



Youth Action Plan 2025–2027



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters



Dunstan Adventure Playground, St Peters

Our Vision

A City which values its heritage, cultural diversity, sense of place and natural environment.

A progressive City which is prosperous, sustainable and socially cohesive, with a strong community spirit.

We exist to improve the well-being of our citizens and community.

Our four pillars or outcomes to achieve this are:



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Image right: Come 'n Try Program, Fit Kids



Introduction

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters, Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 will assist in achieving our collective goals, while keeping the needs and aspirations of young people front of mind.

It seeks to guide our intentions, activations and determinations when developing, delivering, and reviewing the Council's Youth Service priorities and actions over the coming two financial years (2025–2026 and 2026–2027).

The Plan is designed to be an adaptable and agile approach to ensure the evolving aspirations of young people is consistently heard, considered, and implemented where possible and practical.

The Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 is to be considered alongside the *CityPlan 2030: Shaping our Future*, in determining the preferred future of our City.



Young People in Our City

City of Norwood Payneham
& St Peters population

40,062

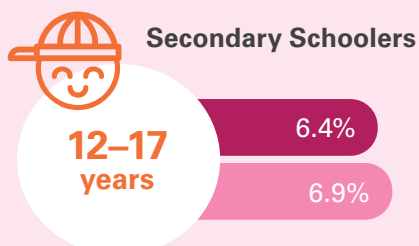
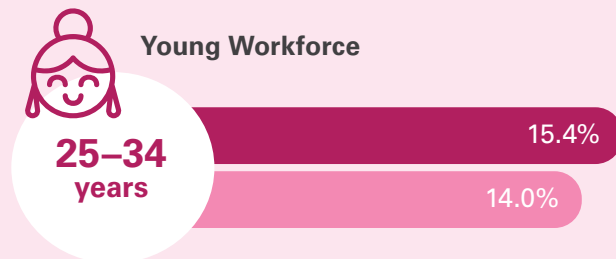
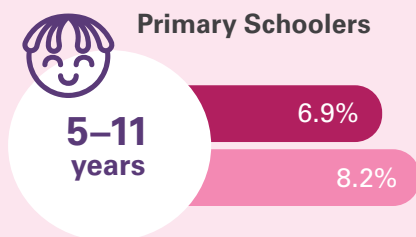
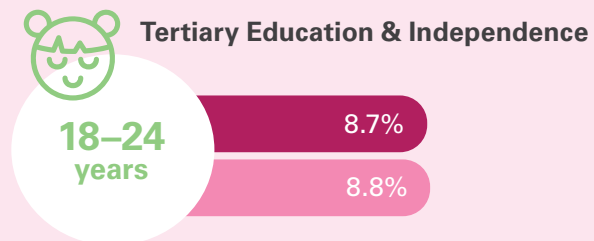
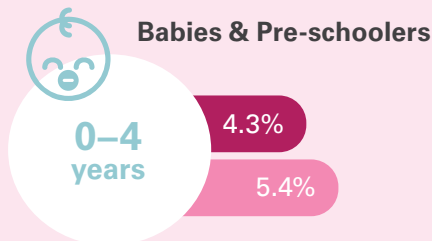
reported in the 2021 Australian Census.

9,833
were aged
0–24 years.

Service Age Groups

(compared to Greater Adelaide)* in 2021.

