



BACK ON TRACK
FOUNDATION



**IMPACT
REPORT
2025**



**WHEN A CHILD SURVIVES CANCER,
THEIR HOPES AND DREAMS
DESERVE TO SURVIVE TOO.**

backontrack.org.au

“ Cancer didn’t end when treatment stopped. The hardest part was everything that came after. Back on Track made sure we didn’t face that alone. ”

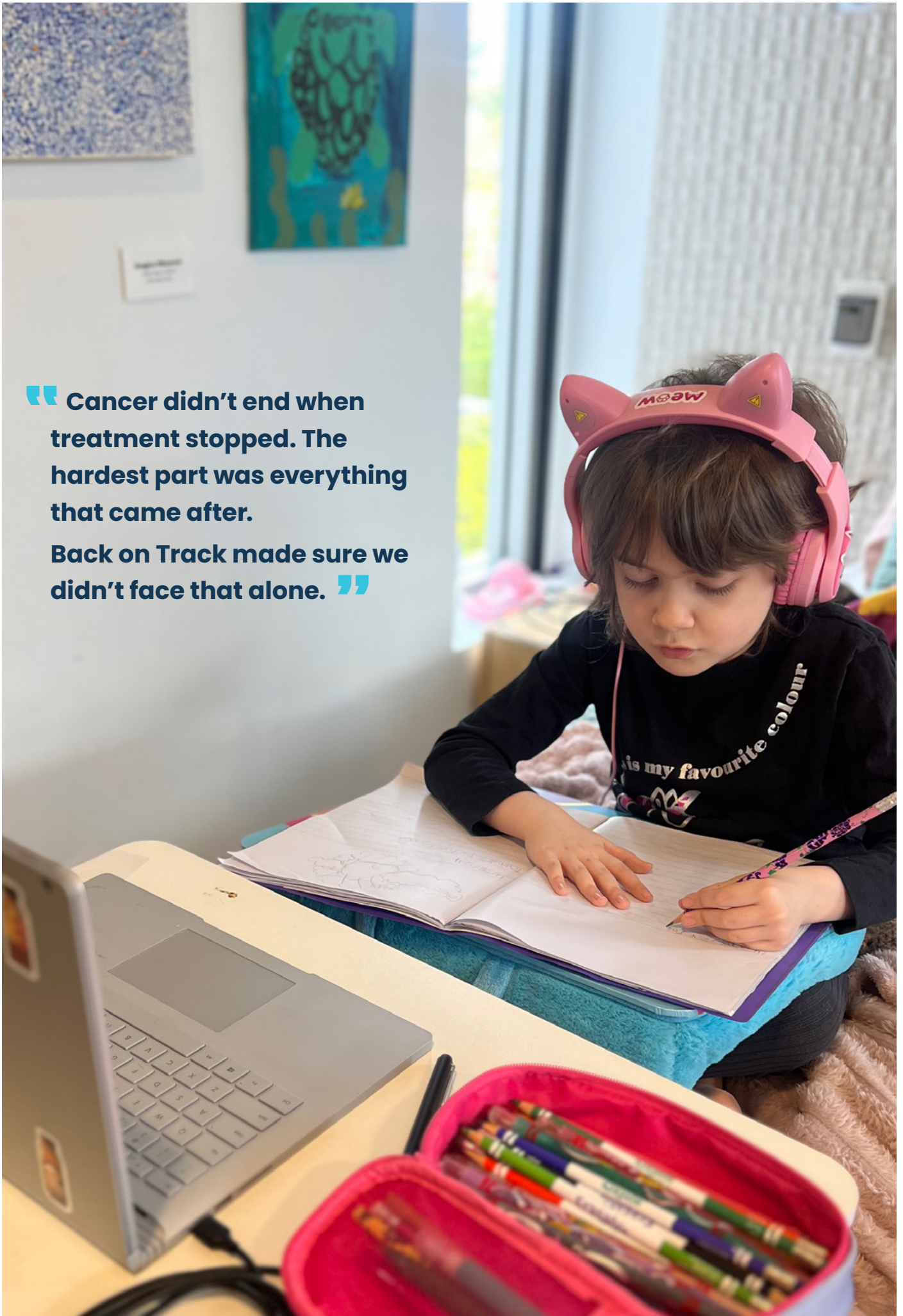


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WORLDWIDE

400,000

**CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS (AGED 0-19)
DEVELOP CANCER EVERY YEAR**

25%

**OF CHILDREN WITH
CHILDHOOD CANCER WILL
EXPERIENCE AT LEAST 5 OR
MORE LATE EFFECTS**

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO & FOUNDER



One of the most significant achievements of the year has been our expanded reach into regional and remote WA”

Kylie Dalton
CEO & Founder

2025

2025 has been a defining year for the Back on Track Foundation. Our focus has been on strengthening our statewide presence, deepening relationships across regional and remote communities, and building the capability to support the growing complexity of educational needs for children recovering from cancer.

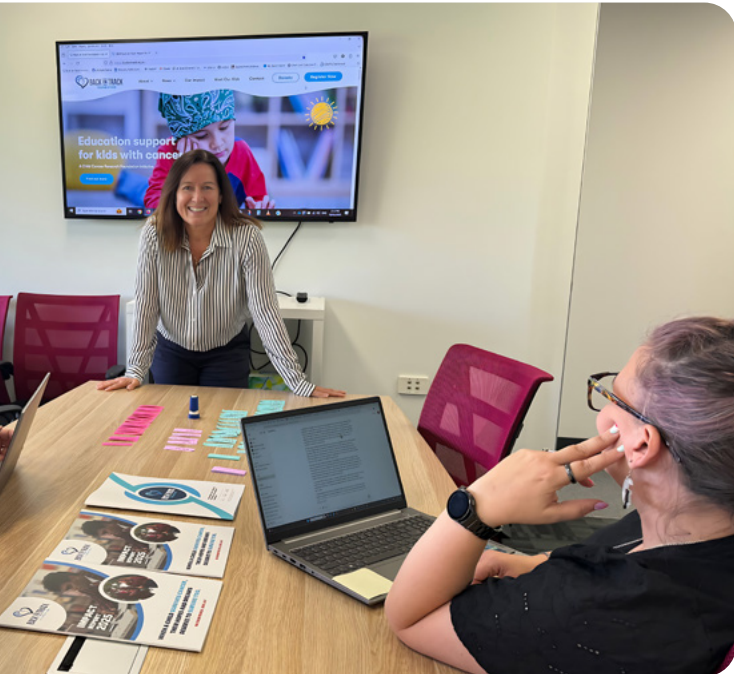
This work has reinforced a simple truth: equitable access to education is still uneven across Western Australia, and it takes persistence, partnership and strong governance to address the gaps.

One of the most significant achievements of the year has been our expanded reach into regional and remote WA. Our relationships across the Kimberley, Pilbara, Gascoyne, Midwest and Goldfields have strengthened, supported by on-the-ground engagement from our Senior Regional Advocate and the growing network of schools and community organisations who share our commitment to educational recovery.

Earlier this year, I travelled to Exmouth to meet with a family in need of support. Delivering technology and backpacks for all siblings and meeting with the Deputy Principal of the local high school reinforced the importance of personal connection and the need for locally informed solutions. These encounters shape how we grow and ensure our approach remains grounded in community realities rather than assumptions formed from the metropolitan centre.

2025 also marked a decisive shift in how we use technology to strengthen the delivery of education advocacy. Since early 2024, our staff have been integrating AI into case planning, communication workflows and lesson preparation. In 2025, this capability became more structured and governance-led. Program Director Louise Shedden and I, have trained the team in responsible, human-aligned AI practice, embedding ethical oversight and strong governance principles across our work.

Staff have taken ownership of developing their own skills, and our internal capacity has grown significantly. Together, our General Manager Ben Pegus and I have been developing AI agents to improve operational efficiency, and Education Advocate Stuart Shields is now advancing our first teacher-support agent. With governance foundations, technical readiness and internal capability firmly established, the SAFE AI platform is poised for its next stage of development. Our progress in 2025 demonstrates that Back on Track is ready to lead this work at the scale and standard it deserves.



Another major milestone has been our direct policy engagement with the Western Australian Government, where Ben and I met with Ministers and senior policy advisors to advocate for statewide support and systemic change in survivorship education. These meetings allowed us to present evidence, articulate systemic barriers and demonstrate the social and economic value of structured, statewide educational recovery for children affected by cancer.

As a direct outcome of sustained cross-government advocacy, a roundtable discussion was convened with key stakeholders to progress this issue at a systems level. This engagement has now informed a formal budget brief, which has been submitted for consideration in the 2026 funding cycle. While the outcome of this process remains pending, this represents meaningful progress in elevating survivorship education from an individual family burden to a recognised system-level priority.

Internally, the organisation continues to mature. Louise has now moved into the role of Program Director, reflecting the depth and quality of our education advocacy model and the scale of our operational responsibilities. This transition strengthens our capacity to respond to demand, manage increasingly complex casework across WA and deliver high-quality support for children and families in both metropolitan and regional communities.

“This work has reinforced a simple truth: equitable access to education is still uneven across Western Australia, and it takes persistence, partnership and strong governance to address the gaps.”

Our partnerships have also deepened, with ongoing backing from Telethon 7 Trust, the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation, and Cancer Australia, and new collaborations with Minerals Resources for technology access and with Fortescue for regional STEM opportunities in northern WA. These partnerships reflect growing confidence from industry and philanthropy in our model and long-term direction.

Looking ahead to 2026, our focus is on consolidation, capability and credible preparation. We will advance the SAFE AI funding pathway with a strong governance foundation. We will continue building statewide coverage and refining our data maturity. We will engage the Australian Institute of Business to independently assess the Back on Track Education Program, strengthening the evidence base that will underpin future policy engagement. While national expansion remains a future opportunity rather than an immediate claim, the groundwork laid in 2025 positions us well to contribute to discussions about national models when the time is appropriate.

The resilience of the children and families we support continues to guide every decision we make. Their courage is the measure of our purpose. In 2025, we strengthened our foundation, expanded our reach and invested in the systems, people and governance that will carry this organisation forward. In 2026, we will build on that momentum with clarity, discipline and ambition.

Kylie Dalton
CEO & Founder

MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM DIRECTOR

In 2025, Back On Track Foundation moved from service provider to sector leader. We established new standards for educational advocacy in childhood cancer recovery across Western Australia, standards grounded in trauma-informed practice, survivorship research and legal compliance.

Our work now supports 145 children and siblings navigating the neurological, educational and emotional aftermath of cancer treatment. The complexity we encounter is not exceptional, it is typical. Twenty-three per cent of our participants present with multiple complex needs. Cognitive fatigue, executive dysfunction, sensory processing difficulties, emerging ADHD-like characteristics, hearing impairments, chronic pain and trauma-based learning barriers now define much of our caseload.

We responded by strengthening our clinical capability. Our Advocacy Team expanded, embedding trauma-informed practice through our 3Rs Framework (Recognise, Respond, Restore) and our TRACK Framework. These guides show how schools understand regulation, relational safety and neurocognitive impacts, whether supporting a survivor or a sibling.

Our reach extends from Kununurra to Esperance. We engaged with 89 schools across WA to ensure adjustments follow the Disability Standards for Education, develop legally sound Individual Education Plans, create risk management protocols and train educators on the neurological realities,

not assumptions, that shape our students' learning. In 2025, we upskilled five educators and advocates in Dyslexia training, Resilience and Trauma-Informed Practice.

Across 2023–2025, more than 65 devices have been placed directly into the hands of survivors and siblings. Of these, 38 were gifted in 2025—evidence of both growing need and our increasingly robust technology partnership, especially for regional and remote families.

Behind each statistic is a child rebuilding academic confidence. A family stabilising after crisis. A sibling reclaiming their identity.

We are no longer responding to the system. We are redefining one school, one plan, one child at a time.



Louise Shedden
Program Director & Co-Founder





In 2025:

SUPPORTED



145

PARTICIPANTS

SUPPORTED



25

FAMILIES IN
REGIONAL / RURAL
& REMOTE AREAS

CURRENTLY



89

PARTNER
SCHOOLS
ACROSS METRO &
REGIONAL WA

SUPPORTED



44

SIBLINGS

DISTRIBUTED



65

LAPTOPS
TO PARTICIPANTS

CURRENTLY



29

PENDING
PARTICIPANTS
AS OF 31 DEC 2025

ABOUT BACK ON TRACK

A statewide education advocacy program closing the gap between childhood cancer survival and long-term learning success.



Back on Track Foundation is a Western Australian-based charity that delivers specialist, trauma-informed educational advocacy for children and adolescents recovering from cancer, and for their siblings. In 2025, the Foundation worked at the intersection of education, health, and family well-being, supporting children to reconnect with learning after treatment and to navigate the long-term cognitive, emotional, and systemic impacts of survivorship.

The Foundation's work throughout 2025 extended from active treatment through to long-term educational recovery. Rather than providing short-term tutoring, Back on Track focused on rebuilding

learning continuity over time, recognising that the educational effects of childhood cancer often emerged or intensified months and years after treatment ended. Through tailored advocacy, teaching support, and family guidance, the organisation supported schools in meeting their obligations under the Disability Standards for Education, assisted families through complex transitions, and ensured that learning plans reflected neurological reality rather than assumptions.

During 2025, Back on Track delivered its education advocacy program across metropolitan, regional and remote Western

Australia, supporting children and families from the Kimberley to the South Coast. This statewide delivery provided a stable foundation for strengthening the model, building evidence, and preparing for future expansion beyond Western Australia. As demand and case complexity increased, the organisation continued to strengthen its clinical capability, data maturity and internal systems, positioning Back on Track not only as a service provider but as a contributor to broader discussions on educational recovery and childhood cancer survivorship.

At the core of this work was a clear commitment that surviving cancer should not come at the cost of educational opportunity, identity or future pathways. Back on Track exists to ensure children return to education with the understanding, protection, and support they need to thrive.



+ Our Mission, Vision & Purpose

Back on Track are dedicated to providing personalised educational assistance and resources to childhood cancer survivors and their families.

TAILORED EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

MISSION

We rebuild educational futures for children and siblings recovering from cancer through tailored teaching, family advocacy and mental health support from hospital to classroom.

Our work restores learning continuity, strengthens confidence and ensures children return to education with the support they need to thrive.

