**February 2018**

**Kailyn Joseph**

Hi, I'm Kailyn Joseph and I am 15 years old. I am in year 10 at Gilroy Catholic College in Castle Hill, Sydney. I compete in Athletics Track & Field and I am a T37 with cerebral palsy affecting my left side. I represent Cherrybrook Athletics Club.

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I compete in 100m, 200m and Long Jump which is my main event where I have secured 2 Commonwealth Games B qualifiers. My sporting goal would be making it into the Commonwealth Games Australia Team. The final team selection will be announced very soon, with the Games commencing in April. It would be an honour being surrounded by such elite Athletics, representing my country and being selected for my first open international competition. I am already ecstatic just getting the qualifiers.

When I got that first qualifier it felt incredibly amazing, weights being lifted off my shoulders and smiles all around. I remember looking at my parents and smiling and looked back and tears running down my face.

My proudest moment was in Switzerland last year at the World Junior Athletics Championships. When I won a bronze medal in Long Jump. Standing on the podium and looking at the Australia flag felt unreal. I knew my jump wasn't the best, due to getting the flu. It was hard to stay positive. Achieving such a thing through my flu battles made it more special.

In the future I would like to go to UNSW and either work in rehab physio or marine biology, something that will make a difference to others or this world. Besides doing sport I love to explore and venture around.  Anywhere with the beach will do.