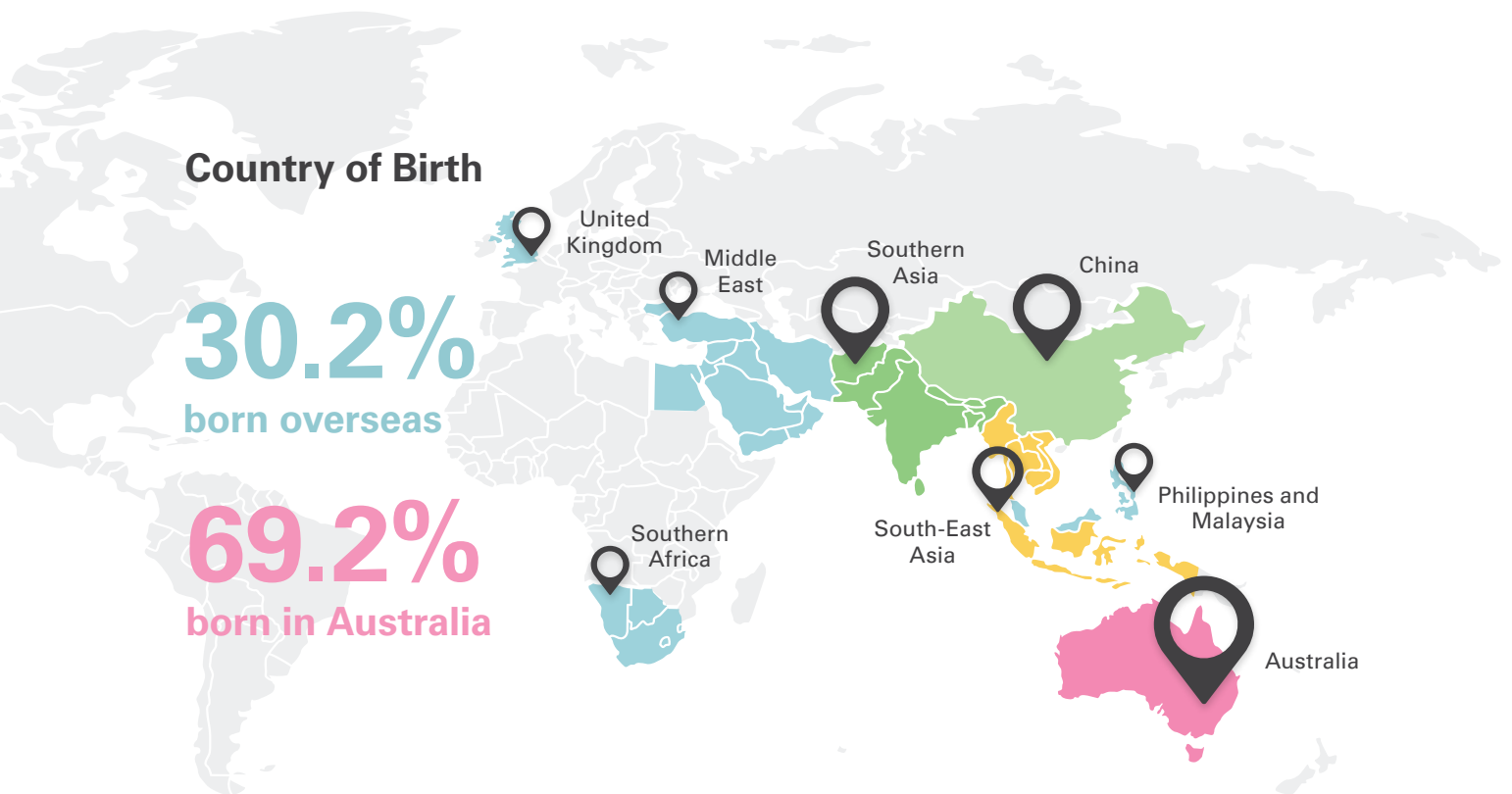
- City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
- Greater Adelaide



The major differences between the age structure of the City of Norwood Payneham and St Peters and Greater Adelaide is:

**A larger percentage of 'Young workforce',
15.4% compared to 14.0%**

* Source: REMPLAN (2021 Census, ABS)