EVERY SURVIVOR GRADUATES WITH PEERS

VISION

Every child who survives cancer graduates with their peers, confident in their ability to learn and connected to their community.

We are strengthening the foundations of a statewide model for educational recovery that brings together trauma-informed teaching, family systems support and strong governance. Over time, this work will contribute to the national conversation on how Australia supports young cancer survivors as learners, students and future citizens.

CANCER SURVIVAL WITHOUT EDUCATIONAL LOSS

PURPOSE

Cancer survival should not come at the cost of educational opportunity or mental health.

Each year, thousands of children and siblings face disrupted schooling, long-term cognitive and emotional impacts, and the compounding disadvantage that follows extended absences from learning. These children enter systems never designed with their recovery in mind.

Back on Track Foundation exists because childhood cancer is a family crisis with educational consequences that outlast treatment. We work at the intersection of health, education and family wellbeing so that survival includes the chance to thrive academically and emotionally. Our purpose is to remove the barriers that prevent children from reconnecting with learning and to support families through transitions that would otherwise be overwhelming and isolating.

+ Governance

Strong governance remained a defining feature of the Back on Track Foundation in 2025 and a key driver of organisational stability, program quality and long-term direction. Throughout the year, the Board provided disciplined oversight across strategy, finance, risk and organisational development, ensuring the Foundation's work remained safe, ethical and aligned with the complex needs of children recovering from cancer.

BOARD OVERSIGHT AND STRUCTURE

The Foundation's governance framework is grounded in transparency, evidence and accountable decision-making. The Board met regularly throughout 2025 to oversee strategic direction, approve major organisational decisions and monitor performance against risk and compliance obligations. This oversight was particularly important as the organisation consolidated statewide delivery, responded to increasing case complexity and strengthened its systems and workforce capability.

The Board brings a breadth of perspectives essential to the Foundation's mission, including leadership, financial stewardship, governance, organisational change, charitable management and lived experience of childhood cancer. This diversity supports informed decision-making and ensures that planning remains grounded in both professional expertise and the realities families face.

In 2025, the Board comprised:



DAMIAN BURTON

Chair

MBA; GAICD



JUSTIN BRUCE

Treasurer

*B Bus (Accounting), CPA
Lived Experience*



ANGUS HOLLINGTON

Vice Chairperson

Lived Experience



PHILIPPA GARDENER

Secretary

*MBA; Dip. Personnel Management,
Lived experience, Governance
Specialist*



KYLIE DALTON

Founder & CEO
(Executive Director)

MBA, FGIA, Certified Chair



CLAUDIA SCHLESINGER

Board Director

*BA (Hons), Dip. Personnel
Management, 26 Years NGO
Experience, International Change
Management Specialist*



ANDREA ALEXANDER

Board Director

*CEO of Child Cancer Research
Foundation*



COMMITTEES, AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The Board was supported by three standing committees, Finance, Audit and Risk, each responsible for focused oversight in critical areas of governance. These committees provided structured scrutiny of financial performance, compliance obligations, organisational risk and internal controls, enabling clear lines of responsibility and timely escalation of issues where required.

Risk management was monitored throughout the year, with particular attention to child safety, regional service delivery, data governance, workforce capacity and organisational growth. The Foundation maintained and reviewed its risk register regularly, supporting proactive rather than reactive management as demand and operational complexity increased.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Audit and financial oversight remained central pillars of governance in 2025. The Foundation completed its independent financial audit for the 2024–25 year, with all statements reviewed, approved and prepared for reporting to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. Transparent financial processes, supported by regular committee oversight and disciplined internal practice, continued to underpin funder confidence and regulatory compliance.

The Board approved the annual budget and monitored financial performance across the year, ensuring resources were deployed responsibly and in line with the Foundation's charitable purpose.

GOVERNANCE OF TECHNOLOGY AND AI

During 2025, governance responsibilities expanded to include oversight of the Foundation's growing use of digital and AI-enabled tools. As internal capability matured, the Board oversaw the adoption of responsible, human-aligned AI practices, ensuring that technology use remained consistent with child-safe standards, data protection obligations and ethical governance principles.

This oversight extended to internal agent development, data use and early-stage platform preparation, including the SAFE AI pathway. Board engagement in this area ensured innovation progressed within clear governance boundaries and positioned the organisation to scale capability safely and credibly.

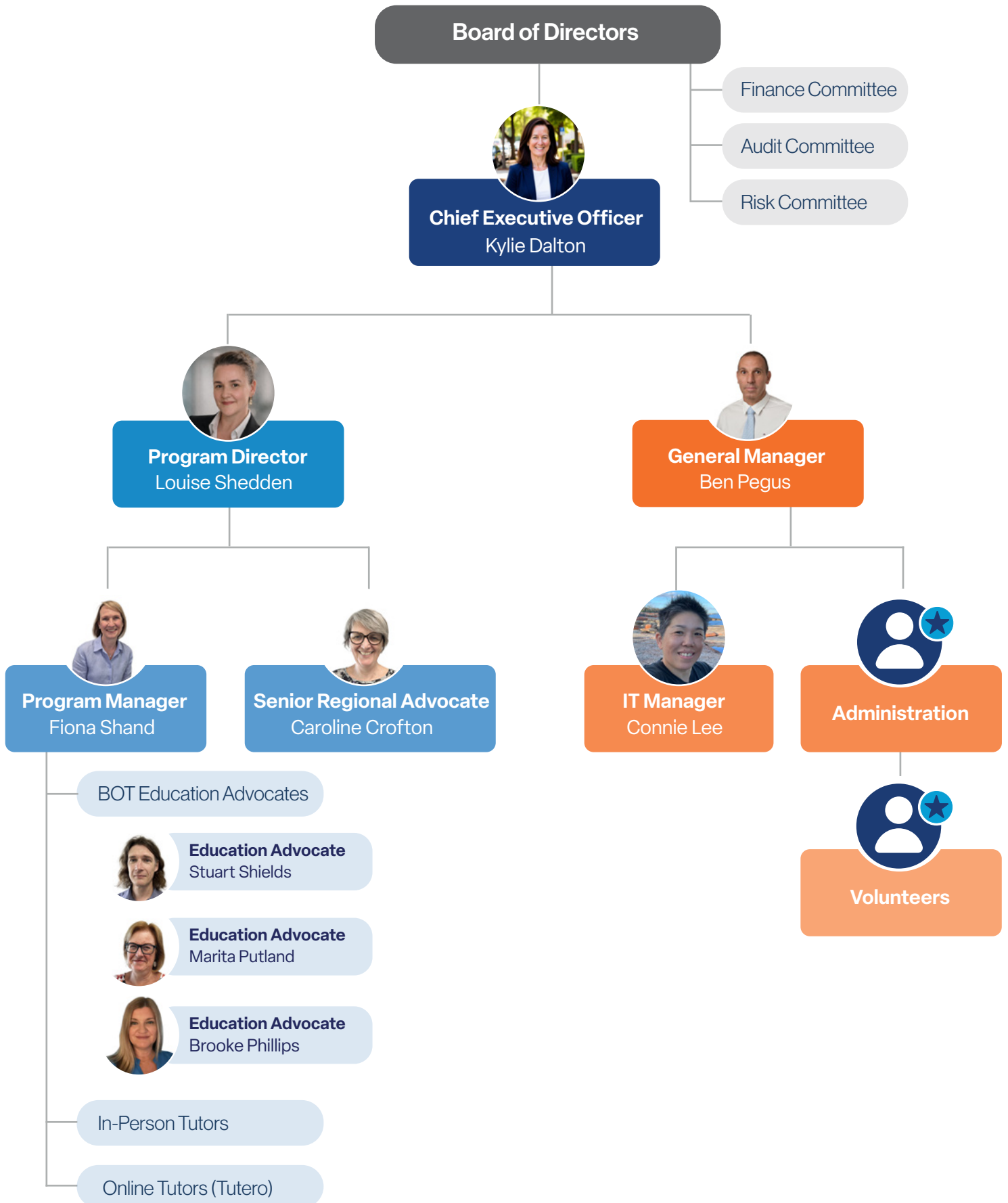
PREPARING FOR FUTURE ACCOUNTABILITY

In preparation for future system-level engagement and organisational growth, the Board endorsed an independent assessment of the Back on Track Education Program by the Australian Institute of Business, scheduled for 2026. This evaluation will strengthen the Foundation's evidence base, inform continuous improvement and support participation in broader policy discussions on survivorship education.

Through disciplined governance, the Back on Track Foundation remained well-equipped in 2025 to support children and families across Western Australia while preparing responsibly for future opportunities. Governance continues to guide every aspect of the organisation's work and underpins its readiness for the responsibilities ahead.

+ Meet Our Team

ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW



+ Meet Our Team

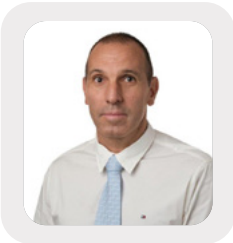
LEADERSHIP TEAM



Kylie Dalton *MBA, FGIA, Certified Chair*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER & FOUNDER

As Founder and CEO, Kylie Dalton has led Back on Track from concept to a rapidly expanding, state-wide education recovery service supporting children and families beyond cancer treatment. She brings deep strategic capability, governance expertise, and financial oversight shaped by executive leadership and board experience across the not-for-profit and public sectors. Under her leadership, the organisation has strengthened its systems, partnerships, and national positioning. Kylie is also advancing the integration of ethical, human-centred AI to build scalable, data-informed support models for medically vulnerable children into the future.



Ben Pegus *MBA, Dip Project Management, Dip Human Resources*

GENERAL MANAGER

As General Manager, Ben brings strong operational leadership across governance, human resources, risk, and corporate partnerships, strengthening internal systems while securing the funding required for sustainable growth. He has embedded disciplined processes that build workforce capability, compliance, and organisational resilience. In parallel, he has developed deep practical expertise in applied AI, leading system design to address skills gaps and operational constraints. His current focus is the responsible adoption of agentic AI, with clear governance and risk controls, to improve efficiency, decision-making, and service impact across Back on Track.



Louise Shedden *BEd (Primary)*

PROGRAM DIRECTOR & CO-FOUNDER

As Program Director, Louise has been instrumental in structuring Back on Track's growth, strengthening statewide delivery, staff capability, and complex case management. She safeguards program quality and consistency, ensuring every child is supported through a deeply trauma-informed lens. In parallel, she is shaping the future Back on Track Academy model, designing a program architecture that can responsibly integrate emerging AI capability to enhance personalised learning for medically vulnerable children. Her focus is to ensure the children we serve today receive exceptional support, while building a model prepared for sustainable, technology-enabled growth.



Fiona Shand *BEd, PGDip Health Promotion, MEd (Mental Health and Wellbeing)*

PROGRAM MANAGER

As Program Manager, Fiona brings extensive experience as a former Deputy Principal and a strong background in program design and educational leadership. She supports statewide program operations, case coordination, and day-to-day delivery across the advocacy team, ensuring structured, consistent implementation in both metropolitan and regional contexts. Drawing on her school leadership expertise, she strengthens educator guidance, reinforces quality standards, and translates strategy into practical systems that effectively support children and families.

+ Meet Our Team

EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY TEAM

Our Advocates work with children, siblings, schools and families to deliver tailored, trauma-informed education support. They help restore learning routines, manage school transitions and coordinate support across health and education settings.



Caroline Crofton *BBus, GradDipEd*

SENIOR REGIONAL ADVOCATE

Caroline leads Back on Track's regional engagement across Western Australia, supporting families who are often navigating treatment and recovery far from major services. She understands the added pressure distance places on parents and works to ensure support feels accessible, coordinated, and steady.

With experience across education systems and regional service delivery, Caroline builds strong partnerships with schools, health teams, and community organisations to ensure children receive structured, consistent advocacy wherever they live.



Stuart Shields *BSc, GradDipEd, GradDipPsych, GradDipPsych (Adv)*

EDUCATION ADVOCATE

Stuart connects quickly with children who may feel overwhelmed, disengaged, or unsure of their academic ability following treatment. He brings creativity and flexibility to his work, helping learning feel achievable again.

With formal training in both education and psychology, Stuart integrates cognitive insight with practical planning. He works closely with families and schools to align expectations with each child's emotional readiness, energy levels and learning profile.



Marita Putland *BEd*

EDUCATION ADVOCATE

Marita brings warmth, optimism, and steady encouragement to the families she supports. She understands how treatment can disrupt routines and confidence, and she helps children regain a sense of progress and belief in their abilities.

Alongside this relational approach, Marita provides structured education advocacy, guiding families through school planning, communication and transition processes with clarity and care.



Brooke Phillips *BA (Education – Early Childhood)*

EDUCATION ADVOCATE

Brooke specialises in early childhood education and recognises that younger children recovering from treatment often need safety, patience, and gentle rebuilding of learning foundations. She supports both children and parents through early transitions back into structured environments.

Her work focuses on developmentally appropriate planning, close collaboration with educators and practical strategies that rebuild confidence in the early years.



“A supportive team of educators who truly understand the impact of cancer on learning, confidence and family life.”

– Back on Track Parent

EXTERNAL ADVOCATE TEAM

In-Person

Our External Advocates provide personalised academic instruction that bridges learning gaps and rebuilds children's confidence after cancer treatment. They work closely with Back on Track Education Advocates to deliver consistent, curriculum-aligned support.

Online (Tutero + External Advocates)

Through our partnership with Tutero, online tutors deliver flexible, specialist support to students who require remote access or extended recovery timeframes. This ensures continuity of learning regardless of location or health status.

Additional External (2025 Cohort)

We have expanded our tutoring capacity this year to meet rising demand across WA.

OPERATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Administration Team

Provides essential logistical and administrative support across all programs, assisting families, managing records and ensuring smooth service delivery.

IT and Systems Support

Supports digital infrastructure, data management and internal technology capability. Works closely with the leadership team on responsible AI integration and internal agent development to enhance workflow and teaching support.

+ Ambassadors

Back on Track Ambassadors extend the Foundation's reach into communities, systems and conversations beyond direct service delivery. They bring lived experience, local connection and public voice to the work, strengthening how support is understood, accessed and delivered across Western Australia.

Through advocacy, storytelling and community engagement, Ambassadors help ensure the realities of childhood cancer recovery are visible, understood and acted on. Their role is particularly important in regional and remote communities, where connection, trust and cultural understanding are essential to improving access to support.

