**May 2023**

**Layla Sharp**

Layla Sharp

Hi, my name is Layla Sharp, and I am 15 years old.

I am at Emmaus Catholic College in Kemps Creek and am in Year 10.

I compete in Athletics only, and that has been since the age of 10. I have tried other sports along the way but Athletics has stuck most to me and holds a special place in my heart with many memories.

My sporting goal would be to represent Australia in the Paralympics for the 400m. I started out in the 800m and now have branched out to the 400m as well as still competing in the 800m. 400m would be the dream event to represent my country in, it has always been a favourite, a very strategic race.

I have two proudest achievements. My first would be Adelaide (2017) where they held the PSG (Pacific School Games). They are not held very often as they invite selected countries to compete in the competition. I was in Year 4 at the time and ran the 800m. I broke a record (under my previous class) and won the gold medal. It still remains a pivotal moment to me today. My other achievement would be the NSW Juniors where I got an 800m PB, breaking the Australian T38 Open Age record in 2023.

The thing I love about Athletics is the places you see. Throughout the last 6 years I have been running, I have travelled to Adelaide (2017 and 2022), Melbourne (2018 and 2023), Darwin (2019) as well as Brisbane (2023). Through my time spent in the other states, I get to do some sight-seeing and shopping in between races. It also is a great opportunity to establish friendships along the way.

In my spare time, I enjoy the company of my 3 dogs, 2 cats and 1 bird. I am also sitting the HSC for English next year as an accelerated program offered at my school.