

## **George Houghton – Year 9 Aboriginal Studies Assessment Task 2 Visual Arts**

### **1. What story or theme does your artwork represent?**

My artwork is a representation of culture, family and personal growth. It shows different colours to represent my parent's personality flowing into mine to make one colour representing the person and young man I'm becoming today. I created this artwork to show the many different parts and people in my life. The two shown in my artwork are my parents and the artwork shows and expresses who my parents are and how they have shaped me into the person and young man that I am now turning into.

### **2. What art form and materials did you use, and why?**

I used a canvas paints paintbrushes and dotting brushes to reflect my culture in my artwork using a combination of colours and symbols. I chose to create a painting on canvas because it allowed me to represent what my life is like, sometimes flowing and at other times feeling rough and bumpy. I used dots to represent hard times during my parent's life and mine, but I also used calm lines to represent peace and flow.

### **3. What symbols, shapes, colours, or patterns did you use, and what do they represent?**

I used handprints to show that I not only own that artwork but that it has meaning to me, I left my mark, DNA, soul, culture and mob within this piece. I used dots to represent the challenging times and smooth lines to indicate times of ease. This shows the ebbs and flows in my life. I also added the Aboriginal symbols for person, as I am shaped by many within my family, and the Aboriginal symbol for meeting place, as coming together with family and others is at my core and embodies what it is and means to be Aboriginal.

In my artwork I used circles to represent the souls and personalities of my family members and colours I think fit with their characteristics for example I used light blue, light green and turquoise to show my mum's key characteristics. I used light blue to represent the calmness like water and soft green to show happiness and turquoise I made from a mixture of both. Purple is her favourite colour. To represent my dad, I chose red for fire, light green for his connection to the land through his Aboriginality, purple and blue for his fun side. I was inspired by my dad's creativity and connection to Aboriginal art as he is an Aboriginal artist. I've been able to connect to dad's creative side and take in pieces of his personality.

### **4. How did Aboriginal art and artists inspire your thinking?**

I learned that Aboriginal artists use art to share knowledge about Country, culture, and community, which helped me think about my own connections to my culture country and people not only past but the present and emerging and how I could represent my family, feelings, beliefs and culture artistically. I tried to connect what I have been learning out on Country with different Uncles to my artwork, and think about the values and messages they have shared with me.