By amplifying the voices of children and families, Ambassadors contribute to a broader shift in awareness, helping schools, communities and decision-makers better understand the long-term impact of cancer and the support required beyond treatment.



CASSIE SILVER **BRAND AMBASSADOR**

Cassie Silver is a mother of two, former television journalist, and passionate storyteller who believes every child deserves the tools, confidence and support to reach their full potential, especially after life's toughest challenges.

As an Ambassador for Back on Track Foundation, Cassie is committed to ensuring children recovering from cancer are not defined by their diagnosis, but supported to move forward with confidence and opportunity. She sees education as a critical pathway to rebuilding identity, purpose and long-term wellbeing.

Drawing on her background in media and community advocacy, Cassie uses her voice to amplify the stories that matter, raising awareness of the realities families face beyond treatment and strengthening connection between communities, educators and support networks.

As a parent, she understands the hope and uncertainty families carry. As a storyteller, she brings those experiences into the public conversation, helping build understanding, empathy and support for children navigating recovery.





TREMANE BAXTER-EDWARDS
REGIONAL AMBASSADOR

When I stepped into the Regional Ambassador role, I wanted to make sure children from remote and regional communities could access the same opportunities I was given. Throughout 2025, I've had the privilege of helping Back on Track build genuine connections across the Kimberley and Pilbara.

Introducing the team to local services, schools and community leaders has shown me how powerful collaboration can be when it centres culture, trust and children's wellbeing.

Many families in the north are ready for stronger, more consistent support. I've seen firsthand the difference it makes when regional voices are heard early and included in the design of programs that affect our communities.

When Kylie shared the vision for SAFE AI, it made immediate sense to me. A tool that helps teachers understand the effects of cancer, distance and trauma on learning could change outcomes for young people who often sit at the intersection of disadvantage and potential.

Back on Track's expansion into northern WA has been significant this year, and I'm proud to have played a part. I look forward to continuing this work so more children in regional and remote communities have the opportunity to reconnect with learning and move forward with confidence.



+ How We Help

Back on Track delivers sustained, trauma-informed education advocacy for children recovering from cancer and their families. Educational recovery is rarely linear. It requires coordinated, relationship-based support that bridges hospital care and classroom reintegration. Our work is structured across four integrated service streams:

1 EDUCATION ADVOCACY

We work alongside families, schools and health professionals to design and implement individualised education plans aligned with each child's cognitive profile, health status and emotional capacity. This includes:

- Supporting schools to understand cancer-related late effects
- Meeting disability and inclusion obligations
- Applying consistent, protective adjustments
- Coordinating communication between medical and education systems
- Advocacy ensures learning continuity is safeguarded, not left to chance.

2 TRAUMA-INFORMED LEARNING SUPPORT

Our educators deliver personalised, trauma-informed learning support that adapts to fatigue, emotional regulation, executive functioning and cognitive load.

Support may be provided in-person or online and is paced to reflect each child's recovery trajectory. Children are supported to participate safely and with dignity, rather than being measured against unrealistic expectations.

Progress is often seen first in renewed attendance, increased engagement and restored confidence before academic acceleration. Trauma-informed practice is not an add-on. It underpins every interaction.

3 ACADEMIC SUPPORT COORDINATION

Recovery frequently involves multiple transitions – returning to school post-treatment, progressing between year levels, entering high school, or navigating alternative pathways.

We coordinate curriculum alignment, tutoring, mentoring and structured transition planning to reduce disruption during vulnerable periods.

By maintaining continuity of educator relationships and structured planning, we strengthen confidence and protect learning progression across key milestones.

4 FAMILY & SIBLING SUPPORT

Back on Track recognises that cancer impacts the whole family – not only the diagnosed child.

Siblings are supported equally, regardless of who received the diagnosis. Many siblings experience disrupted schooling, emotional strain, and reduced attention during treatment periods. Our program ensures they are not overlooked in recovery.

We provide:

- Advocacy for siblings' learning needs
- Emotional and mentoring support
- School coordination where required
- Guidance for parents navigating multiple children's needs

By reducing the burden on families to navigate complex systems alone, we stabilise households during periods of transition and uncertainty.

This whole-of-family approach is one of Back on Track's defining points of difference.

ABOUT

Statewide Reach

Support is delivered across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia, ensuring consistent access regardless of geography and strengthening the Foundation's statewide model.

A cornerstone of the program is trust. Progress is often reflected in renewed attendance, increased engagement and restored confidence before academic acceleration. By partnering with schools, medical teams and other childhood cancer organisations, Back on Track ensures education recovery is coordinated, protective and sustainable.



Siblings are supported equally — regardless of who received the diagnosis.



+ Why the Program is needed

Childhood cancer treatment disrupts far more than physical health. In 2025, Back on Track continued to see the lasting educational, cognitive and psychosocial impacts of treatment, often long after remission. For many families, the end of treatment did not mark a return to normality. It marked the beginning of a complex transition back into education systems not designed to recognise cancer-related late effects.

EDUCATIONAL DISRUPTION

Childhood cancer treatment disrupts educational development at critical stages of learning. Chemotherapy, radiotherapy and major surgeries, including neurosurgery, can result in cognitive, neurological and physical late effects that persist long after treatment ends.

These treatment-related impacts may include reduced processing speed, memory impairment, executive functioning challenges, fine motor difficulties, hearing or vision changes, hormonal disruption and chronic fatigue. Prolonged hospitalisation and infection risk further contribute to extended absences and missed foundational learning. Without structured intervention, these impacts can compound over time.

Fatigue and Reduced Capacity

Ongoing medical recovery limits sustained classroom participation. Standard academic expectations can quickly overwhelm students whose stamina and cognitive load tolerance have changed.

Back on Track Response: Education Advocates work with schools to adjust workload expectations, implement pacing strategies and design realistic learning plans aligned to each child's health capacity. Transition planning prevents overwhelm during reintegration.

Cognitive and Processing Changes

Chemotherapy, radiotherapy and neurosurgery can affect memory, processing speed, executive functioning and attention. These neurological impacts are often misunderstood within mainstream classrooms.

Back on Track Response: Advocates develop individualised education plans informed by each child's cognitive profile and medical history. Teachers receive practical guidance on adjustments such as scaffolded tasks, modified assessment formats and structured monitoring.

Interrupted Foundational Learning

Extended hospitalisation and infection risk lead to prolonged absences and missed foundational literacy and numeracy milestones, particularly in primary years.

Back on Track Response: Targeted tutoring rebuilds core skills progressively, restoring confidence while closing learning gaps without unrealistic academic pressure.

Social and Emotional Reintegration

Children often return socially disconnected and academically behind, increasing anxiety and the risk of withdrawal.

Back on Track Response: Reintegration planning includes graduated return schedules, peer education where appropriate and trauma-informed classroom strategies that protect dignity and engagement.





PSYCHOSOCIAL AND FAMILY IMPACT

Cancer treatment affects far more than academic progression. The emotional, psychological and social impacts of diagnosis and treatment often extend well beyond remission. Reintegration into school occurs within the context of trauma, disrupted relationships and family strain. Without structured support, these factors can significantly hinder both learning and wellbeing.

Psychological Distress and Trauma

A cancer diagnosis and treatment period can result in anxiety, depression and trauma-related responses for children. Reintegration into school environments may trigger stress, particularly where medical experiences remain recent or unresolved.

Back on Track Response: Education Advocates work with families and schools to implement trauma-informed reintegration strategies. These include structured transition planning, predictable routines and coordinated communication that reduces uncertainty and protects emotional safety.

Social Isolation and Confidence Loss

Prolonged absence from school disrupts peer relationships. Children may return feeling socially disconnected, self-conscious about physical changes or uncertain in group settings.

Back on Track Response: Advocates support schools to facilitate gradual social reintegration and provide guidance on peer education where appropriate. Reintegration planning prioritises dignity, inclusion and the rebuilding of confidence alongside academic recovery.

Parent Advocacy Burden

Parents often carry the responsibility of explaining late effects, negotiating adjustments and coordinating communication between medical and education systems, while managing ongoing emotional and financial strain.

Back on Track Response: The program reduces this burden by providing sustained educational advocacy. Advocates attend school meetings, translate medical information into educational planning and ensure agreed adjustments are implemented consistently.

Sibling Impact

Siblings frequently experience disrupted routines, emotional withdrawal and reduced parental attention during treatment periods. These impacts are often overlooked within school settings.

Back on Track Response: Back on Track extends advocacy and guidance to siblings, supporting schools to recognise their needs and maintain stable academic engagement during family recovery.

SYSTEMIC GAPS

Despite high survival rates, education systems are not structured to respond consistently to the long-term impacts of childhood cancer treatment. Support is often dependent on individual school capacity, staff knowledge and available resources. Without specialist coordination, children can fall through gaps between health and education systems.

Limited Understanding of Late Effects

Many educators are unfamiliar with the cognitive and neurological impacts of chemotherapy, radiotherapy and treatment-related acquired brain injury. Adjustments may be inconsistent or delayed.

Back on Track Response: Advocates translate medical information into practical education strategies, ensuring adjustments are evidence-informed and aligned with Disability Standards for Education obligations.

Inconsistent School Resources

Access to learning support varies significantly across metropolitan, regional and remote settings. Smaller schools often lack specialist staff or capacity to implement tailored adjustments.

Back on Track Response: Back on Track provides direct advocacy and structured planning regardless of postcode, ensuring students receive equitable support across Western Australia.

Fragmented Communication Between Systems

Families are frequently required to coordinate communication between medical teams, schools and external providers, leading to duplication and misalignment.

Back on Track Response: Education Advocates act as a central coordination point, aligning hospital information, family priorities and school planning to create continuity.

Lack of Long-Term Monitoring

Late effects may emerge months or years after treatment. Schools often respond reactively rather than proactively.

Back on Track Response: The program provides sustained engagement beyond immediate reintegration, monitoring progress and adjusting plans as needs evolve.





1,270 AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN (0-19) WILL BE DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER IN 2025.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Without coordinated advocacy, cancer-related late effects can translate into long-term educational disadvantage.

Back on Track bridges health and education systems to ensure survival does not come at the cost of opportunity.



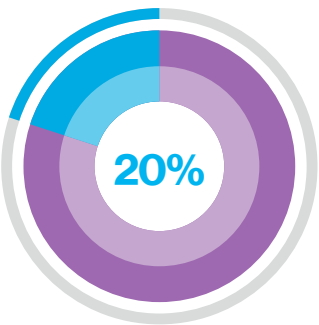
50% OF CHILDRENS WILL BE ABSENT FOR OVER 6 MONTHS AFTER A CANCER DIAGNOSIS.

“ Children with cancer report social difficulties and bullying when they return to school. ”

“ Children undergoing cancer treatment experience significant isolation & disconnection from school. ”



“ **IN ONE STUDY, LESS THAN 10% OF PARENTS REPORTED THAT THEY RECEIVED ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN WITH CANCER AT SCHOOL.** ”



20% OF ADOLESCENTS WILL EXPERIENCE POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS SYNDROME (PTSS)

+ What distinguishes Back on Track from other entities or services in children's health

Back on Track is the only Western Australian program exclusively focused on structured educational recovery following childhood cancer treatment. The program integrates advocacy, clinical insight and systems coordination to address the long-term educational consequences of survivorship.



Education Advocacy as a Formal Model

Back on Track operates a dedicated education advocacy framework that bridges families, schools and health services. Advocates translate medical information into structured learning plans and ensure adjustments align with Disability Standards for Education obligations. This formalised approach distinguishes the program from general tutoring or wellbeing services.



Specialist Focus on Treatment-Related Late Effects

Support is grounded in an understanding of neurocognitive and psychosocial impacts arising from chemotherapy, radiotherapy and surgery. The program adapts as academic demands increase over time, recognising that late effects may emerge months or years after treatment concludes.



Whole-Family Systems Approach

Back on Track recognises childhood cancer as a family crisis with educational consequences. Advocacy extends to siblings and caregivers, strengthening engagement across the household and reducing the risk of long-term disengagement.



Integrated Cross-Sector Partnerships

The program collaborates with schools, hospitals, government agencies and community organisations to ensure continuity between health and education systems. This coordinated model reduces fragmentation and protects educational progression during recovery.



SAFE AI Initiative: Future-Focused Infrastructure

Through the SAFE AI Initiative, Back on Track is developing an adaptive learning platform in partnership with Curtin University. The system is designed to personalise educational recovery for children impacted by cancer, particularly those in regional and remote communities.

Curtin University oversees research design and ethical governance to ensure the platform meets high standards of safety, data protection and educational integrity. During 2024–25, curriculum mapping and initial design scoping were completed, establishing the foundation for a scalable, technology-enabled model of education recovery.

Back on Track provides a structured, system-connected approach to educational recovery that goes beyond tutoring or wellbeing support alone. By integrating advocacy, clinical insight and cross-sector coordination, the program ensures children recovering from cancer are supported to re-engage with learning in a way that is safe, consistent and sustainable.

+ Areas we service



“Specialist support, delivered across Western Australia.”

In 2025, Back on Track delivered its education advocacy program across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia, ensuring children recovering from cancer could access specialist support regardless of postcode. Service delivery spanned the Perth metropolitan area, Peel, South West, Great Southern, Wheatbelt, Pilbara and Kimberley regions. Regional engagement reduced disparities in access to educational advocacy, particularly for families facing distance, limited specialist services and workforce shortages.

STATEWIDE DELIVERY MODEL

In 2025, Back on Track delivered its education advocacy program across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia. Families were supported from Wyndham to Esperance. Service delivery spanned the Perth metropolitan area, Peel, South West, Great Southern, Wheatbelt, Pilbara and Kimberley regions, ensuring children recovering from cancer could access specialist educational support regardless of postcode.

REDUCING GEOGRAPHIC INEQUITY

Children recovering from cancer in regional and remote communities often face compounded barriers: fewer specialist services, limited school-based supports and workforce constraints.

Back on Track’s regional expansion directly addressed this inequity, embedding advocacy capacity in areas traditionally underserved by specialist education support.

FOUNDATION FOR RESPONSIBLE GROWTH

Statewide delivery in 2025 provided a stable platform for consolidating the model, strengthening evidence collection and preparing for future expansion beyond Western Australia.

This growth has been deliberate and accountable, ensuring service quality is maintained while scale increases.