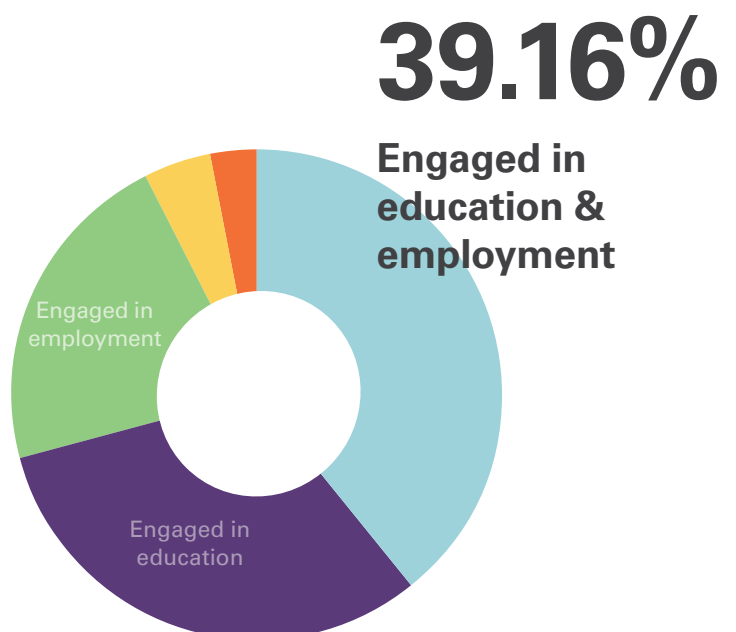
Education and Employment

The 2021 Australian Census reports that

92.7% of young people living in the City aged 15–24 years were participating in education and/or employment,
 compared to 4.42% who were disengaged from work or training.

Youth Engagement

- Engaged in education & employment 39.16%
- Engaged in education 31.82%
- Engaged in employment 21.73%
- Disengaged youth 4.42%
- Not stated 2.83%





Come 'n Try Program, Bouldering

Strategic Alignment

The Council's strategic management Plan *CityPlan 2030: Shaping our Future* provides a comprehensive community vision for the Council and community to 2030.

The direction and priorities outlined in *CityPlan 2030* underpin the aspirations and intent of the Youth Action Plan 2025–2027.





State context

South Australia's Youth Action Plan

In April 2025, the Department of Human Services (DHS) launched a new Youth Action Plan for South Australia.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan 2025–2028 is a roadmap aimed at providing young South Australians, particularly those facing isolation, disadvantage, and discrimination, with more opportunities to thrive.



The South Australian Youth Action Plan outlines 27 targeted actions, focused on improving equity and access across six key themes as identified by young people:

1. Mental health and wellbeing

Young people are healthy and well.

2. Connection to services and information

Young people have access to information and services to meet their needs.

3. Recreation, community spaces and activities

Young people have spaces and activities to make friends and be active.

4. Transition to adulthood

Young people are supported to become independent adults and reach their potential.

5. Housing and cost of living

Young people have access to safe and secure housing and have the necessities to thrive.

6. Participation

Young people have a voice in decisions that impact them and their community.



Key themes of the South Australian Youth Action Plan that fall within the remit of the Council's service delivery include:



Connection to services and activities available in the young person's community



Increased access to age appropriate, affordable, and accessible sport and recreation activities or opportunities



More support with post-school pathways, including the teaching of 'life skills' or 'how to adult'



Inclusion in decision making

These key themes and feedback from local young people, as summarised in the following section, have informed the development the Council's Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 and the actions contained within the Plan reflect the local context of young people within our City.

What We Heard

In developing this plan, the Council undertook extensive consultation with young people to ensure that their needs and expectations are accurately reflected.

Below is a snapshot of what we heard from young people.



Young people would like more

- Opportunities to have a say, to be heard and to make an impact on decisions and setting priorities
- Access to information and events
- Inclusive workshops and events
- Frequent events and programs
- Art by and for young people
- More art initiatives, opportunities to be involved in art workshops, displays and decisions
- Opportunities for young musicians and live music performances
- Visibility in events and community programs.
- Training opportunities at little to no cost to participants
- Youth-led opportunities
- Outcomes directly beneficial to young people.
- Access to gain experience outside of university and school
- Planting, greenery, and garden beds
- Education around waste
- Recycling and composting
- Recycled and sustainable art workshops.

