

Government of Western Australia

PERCENT FOR ART SCHEME

Sutherland Dianella Primary School Upgrade





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Dianella
Primary School
Upgrade
2011

Sutherland Dianella Primary School was established in 1996 following the amalgamation of Sutherland and Dianella Primary Schools. Students come from many different cultures, a diversity which is increasing both within the school and in the local community. The School program celebrates this diversity with a supportive community spirit, teaching respect, commitment and responsibility.

In 2010/11, the school undertook an extensive rebuild of the existing school buildings. This included three new classroom blocks (including early childhood centre), an automated library and resource centre, and basketball and tennis courts. For this Percent for Art Commission, Thomas Heidt designed a series of eye-catching, inter-related works that make a strong visual and highly colourful statement. The sculptures, which are located outside the new library, classroom block 4, basketball and netball courts, are visible from all main thoroughfares.

When designing these artworks, Heidt drew on the school's family-orientated focus on the development of the social and emotional wellbeing of its students while creating a supportive and harmonious community. He found inspiration for the artwork in the diversity of the student population that comes from a large number of cultures. His work reflects this multi-culturalism, while adding vitality to the school, the school's vibrant external

and internal colour scheme, and the landscaping palette for inspiration.

The nine coil forms are based on a spring or slinky-like toy and were designed in a range of different but complementary colours and sizes. The sculptures are positioned in groups of three, representing students of different ages and cultural backgrounds standing and talking together in small groups within the school grounds. The carefully selected colours symbolise how the school celebrates its rich diversity by coming together in harmony. While the colours of the forms represents diversity, the similarity of shape represents equality between students.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Artist:	Thomas Heidt
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