OUR IMPACT

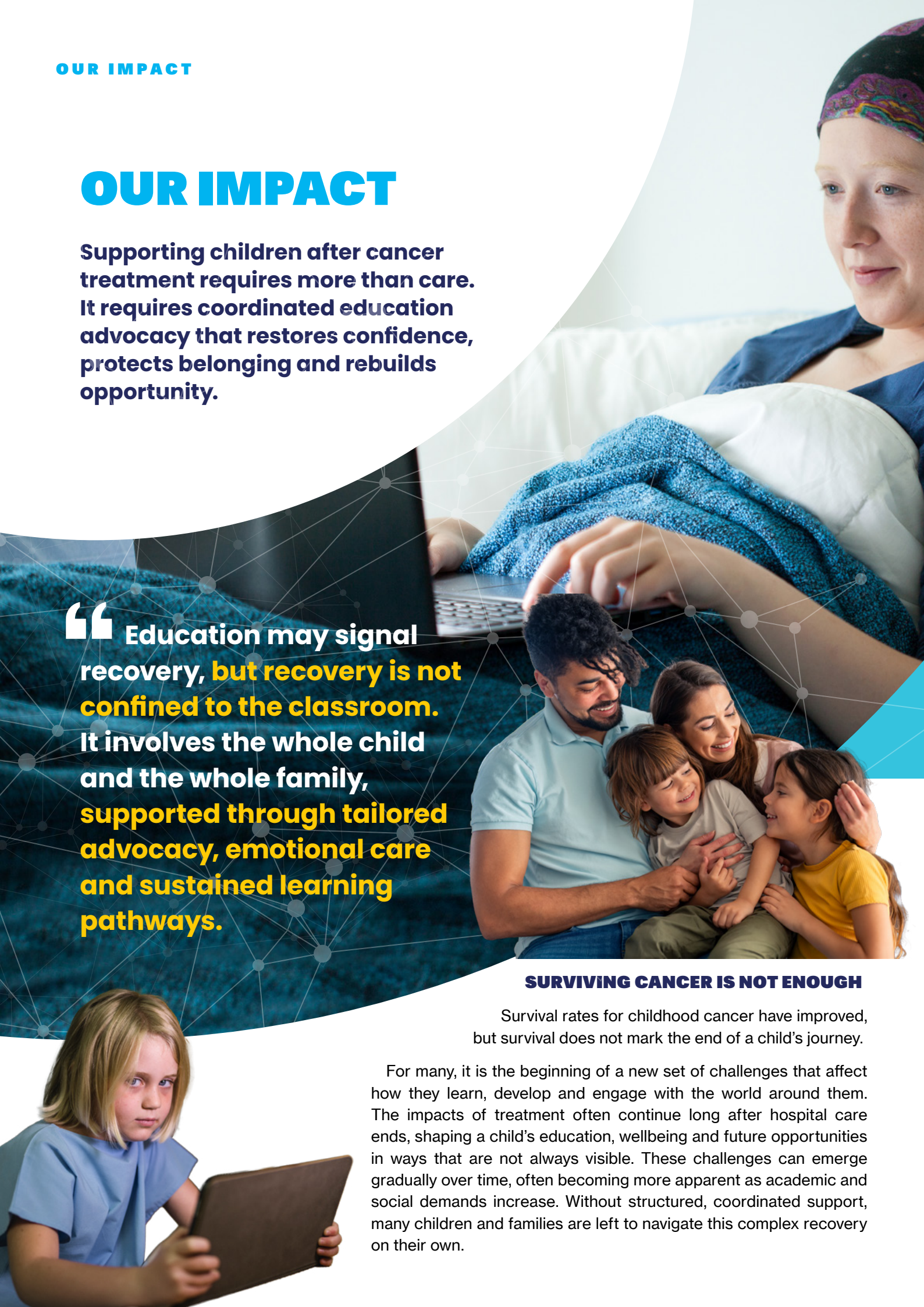
Supporting children after cancer treatment requires more than care. It requires coordinated education advocacy that restores confidence, protects belonging and rebuilds opportunity.

“ Education may signal recovery, but recovery is not confined to the classroom. It involves the whole child and the whole family, supported through tailored advocacy, emotional care and sustained learning pathways.

SURVIVING CANCER IS NOT ENOUGH

Survival rates for childhood cancer have improved, but survival does not mark the end of a child's journey.

For many, it is the beginning of a new set of challenges that affect how they learn, develop and engage with the world around them. The impacts of treatment often continue long after hospital care ends, shaping a child's education, wellbeing and future opportunities in ways that are not always visible. These challenges can emerge gradually over time, often becoming more apparent as academic and social demands increase. Without structured, coordinated support, many children and families are left to navigate this complex recovery on their own.



In 2025, Back on Track consolidated its statewide delivery while strengthening internal capability to meet rising demand. Children recovering from cancer and their siblings continued to present with complex, layered needs requiring coordinated educational advocacy across health, school and community systems.

Demand intensified across regional and remote Western Australia, reinforcing the importance of consistent, specialist support. Families sought assistance earlier and with greater urgency, often navigating neurocognitive late effects, prolonged absence and emotional strain.

At the same time, the organisation matured internally. Governance of digital practice and AI-enabled systems strengthened, regional partnerships deepened and operational systems were refined to improve safety, quality and efficiency.

The following pages outline the structured model behind our work, how we measure progress and the impact achieved across short-term, long-term and system-level dimensions.

PROVIDING LIFE-CHANGING SUPPORT TO CHILDREN & FAMILIES NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF CHILD CANCER RECOVERY



Current treatments can cause severe and often lifelong late effects, particularly because they occur during critical periods of childhood development. These impacts can affect emotions, growth, hormones, learning, memory, hearing, vision, heart and lung function, fertility, digestive health and sexual development. In some cases, treatment itself can also lead to secondary cancers.

In Australia, around 750 children aged 14 years and younger are diagnosed with cancer each year. Survival rates have improved significantly, with around 80% of children now expected to survive. But survival is only part of the story. Four in five survivors experience at least one long-term health condition related to treatment, including pain, fatigue, infertility and memory decline.

These impacts do not sit in isolation. They affect school attendance, concentration, confidence, social connection and long-term wellbeing. They also extend beyond the diagnosed child. Siblings often experience anxiety, disrupted schooling, social isolation and major changes to family life, yet are frequently overlooked in systems designed around the patient alone.

For families, survivorship can mean ongoing appointments, financial strain, medical trauma and the loss of any clear pathway back to normal life. Increasingly, the challenge is not only helping children survive cancer, but ensuring they are supported to live well, reconnect with education and move forward with stability after treatment ends.

+ The Model Behind the Impact

Back on Track's impact is driven by a structured, evidence-informed model that integrates education advocacy, trauma-informed practice and coordinated cross-sector partnerships.



Education Advocacy Framework

Each child receives an individualised education plan aligned with their medical history, cognitive profile and stage of recovery. Advocates ensure adjustments are implemented consistently and reviewed as needs evolve.



Adaptive Learning and Reintegration

Flexible pacing, scaffolded tasks and sensory-informed strategies support students to re-engage with learning at a manageable pace, reducing overload and rebuilding academic confidence.



Family-Centred Coordination

Advocates reduce the burden on families by coordinating communication between schools, healthcare providers and caregivers. This strengthens stability across the home-school interface.



Integrated School and Health Partnerships

Medical information is translated into practical classroom strategies, equipping educators with case-specific guidance and strengthening school capacity.



Regional and Hybrid Delivery

A combination of in-person and technology-enabled support ensures continuity across metropolitan, regional and remote communities.



Digital and Innovation Infrastructure

Through the SAFE AI Initiative, Back on Track is developing adaptive digital tools to enhance personalisation and expand access, supported by structured governance and research partnership.

Through this model, Back on Track delivers coordinated, trauma-informed support that strengthens learning, wellbeing and long-term outcomes for children recovering from cancer.



+ How we measure impact

Back on Track evaluates impact across academic engagement, emotional wellbeing and family stability.

- **Engagement and Attendance**
Consistent participation is treated as a critical early indicator of recovery. Regular attendance often precedes measurable academic improvement.
- **Family and Educator Feedback**
Qualitative insight from families and schools informs program refinement and identifies emerging needs.
- **Case Review and Monitoring**
Individualised plans are reviewed over time to assess adjustment effectiveness and long-term progression.

This multi-dimensional evaluation approach strengthens the Foundation's evidence base and supports responsible growth.

Through disciplined evaluation and continuous feedback, Back on Track strengthens its model each year. Our data informs practice, sharpens advocacy and ensures that every child receives support that is responsive, accountable and evidence-based.

These outcomes extend beyond individual children and families. They contribute to broader social, economic and system-level impact.



+ Sustainability and ESG Alignment

Back on Track delivers measurable social and economic outcomes for children recovering from cancer, while contributing to broader Environmental, Social and Governance priorities. In 2025, the Foundation strengthened its alignment with ESG principles across both its operational activities and program outcomes.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Environmental responsibility is reflected in practical initiatives across our operations. Through our partnership with Mineral Resources, refurbished technology is redirected to medically vulnerable children instead of entering landfill, diverting electronic waste while extending the useful life of high-value devices.

We also distribute donated educational supplies and stationery that would otherwise reach end-of-life disposal. By redirecting these resources into classrooms and homes, Back on Track demonstrates a practical, circular approach to resource use within the education sector.



SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

While these initiatives contribute to environmental sustainability, the Foundation's most significant impact lies in long-term social and economic outcomes.

Children recovering from cancer treatment are at high risk of educational disruption and disengagement. Without structured support, these disruptions can lead to long-term disengagement from education, reduced workforce participation and increased demand on social and health systems. Back on Track addresses this challenge through tailored tutoring, mentoring and school advocacy, helping students rebuild confidence, reconnect with learning and return to a stable educational pathway.

Educational attainment is strongly linked to long-term employment, income stability and economic participation. Supporting a child to remain engaged in school improves immediate academic outcomes while strengthening their future ability to participate in the workforce and contribute to the economy. These outcomes are monitored through attendance data, academic progression and school retention metrics, tracked in collaboration with families and schools.

The Foundation's work also supports social sustainability within communities. Families navigating childhood cancer often experience significant emotional, financial and logistical strain. By stabilising a child's education during recovery, Back on Track helps reduce pressure on caregivers, improve family wellbeing and maintain connection to school communities.



OUR IMPACT

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Strong governance underpins the delivery of these outcomes. Back on Track operates with clear safeguarding policies, structured referral pathways, defined educator roles and data-informed program evaluation.

We collaborate closely with hospitals, survivorship clinics, schools and community organisations to ensure programs are delivered safely, responsibly and aligned with broader healthcare and education systems.



CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY VALUE

For corporate partners, supporting Back on Track represents an opportunity to contribute to measurable social impact while strengthening ESG and social licence commitments.

Investment in educational recovery for medically vulnerable children supports community wellbeing, strengthens future workforce participation and contributes to a more inclusive and resilient society.



CORPORATE ESG ALIGNMENT

Partnering with Back on Track enables organisations to deliver meaningful Environmental, Social and Governance outcomes through targeted community investment.

This includes:

- Strengthening community wellbeing and resilience
- Improving educational access for medically vulnerable children
- Supporting future workforce participation and economic inclusion
- Reducing waste through circular reuse of technology and educational resources
- Demonstrating measurable social impact supported by strong governance and program accountability

Through partnership, organisations can contribute to tangible community outcomes while strengthening their ESG commitments.

“ Without structured support, these disruptions can lead to long-term disengagement from education, reduced workforce participation and increased demand on social and health systems. ”

+ Short Term Impacts

Social and Emotional Engagement

Many students begin their journey with us carrying the weight of prolonged absence, medical trauma and lost confidence. Our Advocates meet each child at their level of readiness and capacity, introducing learning in ways that feel safe and achievable.

By building early opportunities for success, no matter how small, we establish the trust and engagement required to move toward structured, curriculum-aligned support over time. Re-engagement is not rushed. It is rebuilt.

Increased Attendance and Participation

Improved attendance often signals renewed trust in the school environment. For some children, consistent partial attendance is a significant milestone.

Through coordinated advocacy and clear adjustment planning, we reduce the anxiety and cognitive overload that can prevent attendance. Participation strengthens before performance.

Strengthened Family Confidence

Parents navigating education post-treatment often feel uncertain about expectations, rights and available supports. Through case coordination and advocacy, families gain clarity, language and practical tools.

This early stabilisation reduces conflict with schools, strengthens home-school partnerships and restores parental confidence during a vulnerable transition period.

+ Long Term Impacts

Improved Social Integration

Over time, structured support strengthens peer connection and classroom participation. Children build the confidence to re-enter social spaces that once felt overwhelming.

Sustained collaboration with schools ensures adjustments evolve as health and cognitive needs change, supporting continuity across year levels and developmental stages.

Academic Progress

Academic recovery is rarely linear. Through trauma-informed learning support, curriculum coordination and targeted tutoring, students close learning gaps at a pace aligned with health capacity.

Progress is measured not only by grades, but by increased independence, cognitive stamina and readiness for future learning demands.

Family Stability and Resilience

When advocacy is consistent, families shift from crisis management to forward planning. Parents understand pathways, siblings receive structured support, and expectations become realistic and protective.

Over time, households experience greater stability, reduced educational conflict and improved confidence navigating complex systems.

Expanded Pathways

As confidence and capacity grow, students engage in broader educational experiences including subject progression, vocational pathways and enrichment opportunities. Recovery evolves from catching up to moving forward.

+ Wide Reaching Impact

Peers and Classmates

When classmates understand the realities of childhood cancer and recovery, empathy replaces misunderstanding.

Schools supported by Back on Track report improved peer awareness, inclusive practices and reduced stigma for children returning from treatment.

Siblings and Family Members

Siblings often experience emotional strain and academic disruption during a brother or sister’s treatment. Back on Track provides structured, trauma-informed learning support and advocacy for siblings, regardless of which child received the diagnosis.

This equal support model is a defining feature of the program. By supporting siblings directly, we prevent secondary educational disruption and strengthen the stability of the entire family system.

Teachers and School Staff

Educators play a critical role in recovery. Through case-specific guidance and health-informed adjustment planning, teachers develop practical strategies to support students with complex medical histories. The knowledge gained extends beyond one child, strengthening inclusive practice across classrooms.

Systemic Influence

Advocacy efforts contribute to improved policy awareness and better alignment between education and health systems.