Young people are concerned about

- Climate change
- Not being heard by adults and people in charge
- Cost of living stresses.

Key issues preventing participation

- Events and initiatives are often too family or elderly focused.



Program development ideas

- Outcome focused rather than reactive initiatives
- Programs and initiatives to be held in a variety of facilities
- Outdoor sport
- Study space.

Other ideas

- Consider neurodiverse needs
- Interactive page on the Council's website aimed at young people
- Cost and location of events
- Consider not placing age restrictions, where appropriate, on programs to enable diverse age groups to connect over shared areas of interest
- Night life and safety when walking to and from locations or facilities
- Lighting along walking and riding trails
- A space to come together
- Youth events and forums regarding climate change.

An in-depth overview of the community engagement process and feedback is available in the Voice & Vision of Young People Community Engagement Report accessible via the Council's website.

Our Approach

Whilst young people have been at the heart of what we do, the Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 recognises that for programs and initiatives to be effective and accepted among young people aged 25 years and under, they must be established and maintained through a two-way dialogue with young people.

Their voices must be heard, they want to feel encouraged to share their aspirations and needs and should be supported to achieve their desired outcomes.

Guiding principles

To inform and ensure meaningful action and outcomes for young people, implementation of the Plan, program and project planning, and youth service delivery will be guided by the following principles:



Work together

Act in a deliberate and collaborative way to facilitate meaningful engagement and collaboration with young people and stakeholders to identify and develop a local response to unmet community need or opportunity.



Create an enabling environment

Reduce red tape, streamline processes and work collaboratively to support improved outcomes. Utilise community facilities as a resource to support wellbeing outcomes.



Discover

Test and trial ideas, seek feedback, recognise learnings, refine, and adapt.



Develop

Collectively plan and prioritise programs and initiatives based on the Council's strategic priorities, demonstrable need and aspirations of young people.



Share

Share information, opportunities, success stories and discoveries. Embed feedback and review mechanisms into project and program planning.

Youth Action Plan 2025–2027

A range of priorities are proposed to be delivered over the next two years that align with the key themes of South Australia's Youth Action Plan:

Greater access to mental health support and services.

Connection to services and activities available in the young person's community.

Increased access to age appropriate, affordable, and accessible sport and recreation activities and opportunities.

More support with post-school pathways, including the teaching of 'life skills' or 'how to adult.'

Inclusion in decision-making.



Engagement workshop

Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 priorities

Priority 1

Young people are included in decision-making and develop active citizenship skills.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Participation – young people have a voice in decisions that impact them and their community.

Priority 2

Young people are work ready.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Transition to adulthood – young people are supported to become independent adults and reach their potential.

Priority 3

Utilise the Norwood Concert Hall to empower young people through the art of performance.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Recreation, community spaces and activities – young people have spaces and activities to make friends and be active.

Priority 4

Young people are building positive mental health habits.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Mental health and wellbeing – young people are healthy and well.

Priority 1

Young people are included in decision-making and develop active citizenship skills.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Participation – young people have a voice in decisions that impact them and their community.

Activities/actions (outputs)	Inputs (staff resources and partners, if known)	Target group/ demographic	Short term outcome targets (skills, knowledge, attitudes, awareness raising, motivation outcomes)	Medium term outcome targets (change in behaviour or the application of skills and knowledge)	Role of Council
Co-design a school holiday program in partnership with young people	Library staff Coordinator Youth Programs	School age	Sharing program decision making power. Young people are partners in the decisions that impact them.	More engaging and relevant programs.	Co-deliverer
Develop a changemaker program	Library staff Coordinator Youth Programs External mentors/ facilitators related to area of interest	12–25 years	Young people co-design a local community project (social, environmental, and/or creative outcomes). Young people have increased awareness of local issues and how to contribute to solutions.	Young people are empowered and contribute to stronger and more resilient communities.	Co-deliverer
Tree Planting Day	Trees For Life Friends of the Billabong Coordinator Youth Programs Coordinator Volunteer Services	School Age	Give back to their community and contribute to the preservation of biodiversity and enhance the beauty of local open spaces. Time in nature and being physically active, contributing to overall wellbeing.	Environmental education exposure to climate concerns.	Co-deliverer
Trial and develop a Youth Reference Group	Coordinator Youth Programs	14–30 years	Young people are provided the opportunity to share their ideas, provide feedback, and to be partners in the decisions that impact them within Council and their Community.	Young people are engaged, empowered, and contribute to stronger and more resilient communities.	Advocate

