



Emily's Story

Emily nearly abandoned her love of maths when her family couldn't afford essential senior-level resources. With support from State Schools Relief, her school removed that barrier. Equipped with the right tools, Emily excelled, completed Year 12 with distinction, and went on to university, showing how targeted support can change futures.

The Challenge:

In Year 9, Emily* faced a crossroads. Her passion for maths was undeniable, but the path forward was blocked by a simple yet daunting hurdle: the cost of a graphing calculator and textbooks for senior maths. She knew her family, already stretched thin, wouldn't be able to afford the hundreds of dollars needed for these essentials.

As course selection approached, it became clear that choosing maths in Years 10-12 would require resources beyond their reach. The school, aware of the situation, recognised that Emily wasn't alone. Many students at the school faced similar financial challenges, and the risk of losing bright minds to circumstance was becoming real.

Teachers discussed the issue, determined not to let financial barriers dictate a student's future.

What was done:

Determined to help, the school reached out to State Schools Relief, an organisation known for supporting students in need. Through the *Graphing Calculator Program*, they secured funding for both the calculator and essential maths textbooks. The school worked closely with State Schools Relief, ensuring that Emily, and other students facing similar hardships, could access the tools required for success. Staff members applied for vouchers so that Emily received her equipment before classes began.

The relief on Emily's face was evident as she collected her new calculator and textbooks, ready to dive into her studies.

By taking swift and compassionate action, the school removed a hurdle that could have cost Emily her full potential.

The impact:

Emily thrived in her senior maths classes, equipped with the necessary tools, she tackled complex equations and projects. Pushing herself to achieve beyond what she'd imagined possible, the support didn't just help her academically; it fostered a sense of belonging and hope.

Emily completed Year 12 with distinction and, inspired by her maths journey, pursued accounting at university.

Her story shows how targeted support can ripple through a school community and show others the potential they might achieve. For other students, Emily's achievement is proof that a little support can help you go a long way. The school's actions, combined with State Schools Relief, set a powerful precedent: every student deserves the chance to reach their potential, regardless of financial circumstance.

*name changed

Students helping students

Students have been fundraising for State Schools Relief for over 95 years, and the difference they make is real. Every dollar raised goes straight to helping students who might otherwise go without, providing essential items and learning resources.

By getting involved, you can make a real impact. Your fundraising can help another student feel confident, included and ready to learn. Together, students supporting students can create real change, and help ensure everyone has the chance to belong, learn and succeed.