By integrating insights from families, educators and healthcare providers, Back on Track supports a more coordinated and responsive approach to medically vulnerable students.

Empathy at Scale

When schools understand the impact of childhood cancer on learning, the benefits extend beyond the individual child. Educators carry that knowledge into every classroom interaction, shaping how they respond to vulnerability, difference and need.

Back on Track’s work with schools creates lasting shifts in how students with complex health histories are seen, supported and included.

Future-Oriented Growth

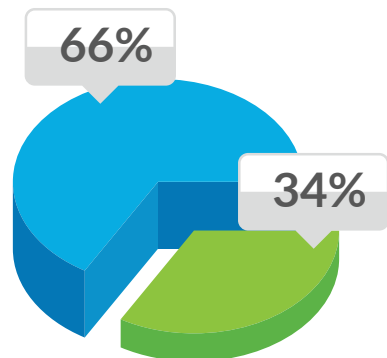
Back on Track is committed to growing capacity to meet demand, particularly for families in regional and remote Western Australia where access to specialist support has historically been limited.

Through the SAFE AI Initiative and continued investment in statewide delivery infrastructure, we are strengthening systems so geography, resource constraints and service complexity are never the reason a child misses out.



80% OF SURVIVORS EXPERIENCE AT LEAST ONE LONG-TERM HEALTH CONDITION RELATED TO TREATMENT, INCLUDING PAIN, FATIGUE, INFERTILITY AND MEMORY DECLINE.

“Children with Cancer need a supportive and nurturing environment to be able to reconnect with school.”



66% OF PARENTS REPORT THEIR CHILDREN EXPERIENCE CONCENTRATION ISSUES AFTER CANCER TREATMENT.



POST TREATMENT SURVIVORS OF CANCER AND THEIR SIBLINGS MISS TWICE AS MUCH SCHOOL AS SAME AGE CHILDREN.

IMPACT SURVEY

In 2025, Back on Track commissioned an independent impact survey to understand outcomes across children, families and schools. Responses were provided by families currently accessing the program, as well as those who have completed support.

The results show clear improvements in educational engagement, emotional wellbeing and family stability, alongside strong feedback on the value of tailored, relationship-based support.

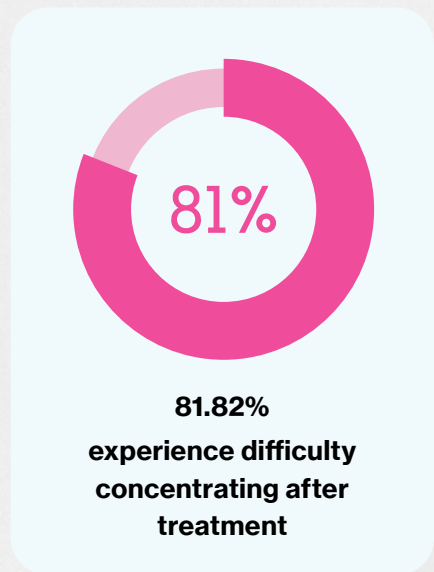
+ The Need

RECOVERY DOESN'T END WHEN TREATMENT STOPS

When cancer treatment ends, families expect life to stabilise. Instead, many children return to school carrying ongoing cognitive, emotional and physical impacts. Learning is often the first place these challenges appear.

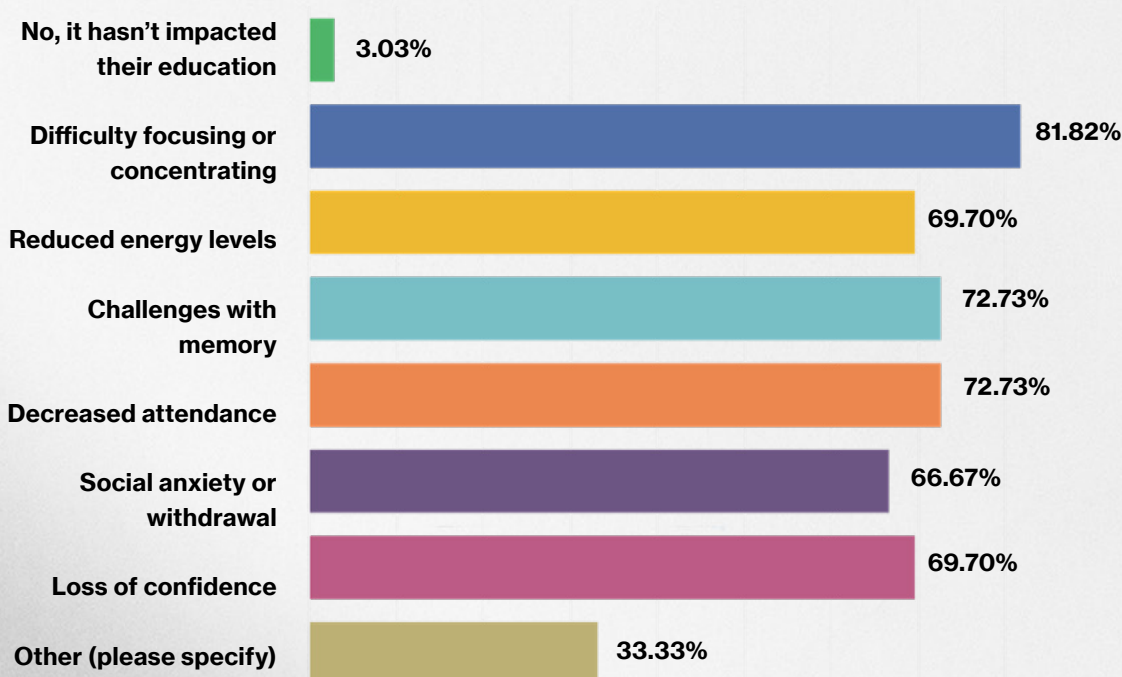
Concentration is reduced. Memory is affected. Energy levels are inconsistent. Confidence drops. Social connection becomes harder.

These are not short-term disruptions. They shape how a child engages with school, how they see themselves as learners, and how successfully they reintegrate into everyday life.



Has your child's cancer treatment impacted their education, and if so, in what ways?

Total Respondents: 33

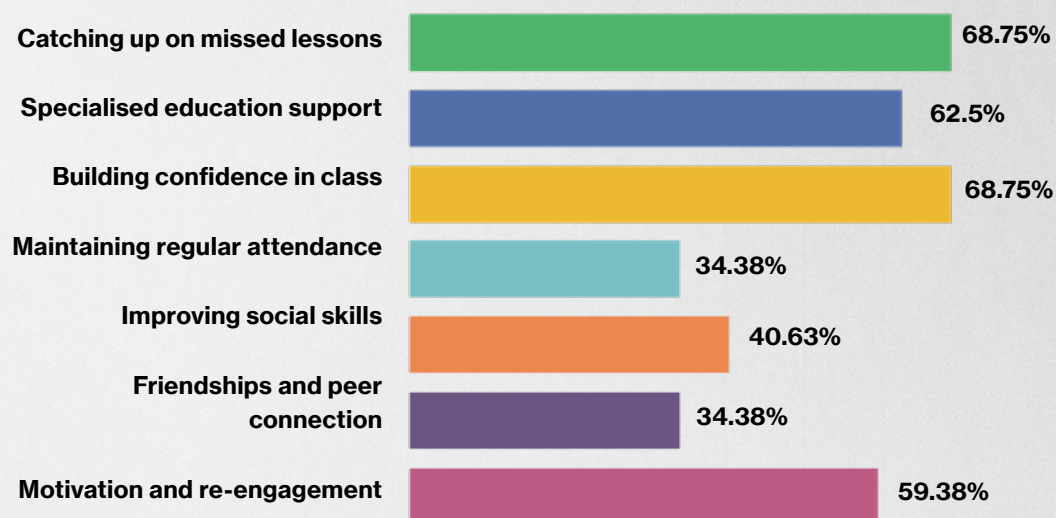


Please note: respondents could choose more than one answer

CHILDREN NEED STRUCTURED SUPPORT TO RETURN TO LEARNING

What area does your child need the most support in?

Total Respondents: 32



Please note: respondents could choose more than one answer

WHAT THIS TELLS US

Children are not just returning to school. They are returning with gaps in learning, reduced confidence and ongoing cognitive and emotional impacts.

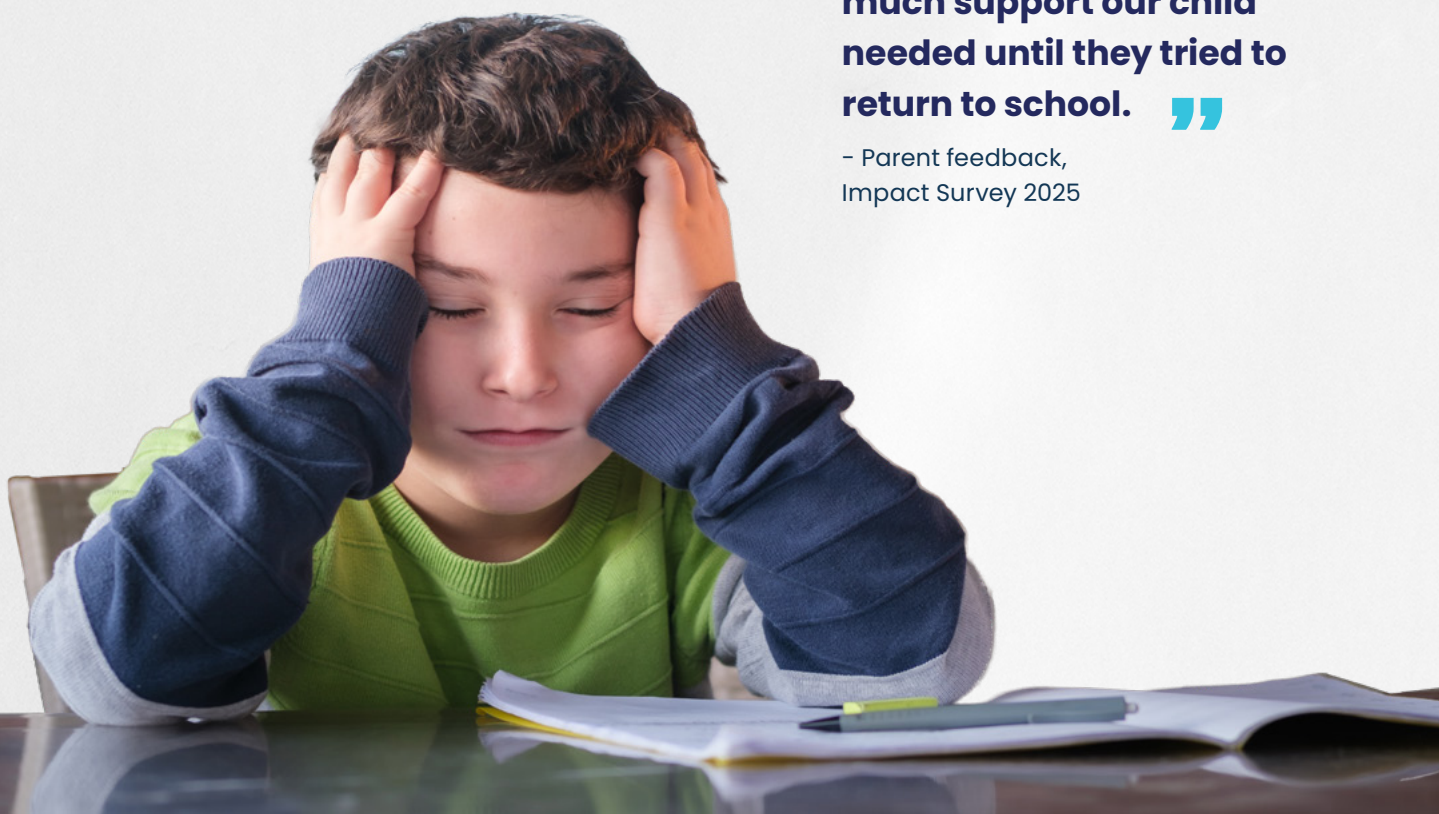
Support needs extend beyond academics. Recovery requires coordinated, trauma-informed responses across school, home and health systems.

“ We thought things would go back to normal after treatment, but they didn’t. ”

- Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

“ We didn’t realise how much support our child needed until they tried to return to school. ”

- Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025



+ The Gap

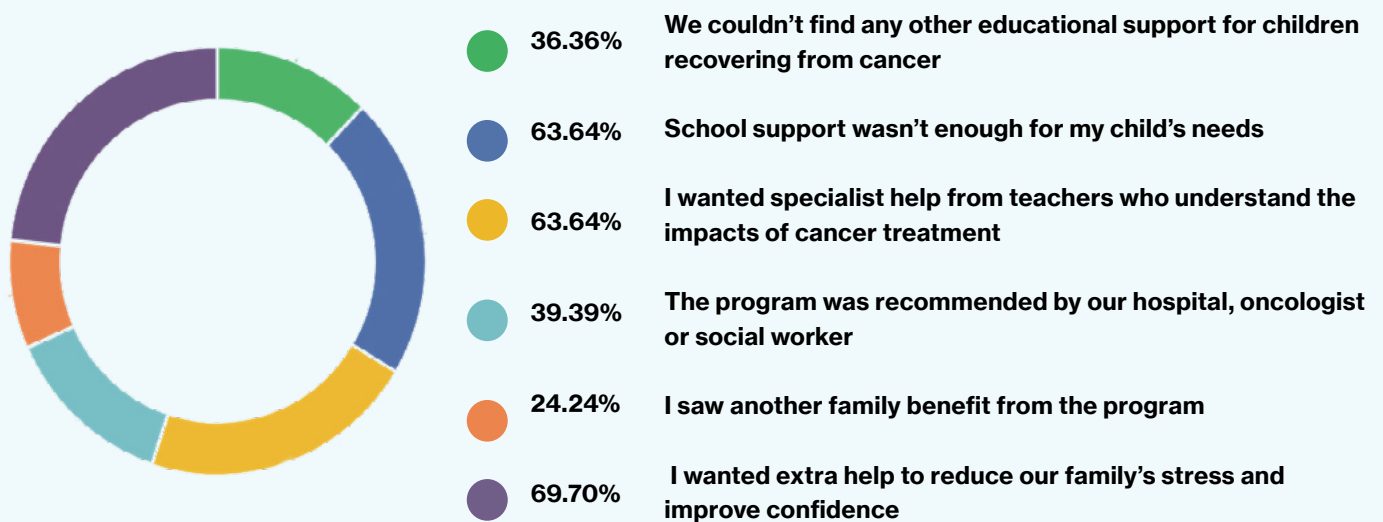
THE MISSING LINK IN RECOVERY

Children complete cancer treatment within the health system, but their recovery continues in the education system. This transition is rarely coordinated.