Trial interactive engagement and consultation with young people to inform playground and open space designs.	Coordinator Youth Programs Project Managers Seb Humphreys, Artist	Young adult	Temporarily install flow bars sculpture in a location to be determined. (Interactive outdoor 'play spaces' outcomes by artist Seb Humphreys that underpin a broader range of learning outcomes and inter-generational participation than traditional play-spaces). The flow bars will be an attractor for young people, while engaging with the installation QR codes and information at the site will be available for young adults to provide feedback and assess interest in investigating permanent custom designed flow bars or other ideas young people have for the playground upgrade.	Creating spaces and places for young people and involve young people in the planning process. All ages play to enhance movement, autonomy, creativity, and navigational decision making.	Activator of Space
Develop a program survey to assess impact and inform future programming.	Coordinator Children's & Youth Services Coordinator Youth Programs	All	Immediate feedback on programs, events, and outcomes.	Long term assistance in determining program planning and development.	Provider
Department for Education Problem Based Learning Program	Coordinator Youth Programs Local schools	Years 5 and 6 students	Exposure to an alternate method of learning.	Problem solving experience with a real-life problem. Experience with teamwork and partnerships.	Co-deliverer
The Lounge – Youth Space Takeover of Payneham Room	Coordinator Children's & Youth Services Coordinator Youth Programs	10–18 years	Time and space to connect in a safe place for free.	Allow a space to be utilised as a safe space away from outside factors or influences.	Activator of Space

Priority 2

Young people are work ready.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:

Transition to adulthood – young people are supported to become independent adults and reach their potential.

Activities/actions (outputs)	Inputs (staff resources and partners, if known)	Target group/demographic	Short term outcome targets (skills, knowledge, attitudes, awareness raising, motivation outcomes)	Medium term outcome targets (change in behaviour or the application of skills and knowledge)	Role of Council
My First Job Program	Facilitated by the 1530 Network in 2025 2025–2026 partners to be confirmed	Teens and young adults	Knowledge to empower likelihood to achieve a successful job application.	Support in workplace environments and skills required to maintain employment.	Co-deliverer
Essential Job Skills Program	Facilitated by the 1530 Network in 2025 2026–2027 partners to be confirmed	Teens and young adults	Develop knowledge and skillset to empower young people in achieving a successful job application and maintaining the employment contract.	Support in workplace environments and skills required to maintain employment	Co-deliverer
Resume workshops	Facilitated by Sue Venn in 2025	Teens and young adults	Provide knowledge, skills and support in developing current and new resumes to achieve employment. Provide positive motivation for entering the workforce.	Support in gaining and maintaining employment. Skills to further develop resumes and cover letters in future phases of employment.	Co-deliverer
Continue emerging makers and artist stalls at St Peters Fair	Events Coordinator Youth Programs	Teens and young adults	Provide market experience and skills in setting up and selling items in a community market space.	Entrepreneur experience in an environment that requires skills and attributes which attract customers and public awareness.	Advocate
Explore adding work ready resources and training modules on our digital library and/or website.	Library Digital Services Officer Marketing and Place Activation Unit Coordinator Youth Programs	Teens and young adults	Increase accessibility to work ready information (may include videos of local business owners sharing what they look for when recruiting new staff).	Young people have access to work ready information that is relevant to them.	Advocate

Priority 3

Utilise the Norwood Concert Hall to empower young people through the art of performance.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:
Recreation, community spaces and activities – young people have spaces and activities to make friends and be active.

