

“By supporting organisations like AIEF and providing young Indigenous children with access to quality education you’re not just supporting one child, you’re supporting their family and their broader community.”

Growing up in a close-knit community but a crowded home, Kodie found it challenging to focus on her goals. Boarding school offered the space and stability she needed to concentrate on her education. “It has meant a lot for my family and me that I received a quality education, as education is the only way to break the cycle of poverty,” says Kodie. “Boarding school allowed me to take up many amazing opportunities that I may not have had at home.”

Kodie completed Year 12 at St Vincent’s College, Potts Point, on an AIEF Scholarship in 2018 and became the first in her family to attend university.

After completing a degree in Social Research and Policy on an AIEF Tertiary Scholarship, Kodie began working as a Senior Policy Officer at the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG), ensuring Aboriginal voices are heard at all levels of policy.

In 2021, Kodie launched her business, Malima, a social enterprise delivering hands-on workshops in weaving, bush medicine, spear making and native plant use. Today, Malima employs family members and young Indigenous people from across the La Perouse Aboriginal community.

“It is exciting to be able to share our culture with so many different people and to see people getting more involved and wanting to educate themselves on Indigenous culture,” says Kodie.

In 2025, AIEF nominated Kodie for a Sydney Award. Her achievements were recognised as she was named Young Sydneysider of the Year for her work with Malima and her role with the NSW AECG. Kodie’s story shows how education creates ripple effects – uplifting individuals, strengthening families and empowering communities.

[Donate](#) today to support more Kodie access the life-changing opportunities that quality education provides.