Families are often left to manage the cognitive, emotional and social impacts of treatment without clear guidance or structured support. Schools want to help, but are not equipped with the clinical insight, time or resources required to respond to these needs.

Why did you decide to (or consider) accessing the Back on Track program?

Total Respondents: 33

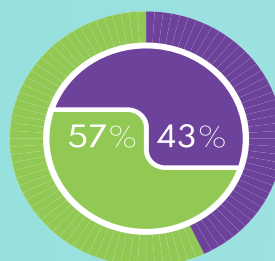


Please note: respondents could choose more than one answer



WHERE THE SYSTEM BREAKS DOWN

- No formal bridge between hospital and school
- Limited understanding of treatment-related late effects in education settings
- Inconsistent adjustments across classrooms and schools
- Parents carrying the burden of coordination and advocacy
- Siblings' needs often overlooked



43% of families have siblings accessing support

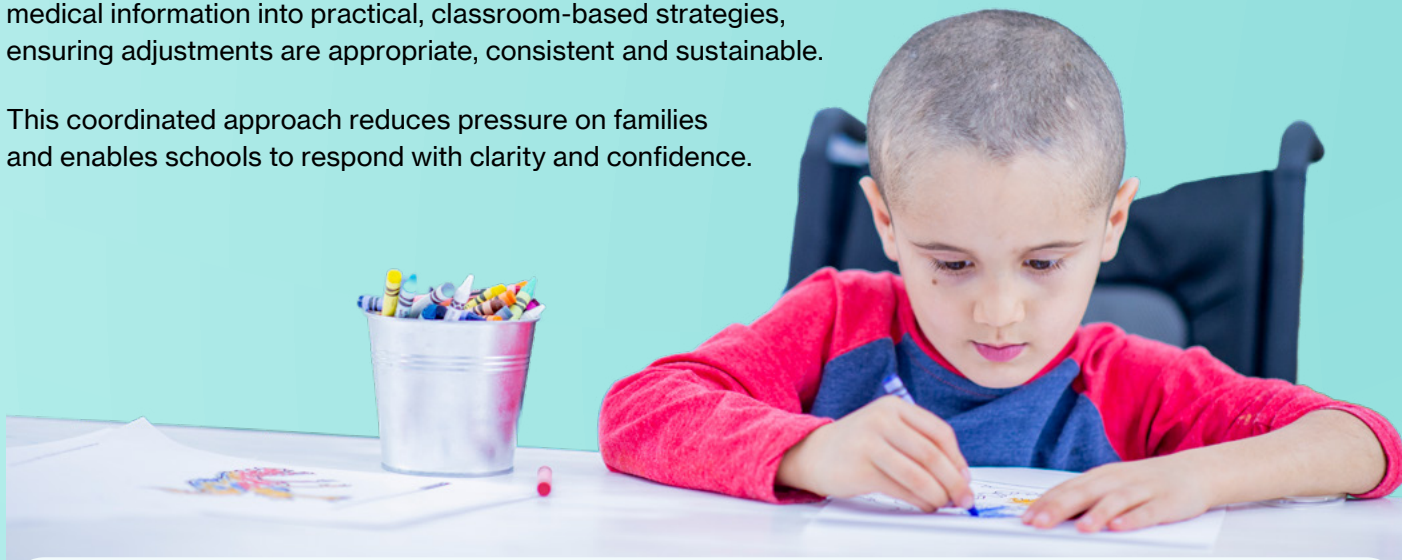
Support extends beyond the diagnosed child, reinforcing the need for a whole-of-family approach.

WHY SPECIALIST SUPPORT MATTERS

Recovery after childhood cancer is not linear, and it cannot be addressed through standard academic support alone.

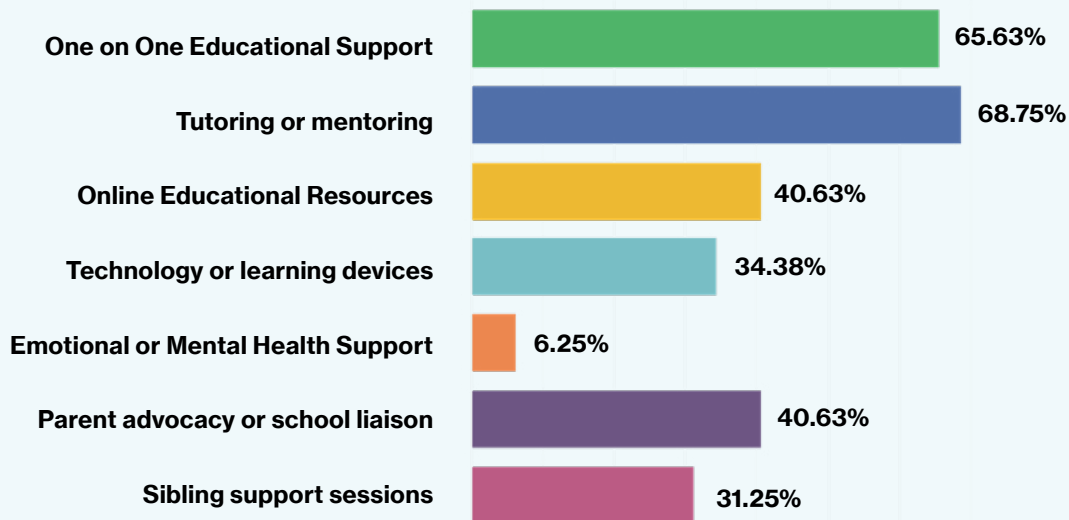
Back on Track provides a structured education advocacy model that integrates clinical insight with educational planning. Advocates translate medical information into practical, classroom-based strategies, ensuring adjustments are appropriate, consistent and sustainable.

This coordinated approach reduces pressure on families and enables schools to respond with clarity and confidence.



What Back on Track services has your child accessed?

Total Respondents: 32



Please note: respondents could choose more than one answer

SUPPORT IS NOT ONE-DIMENSIONAL

Families access a combination of services, including one-on-one education support, mentoring, advocacy, technology and sibling support.

This reflects the complexity of recovery, where academic, emotional and family needs must be addressed together rather than in isolation.

“ We didn’t know what support to ask for, or what our child actually needed. ”

– Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

+ Measured Outcomes

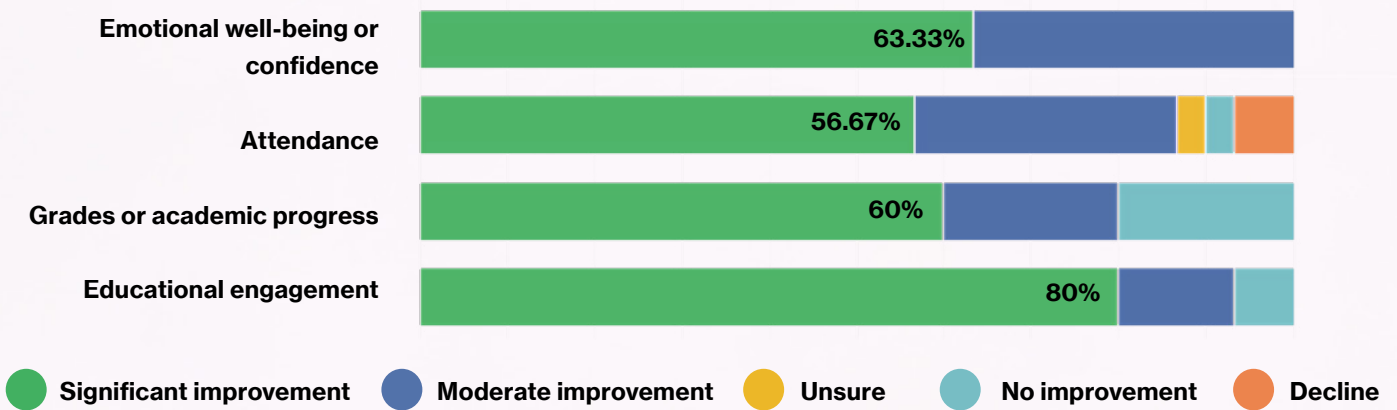
CLEAR IMPROVEMENTS IN LEARNING, CONFIDENCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Back on Track’s impact survey shows clear improvements in how children engage with learning, rebuild confidence and return to school routines after treatment. Families report meaningful progress not only in academic participation, but in emotional wellbeing and overall stability at home and school.

These outcomes reflect the value of structured, relationship-based support that adapts to each child’s needs over time.

Since joining Back on Track, has your child improved in the following areas?

Total Respondents: 30



WHAT THIS TELLS US

Children are not just returning to school. They are rebuilding their ability to participate, concentrate and engage with learning over time.

The data shows that improvement is not limited to one area. Families report positive changes across engagement, confidence, attendance and academic progress, reflecting the interconnected nature of recovery after treatment.

These outcomes highlight that recovery is not linear. Progress in learning is closely linked to emotional wellbeing, energy levels and a child’s sense of confidence in the classroom.

Without structured support, these areas often decline together. With the right support, they improve together.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

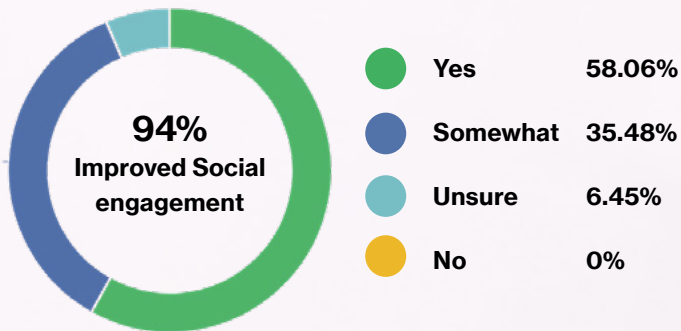
- Improvement happens across multiple areas, not in isolation
- Engagement and confidence improve first
- Academic progress follows once stability is rebuilt
- Consistent, tailored support drives sustained change

“ We saw a shift not just in schoolwork, but in how our child felt about themselves again. ”

- Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

Do you feel your child has improved in their social interactions and engagement with peers?

Total Respondents: 31



WHAT THIS SHOWS

Most children are not only improving academically, but reconnecting socially.

Improved peer interaction is a key indicator of recovery, reflecting growing confidence, reduced anxiety and a stronger sense of belonging in the school environment.

“For the first time since treatment, our child felt like they belonged again.”

– Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

“Back on Track gave us a clear plan and the support to actually move forward.”

– Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025



+ What this means for families

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT MATTERS

Behind every data point is a child and a family navigating life after cancer treatment.

What follows is often complex. Children return to school carrying cognitive, emotional and social impacts that are not always visible, and not always understood.

Without structured support, families are left to work this out on their own.

WHEN SUPPORT FALLS AWAY

The transition from hospital to school is rarely coordinated. Families must navigate systems that are not designed to work together, while trying to support their child's recovery.

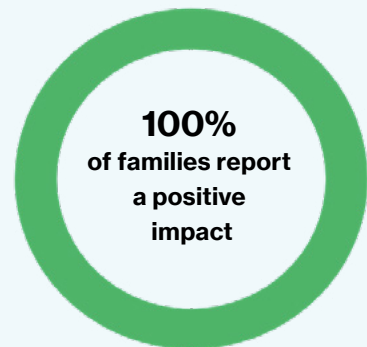
Back on Track provides a clear pathway forward, bringing together health, education and family support to ensure children are not left behind.

“ It took the pressure off our whole family, not just our child. ”

- Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

Has the Back on Track program positively impacted your family as a whole? (e.g., reduced stress, better understanding of school needs, improved confidence)

Total Respondents: 31



● Yes 100%



FAMILIES NEED ONGOING AND EXPANDED SUPPORT

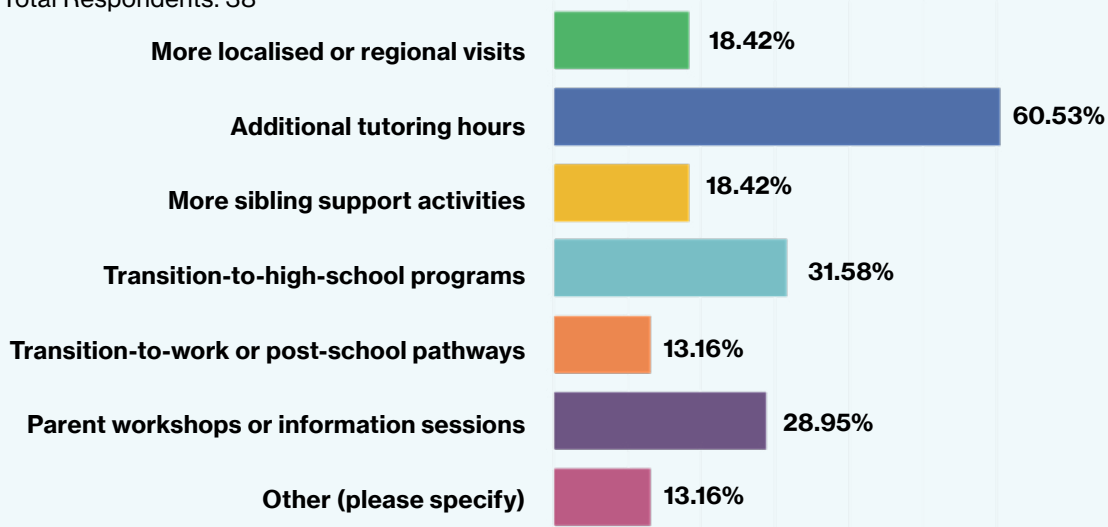
Families consistently identify the need for continued support beyond initial recovery. This includes additional tutoring, increased frequency of support and guidance through key transition points such as returning to school or moving into secondary education.

This reinforces that recovery is not short-term, and support must be sustained to achieve long-term outcomes.



What additional resources or supports would most benefit your family in the next 12 months?

