

I was the first Indigenous student to complete a double degree in Maths and Physics in NSW, but my life wasn't always smooth sailing. Leaving school early I returned to couch-surf my way through Year 12 and at uni fell in love with astronomy.

Working on CSIRO's Indigenous STEM Education project I combined two of my other loves: Maths and Indigenous education. My skills in numbers and statistics helped to determine education trends and made sure we were meeting project goals which meant more Indigenous kids could study STEM.

Recently I was awarded a scholarship to work in CSIRO's Astronomy and Space Science team, a dream come true. I always wanted to stick it to the people who judged or bullied me because I was overweight, poor and different. Well, I guess I have.

My name is

and that's why I CHOOSEMATHS, because it's **MORE THAN JUST NUMBERS**, it allows me to lead the way for other Indigenous people.

KARLIE NOON COMPLETED A DOUBLE DEGREE IN MATHS AND PHYSICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE. CURRENTLY SHE IS RESEARCHING FOR A MASTERS IN THE FIELD OF ASTROPHYSICS.

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