Activities/actions (outputs)	Inputs (staff resources and partners, if known)	Target group/demographic	Short term outcome targets (skills, knowledge, attitudes, awareness raising, motivation outcomes)	Medium term outcome targets (change in behaviour or the application of skills and knowledge)	Role of Council
Explore collaborations with local schools to utilise the Norwood Concert Hall for live skills-based learning experiences.	Coordinator Youth Programs Norwood Concert Hall Coordinator Local schools	School age	Enhance drama and theatre production skills. A creative outlet for young people to express themselves and to form friendships. Challenge young people to open their minds, explore different worlds through characters, dance, song, and stories.	Cultivate essential soft skills such as collaboration, communication, empathy, and confidence. Enhanced wellbeing, self-esteem, and resilience.	Provider
Explore collaborative partnerships with productions, for or by young people, within the Norwood Concert Hall and Community Facilities	Partners to be confirmed	Teens and young adults	As above Achieve more by working together and utilising local assets.	As above	Co-deliverer

Priority 4

Young people are building positive mental health habits.

South Australia's Youth Action Plan theme:
Mental health and wellbeing –
young people are healthy and well.

Activities/actions (outputs)	Inputs (staff resources and partners, if known)	Target group/ demographic	Short term outcome targets (skills, knowledge, attitudes, awareness raising, motivation outcomes)	Medium term outcome targets (change in behaviour or the application of skills and knowledge)	Role of Council
Mental health seminars	Facilitated by the Big AL Foundation in 2024–2025 2025–2026 partners to be confirmed	5–12 years and 13–18 years	Breathwork and emotional awareness. Education surrounding the importance of self-awareness in the mind and body.	Behavioural improvements developed through improving their skills in utilising their breath to manage emotional responses.	Co-deliverer
Self-esteem workshops	Facilitated by Larissa Jones in 2025 2026–2027 partners to be confirmed	10–18 years	Makeup skill development to enhance natural features, product knowledge and self-esteem and breathwork awareness.	Self-esteem knowledge and management improvements which assist in the long-term stability of emotional foundations. Improved capacity to manage emotional responses.	Co-deliverer
Art workshops	Artist led workshops	13–25 years	Skill development with acrylic paint and canvas mediums, awareness on the benefits of being able to express oneself through art.	Use art as a tool to reduce stress and develop individual self-expression. Further development of knowledge and skills in specific art mediums and visual art.	Co-deliverer





These actions will be supported by a range of 'business as usual' activities facilitated by the Coordinator, Youth Programs which include:

- Mayor's Christmas Card Competition,
- Adminstrating the Young Achievers Program,
- Participation in the Local Government Youth Development Network and Eastern Region Youth Network,
- Coordination of the Council's work experience and work placement intake, and
- Presentations at schools about Local Government and opportunities available to young people.

Review and Continuous Improvement

The Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 is intended to be an agile document, where the actions under each of the four priority areas may vary and be adapted to better meet the needs of young people in the community.

To remain accountable to young people, progress will be reviewed annually and reported to the Council.

The interactive webpage for young people on the Council's website will be updated every three months to ensure that the information we are sharing with young people is current and engaging

Visit: www.npsp.sa.gov.au/youth

Further information

**For information on the
Youth Action Plan 2025–2027,
please visit www.npsp.sa.gov.au
or phone 8366 4555.**

You can also visit the Council's Citizen Service Centre at the Norwood Town Hall, 175 The Parade, Norwood.

Additional copies

The Youth Action Plan 2025–2027 can be viewed online at www.npsp.sa.gov.au

Copies may also be obtained by:

- visiting any of the Council's Libraries
- emailing townhall@npsp.sa.gov.au
- contacting the Council on 8366 4555
- writing to the Council at PO Box 204, Kent Town SA 5074

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Thinking of the environment

This document is printed on certified carbon neutral recycled stock, manufactured in Australia.



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