Total Respondents: 38



Please note: respondents could choose more than one answer

“ Without Back on Track, we would have been trying to figure this out on our own. ”


- Parent feedback, Impact Survey 2025

Support needs evolve over time. Continued investment in structured, flexible support ensures children can progress with confidence through each stage of their education.



CASE STUDY #1 - NICKOLAI



 *Nickolai is featured on the cover of this report. His story reflects the reality for many children rebuilding their lives after treatment.*

OVERVIEW

Nickolai was an active and socially connected Year 3 student when, over just five weeks, his health declined rapidly. He began experiencing severe headaches, vomiting, double vision, fatigue and changes in mood. After multiple medical appointments, a CT scan revealed a large tumour at the back of his brain. He was urgently transferred to Perth, where he was diagnosed with Medulloblastoma Type 4, with additional tumours along his spinal cord.



Following surgery, Nickolai developed Posterior Fossa Syndrome, resulting in significant loss of speech and motor control. His treatment included 30 craniospinal radiation sessions, seven cycles of chemotherapy and more than 30 blood transfusions. The impact was profound, leading to acquired brain injury, ongoing fatigue and cognitive challenges that continue to shape his daily life.

CHALLENGES

Nickolai faces a range of ongoing challenges as a result of his diagnosis and treatment:

- **Cognitive and Learning Impacts:** Reduced processing speed and working memory difficulties affect his ability to keep pace with classroom learning and retain new information.
- **Fatigue and Stamina:** Ongoing fatigue limits his capacity to sustain attention and complete tasks across a full school day.
- **Emotional Regulation and Confidence:** Fluctuating emotional regulation and reduced confidence impact his willingness to engage, particularly in unfamiliar or demanding environments.
- **Educational Disruption:** Loss of approximately 18 months of schooling has created gaps in foundational learning and continuity.
- **Regional Access to Support:** Living in Port Hedland limits access to specialised services, increasing reliance on remote and coordinated support.
- **Transition to High School:** Entering a more complex academic and social environment requires careful planning and structured support to ensure successful engagement.

SUPPORT STRATEGIES

Back on Track delivers an individualised, relationship-based approach that adapts to Nickolai's neurological profile and daily capacity:

- 1. Weekly One-on-One Online Sessions:** Consistent sessions provide structure and continuity, supporting engagement regardless of location or treatment-related disruptions.
- 2. Relationship-Based, Responsive Session Design:** Each session is tailored in real time based on Nickolai's emotional state, energy levels and recent experiences. Sessions often begin with a check-in with his mum to understand how he is feeling and any relevant events from the week.

Learning is delivered through shared storytelling, using books chosen by Nickolai, with ongoing conversation to support engagement, comprehension and connection.

- 3. Story-Based Learning Approach:** Narrative-based instruction supports comprehension and engagement in a low-pressure format suited to children with acquired brain injury, allowing Nickolai to participate while crafting, eating or moving as needed.
- 4. Flexible, Responsive Delivery:** Sessions are adapted to reflect fatigue, mood, sensory load and cognitive capacity, prioritising regulation over task completion.



- 5. Integrated Communication with Family:** Ongoing communication with Nickolai's mum ensures alignment between home, school and support strategies.
- 6. Continuity Through Disruption:** Sessions are maintained and adapted during travel, medical appointments and changes in routine, providing stability and predictability.



OBSERVATIONS & PROGRESS

Over time, Nickolai is re-engaging with learning in a way that reflects his current abilities and needs:

- **Increased Engagement:** Nickolai shows greater willingness to participate in sessions and sustain attention over longer periods.
- **Improved Communication:** He is becoming more talkative and confident in expressing himself during learning activities.
- **Stronger Comprehension:** His ability to follow and engage with more complex stories has improved over time.
- **Greater Consistency at School:** Families report smoother transitions and more consistent participation in school environments.
- **Enhanced Social Confidence:** Increased confidence is supporting stronger social connections and a greater sense of belonging.

“ **Back On Track has helped him reach new levels. His confidence has led to more social connections and has allowed him to enjoy learning again, at his own pace.** – Nickolai’s Parents ”

FAMILY IMPACT

Back on Track provides clarity and stability for Nickolai’s family as they navigate long-term recovery:

- **Reduced Pressure on the Family:** Support reduces the burden of navigating education and recovery without guidance.
- **Improved Understanding of Needs:** Families gain clearer insight into appropriate strategies that align with Nickolai’s cognitive profile.
- **Stronger Home-School Alignment:** Ongoing communication supports more consistent approaches across environments.
- **Increased Confidence in the Future:** The family feels more equipped to support Nickolai through key transitions, including high school.



SUMMARY

Nickolai’s experience reflects the long-term impact of childhood cancer treatment, particularly for children with acquired brain injury. His learning has not returned to a pre-treatment baseline. Instead, it is being rebuilt in a way that reflects his current cognitive capacity, energy levels and emotional needs.

Through consistent, relationship-based support, Nickolai is re-engaging with learning in a way that is both manageable and meaningful. Progress is gradual, but significant. Improvements in confidence, communication and participation are supporting more consistent engagement at school and a stronger sense of connection in both learning and social environments.

For families living in regional areas, access to specialised support can be limited. Nickolai’s story highlights the importance of flexible, accessible delivery models that can respond to complex needs regardless of location.

As he transitions into high school, ongoing support remains critical. Back on Track continues to focus on maintaining cognitive stamina, supporting literacy development and ensuring appropriate adjustments within the school environment. This continuity provides a stable foundation for Nickolai to continue progressing in a way that is realistic, supported and sustainable.



CASE STUDY #2 - AIRLIA



CHALLENGES

Airlia experiences a range of learning and wellbeing challenges that impact her engagement with education:

- **Fatigue and Limited Stamina:** Fatigue significantly reduces her ability to complete schoolwork outside of class and limits sustained focus
- **Processing and Cognitive Load:** Multi-step instructions and longer tasks can be overwhelming, requiring additional time and support to process.
- **Gaps in Foundational Learning:** Disruptions to early education have created gaps that make it difficult to keep pace with curriculum expectations.
- **Confidence and Engagement:** Ongoing challenges have impacted confidence, contributing to periods of disengagement from learning.

OVERVIEW

Airlia joined the Back on Track program in mid-2024 as a Year 9 student. She is now preparing to enter Year 11 and take her first steps toward a future career in animation and illustration.

Her journey has not been straightforward. Diagnosed with Retinoblastoma at age two, Airlia underwent surgery to remove her left eye and received six months of chemotherapy. The long-term effects of treatment, combined with dyslexia, dyscalculia and ASD, have made learning increasingly complex over time.

Fatigue, gaps in foundational learning and ongoing processing challenges have contributed to feelings of overwhelm and reduced confidence. At times, this has led to disengagement from school and difficulty keeping pace with her peers.



GOALS & PURPOSE

Back on Track works with Airlia to build both confidence and future direction:

- **Strengthen Engagement and Confidence:** Provide one-on-one support to build understanding of challenging concepts and increase confidence in class participation.
- **Support Future Pathways:** Explore study and career options aligned with Airlia's interests, supporting informed decisions for post-school pathways.



OBSERVATIONS & PROGRESS

With consistent support, Airlia is showing meaningful progress in both learning and confidence:

- **Improved Confidence in Learning:** Airlia is more willing to engage with challenging subjects, particularly Maths.
- **Increased School Engagement:** She is attending school more positively and participating more consistently in class.
- **Greater Independence:** Airlia is developing the skills to approach tasks with more confidence and less overwhelm.
- **Clearer Direction for the Future:** She is now actively working toward a pathway aligned with her interests and strengths.

SUPPORT STRATEGIES

Back on Track provides structured, individualised support tailored to Airlia's learning profile:

1. **Weekly One-on-One Tutoring:** Targeted sessions support Airlia across Maths, English, Media and other subject areas, helping her work through assessments and challenging concepts.
2. **Flexible, Individualised Learning Support:** Sessions are adapted to suit Airlia's processing needs, allowing time to break down tasks and build understanding at her own pace.
3. **Advocacy for Educational Adjustments:** Support with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Special Educational Needs Reporting ensures learning and assessment expectations are appropriate and manageable.
4. **Coordinated Support Across Services:** Communication with external providers, including occupational therapy and speech support, strengthens consistency across her support network.
5. **Future Pathway Planning:** Collaboration with school staff supports subject selection and VET pathway planning aligned with Airlia's interests and strengths.



“It has been so helpful for Airlia’s confidence to have weekly tutoring... Stuart has also been really helpful in assisting us navigate what Airlia could study next and supporting our family through the process.” ”



FAMILY IMPACT

Back on Track provides reassurance and practical support for Airlia’s family:

- **Reduced Parent Load:** Ongoing tutoring support reduces the pressure on parents to manage learning independently.
- **Improved Confidence in Support Systems:** Families feel more supported navigating education and future planning.
- **Stronger Coordination Across Supports:** Collaboration between school, family and external services improves consistency and outcomes.



IMPACT & RESULTS

Airlia has successfully gained entry into a Year 11 VET pathway and has been accepted into a Certificate III course in Screen and Media (Animation and Game Art).

As part of this program, she will attend North Metro TAFE, where she can focus on her passion for drawing and animation in a structured and supportive environment. This represents a significant step forward, providing both motivation and a clear direction for her future.



SUMMARY

Airlia’s story demonstrates how consistent, individualised support can help a young person reconnect with education and move forward with purpose. Through a combination of targeted learning support, advocacy and future planning, she is now building confidence and progressing toward a pathway that reflects her interests and strengths.

Her experience highlights the importance of early intervention, coordinated support and clear pathway planning in helping young people achieve meaningful and sustainable outcomes.

Her progress also highlights the importance of aligning education pathways with individual strengths and interests. By supporting Airlia to explore a direction that reflects her creativity and abilities, Back on Track has helped transform learning from a source of stress into a pathway for future opportunity.

CASE STUDY #3

- CHARLES

(ANONYMISED)



OVERVIEW

Shared with consent; names, images and identifying details have been changed.

Charles has spent years rebuilding his life after childhood cancer. Moving from treatment back into school was far harder than his family expected. As he grew older, school became increasingly challenging. His confidence dropped, his energy levels fluctuated, and he often felt unsure of what he was capable of.



Charles is a survivor of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia, diagnosed in early childhood. While he completed treatment successfully, the long-term cognitive, physical and emotional impacts continued into adolescence. By 2025, although chronologically in Year 11, he was managing the cumulative effects of interrupted schooling alongside fatigue, slower processing, reduced working memory and executive functioning challenges.

This year has marked an important reset. With the support of Back on Track, combined with teachers who understood his history and responded to his needs, Charles is beginning to rebuild belief in himself and see a future he can move towards.

SCHOOLING JOURNEY SO FAR

Charles began high school in a mainstream setting, but as demands intensified, it became clear he required a different structure. With coordinated advocacy from Back on Track, he transitioned into a specialist learning environment designed for young people needing a more relational, flexible and strengths-based approach.

According to his education team, Charles arrived carrying significant overwhelm and uncertainty about his own abilities. His confidence had been affected by years of disrupted schooling and the lingering impacts of treatment. A focus on progress, personal strengths and emotional safety has allowed him to reconnect with learning at his own pace.

This period has helped stabilise Charles and provided important insight into the type of learning environment that supports him best.



CHALLENGES

Charles experiences a range of ongoing impacts associated with childhood cancer treatment:

- **Cognitive Impacts:** Slower processing speed, reduced working memory and difficulty sustaining attention affect his ability to manage extended or complex tasks.
- **Executive Function Challenges:** Difficulties with organisation, task initiation and managing workload independently contribute to overwhelm in fast-paced environments.
- **Physical Fatigue:** Ongoing fatigue limits stamina and reduces his capacity to maintain consistent engagement across a full day.
- **Emotional and Social Impact:** Anxiety linked to academic performance and uncertainty about his abilities can lead to withdrawal when overwhelmed.
- **Mismatch with Traditional Pathways:** Attempts to engage in TAFE and employment highlighted that standard workload expectations were not aligned with his cognitive and physical capacity.

FAMILY IMPACT

Back on Track has played an important role in supporting Charles' family through what has been a complex and often uncertain journey.

- **Restored Confidence as a Family:** For the first time in years, Charles and his family are beginning to feel more confident about what is possible and what the future might look like.
- **Reduced Uncertainty:** Clear guidance and coordinated support have helped remove much of the confusion around schooling decisions and next steps.
- **Support in Decision-Making:** Back on Track has supported the family to make informed choices about education pathways that reflect Charles' needs, rather than expectations that were not working for him.
- **Shared Understanding:** Having educators and advocates who understand the long-term impacts of treatment has helped the family feel heard, validated and supported.

SUPPORT STRATEGIES

Back on Track provides coordinated, evidence-informed support to stabilise Charles' education pathway:

- **Advocacy and Coordination:** Managing transitions across multiple education settings, including school, TAFE and employment, ensuring decisions align with known late effects of treatment.
- **Individualised Educational Support:** Supporting Charles to understand his learning profile and adjust expectations to reduce overwhelm and build confidence.
- **Emotional Regulation Support:** Providing guidance and reassurance during periods of uncertainty, reinforcing that challenges are treatment-related rather than personal limitations.
- **School Partnership and Collaboration:** Working closely with Charles' school and education team to ensure a learning environment that prioritises safety, flexibility and strengths-based engagement.
- **Future Pathway Planning:** Assessing appropriate next steps and supporting transition planning into a structured senior secondary pathway aligned with his needs.



“ This year has been a reset. Charles is starting to understand his own needs and what works for him. ”



OBSERVATIONS & PROGRESS

Through a more appropriate learning environment and coordinated support, Charles is beginning to show important signs of progress:

- **Reduced Overwhelm:** Early signs of overwhelm have eased as expectations and supports have become better aligned with his needs.
- **Improved Self-Awareness:** Charles is developing a clearer understanding of what he can manage and what support helps him engage successfully.
- **Strength-Based Engagement:** A learning environment that prioritises personal strengths and emotional safety has helped him reconnect with education.
- **Academic and Social Reconnection:** Staff observed tangible moments of renewed participation and engagement across both learning and social settings.
- **Collaborative Support:** Strong Collaboration between Charles' school and Back on Track has helped create a more stable and realistic pathway forward.

IMPACT AND RESULTS

Charles' pathway has been realigned to better match his cognitive capacity, energy levels and learning needs. The transition into a more appropriate and responsive learning environment, supported by Back on Track advocacy, has reduced overwhelm, improved engagement and enabled more consistent participation in education.

