, Koala Kids volunteers create joyful moments that lift spirits and remind families they are never alone. What began as a simple, compassionate idea has grown into a powerful mission: spreading comfort, hope and positivity to every child on their treatment journey.

We are so pleased, as a House, to help Koala Kids support its mission of providing happy moments for children and young people during cancer treatment.

If you would like to learn more about Koala Kids, please visit: <https://koalakids.org.au/>

Oxford House Officers: Ameeshi Wesumperuma, Tina Dong, Charlotte Kang, Miya McLeod, and Jessica Shrestha.

Sussex Charity: Clown Doctors Australia



Sussex House is proudly supporting Clown Doctors Australia this year. Founded in 1996 by Dr Peter Spitzer and Jean-Paul Bell, this charity is dedicated to improving the wellbeing of children and older people. Through their "Clown Doctor" and "Laughter Care" programs, they are transforming the care provided in hospitals and facilities, incorporating creative play and authentic human connections.

Clown Doctors Australia operates in 54 locations nationwide, currently in 22 hospitals and hospices for children and young people, as well as various aged care facilities and disability hubs. So far, Clown Doctors Australia has supported more than 317,000 children, families, and healthcare workers and are aiming to help many more.

Sussex is extremely excited to be supporting Clown Doctors Australia this year and making healthcare a more enjoyable experience for everyone.

If you would like to learn more about Clown Doctors Australia, please visit: <https://clowndoctorsaustralia.org.au/>

Sussex House Officers: Isabella Jiang, Joanna Li, Jasmine Yang, Louisa Yenson, and Alyssa Wahab.

Warwick Charity: Inner West Neighbour Aid

This year, Warwick is excited to support Inner West Neighbour Aid (IWNA), a community-based, not-for-profit organisation supporting older people and individuals living with disabilities across Sydney's inner west. They strive to create a community in which they help seniors remain independent, connected and healthy in their own homes and communities.

IWNA provides practical services such as home support, transport to appointments, social outings, group activities and wellbeing programs. These services are designed to reduce isolation, promote dignity and strengthen community ties in an active and social way. By offering both one-on-one assistance and group-based programs, IWNA creates opportunities for meaningful connection while meeting everyday needs.

Supporting IWNA gives Warwick a valuable opportunity to serve others in a tangible way, strengthening our commitment to compassion and service. Warwick looks forward to collaborating with IWNA throughout the year to deepen our passion for service and commit ourselves to the community through lasting impact.



To learn more about IWNA, please visit: <https://www.iwna.com.au/index.html>

Warwick House Officers: Annabelle Whitfield, Nikita Garg, Sienna Vagias, Amelia Von, and Asiminia Lee.

York Charity: Eat Up Australia

York is proud to be supporting Eat Up Australia in 2026. Eat Up is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing free lunches to Australian school students who would otherwise go without food during the school day. Their aim is to make sure that no child has to sit in class feeling hungry.

Across Australia, many students experience food insecurity, which can affect their ability to concentrate, participate, and feel confident in the classroom. Eat Up works directly with schools to supply fresh lunches to students who need them, helping to reduce stigma while supporting student wellbeing and learning.

The logo for 'Eat Up.' is written in a bold, rounded, pink font. The word 'Eat' is on the left and 'Up.' is on the right, with a period at the end.

York is looking forward to supporting Eat Up throughout the year and raising awareness about the impact of food insecurity in schools. Throughout our initiatives, we hope to help more students feel supported, included and ready to learn.

If you would like to learn more about Eat Up Australia, please visit: <https://www.eatup.org.au/>

York House Officers: Anna Satchithanathan, Mayuri Raj, Lilian Steinwede, Angela Pham, and Ruby Choi.

House Charity Fundraiser's



MERIDEN
AN ANGLICAN SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