Importantly, this shift has allowed Charles to engage in learning with greater stability, rather than cycling through periods of progress and withdrawal.

Key changes include:

- Transition into a structured, supportive learning environment
- Reduced academic pressure aligned with capacity
- A paced senior secondary pathway across two years
- Improved consistency through coordinated support between school and Back on Track

Together, these changes have created a more stable and achievable foundation for ongoing engagement in education.

SUMMARY

Charles' experience highlights how the long-term effects of childhood cancer often remain hidden until later stages of schooling, when academic and social demands increase.

His journey shows that disengagement is not a lack of ability, but often the result of a mismatch between a young person's capacity and the expectations placed on them. With the right support, structure and environment, students like Charles can reconnect with learning in a way that is sustainable and aligned with their strengths.

It also reinforces the importance of recognising late effects early and responding with flexible, individualised pathways that prioritise long-term wellbeing over short-term performance. This approach allows young people to move forward with confidence, clarity and a pathway that reflects what they can achieve.

We are grateful to the families who generously shared their experiences to help bring this work to life.



SUPPORTERS

BACK ON TRACK'S WORK IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE COMMITMENT, TRUST AND INVESTMENT OF OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS.

“ Without structured educational support, disruption can become long-term disengagement from learning, limiting future opportunity and participation. ”

In 2025, this support enabled children and siblings affected by cancer to reconnect with learning, families to navigate complex transitions with guidance and confidence, and schools to respond more effectively to the long-term impacts of treatment.

This is not short-term support. It is sustained, coordinated and designed to rebuild educational pathways over time, ensuring children are not left behind once treatment ends.

Through philanthropic investment, corporate partnership and community contribution, our supporters help deliver a model of care that is structured, trauma-informed and responsive to the realities families face.

Their support ensures that access to education recovery is not determined by circumstance, location or complexity of need.



+ Our Supporters: Enabling Recovery, Together

Our work in 2025 was strengthened by partners who share our commitment to educational recovery, regional equity and long-term wellbeing for children and siblings affected by cancer.

These partnerships go beyond funding. They represent a shared responsibility to ensure children can return to learning with confidence, dignity and support.

Through financial investment, in-kind contributions, expertise and collaboration, our supporters help sustain a model of care that is trauma-informed, relationship-based and responsive to the realities families face during and after treatment.



STAN PERRON
CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION

PRINCIPAL PHILANTHROPIC PARTNER

Stan Perron Charitable Foundation

Stan Perron Charitable Foundation provides cornerstone philanthropic support, enabling statewide delivery, structured expansion and the clearance of waiting lists for children requiring educational advocacy following cancer treatment.

This partnership is critical to ensuring no child is left without access to support due to capacity constraints.



Australian Government
Cancer Australia

GOVERNMENT PARTNER

Cancer Australia

Cancer Australia's support contributed to earlier program development, evaluation and our growing evidence base. The outcomes of this work continue to guide how we measure learning, wellbeing and engagement, informing the systems we build around survivors and their families.



Telethon 7 Trust

The Telethon 7 Trust remained a central partner in 2025, supporting the delivery of Back on Track's specialist education advocacy program for children and siblings across treatment, transition and recovery.

Their investment enables the delivery of trauma-informed support statewide and ensures families can access coordinated educational guidance when it is needed most.



Lotterywest

Lotterywest continued its support in 2025, contributing to the systems and infrastructure required for statewide delivery.

This investment has strengthened organisational capability, technology development and service reach, ensuring children and families across Western Australia can access consistent support during recovery.

PROGRAM & COMMUNITY PARTNERS



ALIKE WA supported Back on Track through targeted funding for peer-to-peer family connection and the continued development of the Little People, Big Lessons podcast.

This partnership strengthens connection, reduces isolation and creates opportunities for families to share experiences and support one another.



Mineral Resources is helping close the digital divide for children returning to learning after cancer.

Through the provision of refurbished laptops and resources, children and siblings are able to access reliable technology that supports tutoring, personalised learning and digital engagement, particularly in regional communities.



Fortescue partnered with Back on Track to support a regional STEM initiative in northern Western Australia.

This collaboration strengthens engagement and creates meaningful learning opportunities for children whose education has been disrupted by cancer.



AUSTRALIAN
INSTITUTE
of BUSINESS

The Australian Institute of Business will undertake an independent evaluation of the Back on Track

Education Program in 2026. This reflects a commitment to strong governance, continuous improvement and building the evidence base required to demonstrate long-term outcomes.

FAMILIES AT THE CENTRE OF OUR WORK

The impact of these partnerships is felt most clearly by families, who are at the heart of everything Back on Track does. In 2025, the generosity of our supporters translated directly into practical, sustained support for families navigating one of the most challenging periods of their lives.

Behind every partnership is a child returning to school after treatment, a sibling adjusting to disrupted routines, and parents balancing medical care, emotional wellbeing and education advocacy. Support from our partners enables families to access specialist guidance, tailored learning support and advocacy without having to navigate complex systems alone.

Families are also powerful advocates for change. Through sharing their experiences, participating in community education and supporting awareness efforts, families help shape how schools, services and communities respond to childhood cancer survivorship. Their voices inform our practice, strengthen our partnerships and ensure our work remains grounded in lived experience.





+ Community & Sector Support

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATORS

Schools across Western Australia continued to collaborate closely with our team to support smooth transitions back into learning.

Their willingness to adapt teaching, provide flexibility and work alongside advocates has been central to restoring confidence and engagement for students returning after treatment.

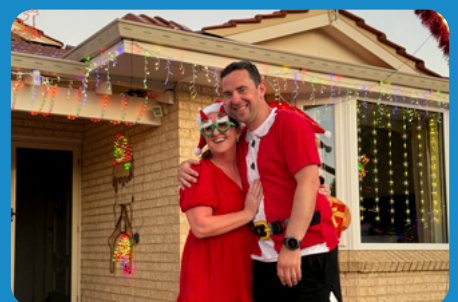
COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Local community groups, charities and service clubs provided support through donations, local connections and practical assistance.

These partnerships help ensure families feel supported across treatment, recovery and return to school, particularly in regional and remote areas.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Families, businesses and community members contributed generously to our work in 2025. Every donation supports educational advocacy, tutoring, family guidance and wellbeing programs for children rebuilding their learning after cancer. Their support directly strengthens our ability to meet growing demand.



+ Our Partners & Collaborators

Back on Track operates through a coordinated network of partners across health, education and community sectors. This ecosystem enables integrated, consistent support for children and families throughout treatment, recovery and return to school.

SYSTEM AND INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS



FOUNDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE PARTNER



CORPORATE AND PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORTERS



DELIVERY PARTNERS



SECTOR AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATORS



IN-KIND AND RESOURCE SUPPORT



SUPPORTERS



LOOKING FORWARD, TOGETHER

As Back on Track looks ahead, the role of our supporters becomes even more important.

Demand for specialist educational recovery continues to grow, particularly as more children survive cancer and face long-term educational impacts that emerge over time.

Together with our partners, we are focused on strengthening statewide delivery, deepening regional engagement and building the systems and evidence required for future growth. This includes continued investment in workforce capability, responsible technology use and culturally responsive practice.

Every dollar invested, every program supported, and every partnership strengthened contributes to real, tangible outcomes for families.

Your commitment does not simply fund services. It restores confidence, supports resilience and helps children and siblings rebuild their futures after cancer.

We are deeply grateful to every organisation, school, community group and individual who stood alongside Back on Track in 2025. Together, we are not only supporting education. We are rebuilding lives.



FUTURE PLANS

Strengthening What Works. Preparing for What Comes Next.

Back on Track enters 2026 with a clear focus: strengthening the systems, capability and evidence required to support children recovering from cancer, while preparing for responsible, long-term growth.

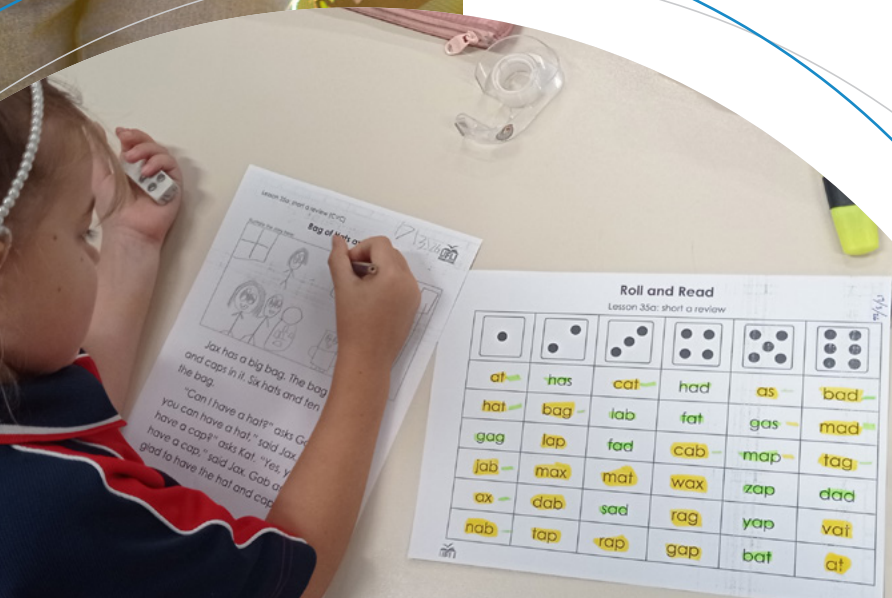
Demand for structured educational recovery continues to increase as more children survive cancer and face the lasting impacts of treatment. Our priority is not rapid expansion. It is disciplined, sustainable growth that ensures every child receives the right support, delivered safely and consistently.

STRENGTHENING STATEWIDE DELIVERY

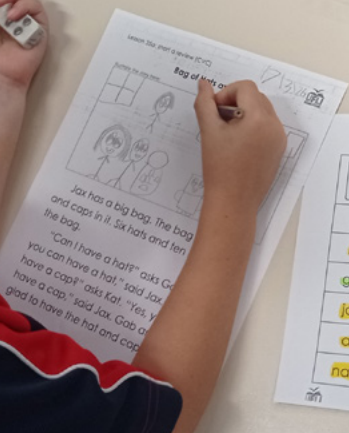
In 2026, the Foundation will focus on consolidating and strengthening its statewide model.

This includes refining referral pathways, improving service consistency and ensuring children and families across metropolitan, regional and remote Western Australia can access coordinated, high-quality educational advocacy.

This work builds on the foundation established in 2025 and ensures the program remains responsive to increasing demand.



Roll and Read					
Lesson 35a: short a review					
at	has	cat	had	as	bad
hat	bag	lab	fat	gas	mad
gag	lap	fat	cab	map	tag
jab	max	mat	wax	zap	dad
ax	dab	sed	rag	yap	vai
nab	tap	rap	gap	bat	at



INDEPENDENT PROGRAM EVALUATION

A key milestone in 2026 will be the independent assessment of the Back on Track Education Program by the Australian Institute of Business. This evaluation will assess our model, outcomes and methodology, providing a robust evidence base to guide future development and strengthen our participation in policy discussions, including the Western Australian Government’s survivorship education roundtable. This represents an important step in maturing our impact measurement and demonstrating long-term outcomes.



INVESTMENT IN WORKFORCE CAPABILITY

Delivering consistent, high-quality support requires a skilled and coordinated workforce.

In 2026, we will continue to strengthen capability across our education advocacy, tutoring and regional engagement teams. This includes improving service delivery consistency, strengthening collaboration with schools and hospitals, and ensuring families receive coordinated support throughout treatment and recovery.

ADVANCING DIGITAL AND AI CAPABILITY

Technology will continue to play an important role in supporting children to re-engage with learning.

Our digital capability will advance in line with strong governance and responsible innovation principles. Incorporating continued development of internal AI-enabled practices, operational tools and data systems that support personalised learning and program delivery.

Future platform development, including SAFE AI, will be guided by child-safe standards, cultural responsiveness and careful, staged implementation. This work is focused on building the foundations required for safe and scalable innovation.

DEEPENING REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Access remains a key priority.

In 2026, Back on Track will strengthen its presence across northern and remote Western Australia, with a focus on the Kimberley, Pilbara and Gascoyne regions.

This work will be supported by our Senior Regional Advocate, local partnerships and Regional Ambassador Tremane Baxter-Edwards, ensuring children in regional communities can access the same level of support as those in metropolitan areas.

STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships will continue to be central to our work.

Our focus in 2026 is to deepen existing relationships and align partnerships more closely to program delivery, regional expansion and long-term outcomes.

Encompassing collaboration across health, education and community sectors to ensure support for children and families remains coordinated, consistent and accessible.

PREPARING FOR STRATEGIC EXPANSION

As statewide delivery strengthens and our evidence base matures, Back on Track will begin preparing for carefully staged expansion in late 2026.

This planning will be informed by:

- the outcomes of the Australian Institute of Business evaluation
- engagement with the Western Australian Government
- insights from families, schools and health partners

Future expansion may include increased workforce capacity, broader regional reach and the development of system-level supports to meet growing demand.

All growth will be guided by strong governance, evidence and responsible sequencing.

A DISCIPLINED APPROACH TO GROWTH

Back on Track’s approach to growth is deliberate.

We are not scaling for visibility. We are building a model that is safe, structured and capable of delivering long-term outcomes for children and families.

Our focus remains on quality, equity and impact.

LOOKING AHEAD

As Back on Track looks ahead, our focus remains clear.

We are strengthening a model that works, building the evidence to support it, and preparing carefully for the next phase of growth. This work is driven by the increasing number of children who survive cancer but continue to face long-term challenges in education and engagement.

No child should survive cancer only to fall behind in life. With the right support, they can rebuild, re-engage and move forward with confidence.

The opportunity ahead is significant. With the right partnerships, we can extend this work further, reach more families and continue to build a coordinated system that responds to childhood cancer survivorship with clarity, consistency and care.



“ We are building a future where no child recovering from cancer is left to navigate education alone, and where every family has access to the support needed to move forward with confidence. ”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KDalton'.

Kylie Dalton

Back on Track CEO & Founder





Contact Us

backontrack.org.au

Address

Suite 11 / 100 Hay Street,
Subiaco WA 6008

P: +61 8 9363 7400

E: kylie@backontrack.org.au

ABN: 56 678 980 142

