Arabella Simpson

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Skills

- Problem Solving
- Clear Communication
- Programming
- Computer Literacy
- Leadership

Projects

- Portfolio: https://boatartist.github.io/portfolio/

Certifications

- Class C Driver's Licence (Red P plates)
- Working With Children Check
- Community Coaching Essential Skills Course

Languages

- English
- French (B2 DELF Certificate)

Technical Skills

Languages	Python, C#, C++, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SQL, Markdown, Jinja2
Python modules	Flask, Pygame, Selenium, SQLAlchemy, Requests, PIL, Micropython
Software	Solidworks, Blender, Github, Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, EasyEDA PCB Designer, Figma
Hardware	Raspberry Pi/Raspberry Pi Zero, Arduino Uno/Nano, Raspberry Pi Pico, ATTiny85, ATMega328, Micro:bit
Other	Linux, 3D Printers (Bambu Studio etc), AVRDUDESS

Key Achievements

- 7th in Engineering Studies HSC (2025). Highest ranking female in NSW.
- Exceptional Overall Academic Achievement (2024). One of only 3 awarded in the SACS Year 11 HSC cohort.
- ADF Future Innovators Award (2023). Awarded for innovation, critical thinking and problem solving in STEM.
- Platinum Excellence Award (2024). For more than 150 merit awards, indicating good behaviour, a servant-hearted attitude and enthusiasm for learning and cocurriculars.
- UNSW Cupcake Programming Competition - Credit (2024 & 2025). I have competed in this competition in a team of 3 for several years, and learnt a lot from it about collaboration and out-of-the-box thinking under timed conditions, allowing us to out-perform more than 85 teams from around Australia.

Experience

Rowing Coach **January 2026 - Present**
St Andrew's Cathedral School

- Coaching up to 20 high schoolers between years 7 and 11.
- Supervising and organising unruly teenagers in a high-risk environment.
- Multitasking boat navigation, skill and fitness training and hazard-reduction on and off the water.
- Communicating calmly and effectively in intense conditions.
- Collaborating with fellow coaches to plan and execute the training program and ensure adequate supervision and that minimal risk is taken.

Tutor **March 2026 - Present**
Girls' Programming Network Sydney

- Upcoming.

Pet (Cat) Sitting **January 2024 - August 2025**

- Cat sitting for neighbours.
- Hygienic and efficient animal waste disposal, feeding, and general household cleaning and securing over several weeks.
- Management of unforeseen issues and responsible and regular correspondence with employers to inspire confidence and trust.

Volunteer Birthday Dinner Catering **January 2024 - December 2024**

- Served food and drinks at an 80th birthday dinner, anticipating guest needs and clearing plates.
- Arranged dishes before dinner and loaded dishwasher after.
- Efficient and subtle waiting.
- Coordinated with other waiters and kitchen staff in meal timing and food arrangements.

Cake Stall Volunteer **January 2023 - December 2024**
Hunters Hill Public School - Election Day Cake Stall

- Efficiently and hygienically arranged and served food in busy conditions.
- Attracted and managed customers.
- Processed cash and card transactions and directed clients to pay stations.
- Handled adverse outdoor conditions including wind, small children and animals while maintaining food safety and avoiding allergen contamination.

Education

Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronic) **February 2026 - December 2031**
University of Technology Sydney (UTS)

- Bachelor of Engineering (Mechatronic) Diploma in Industry Practice.
- Starting February 2026, studying Introduction to Mechanical Engineering, Mathematics 1, Physical Modelling and Introduction to Engineering Projects.

Higher School Certificate (HSC) - 97.7 ATAR **January 2020 - November 2025**
St Andrew's Cathedral School, Sydney

- Subjects: Engineering Studies, English Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 2, Physics, Software Engineering.
- Leadership: Durham House Officer, Peer Support Leader, Middle School Ambassador.
- Sport: Rowing, Winter Hockey, Summer Hockey, Summer Basketball.

- Extra-curriculars: Makerspace, Girls Vocal Ensemble, Da Vinci Decathlon, Big City BakeOff, SACS Factor, UNSW Cupcake ProgComp.

Arabella has demonstrated diligence, focus and persistence throughout her time at St Andrew's Cathedral School. A highly capable student, she has consistently set demanding standards for herself and worked resolutely towards achieving them. More broadly, in other aspects of her school life, Arabella has approached her responsibilities with a clear sense of efficacy, reliability and commitment. She has been servant-hearted in her commitment to House activities, from being a Peer Support leader to being a House Officer and she has been a role model for others in her willingness to participate. She is a reflective and honest person whose loyalty and integrity have seen her develop a strong circle of good friends. - Dr Julie McGonigle, Head of School.

Other Experience

Rowing **October 2024 - Present**
SACS, SUBC, BRC, UTS

- I am an avid and competitive rower, and have been committed to developing my technique and fitness ever since I started rowing in the inaugural St Andrew's Cathedral School program of Summer 2024-2025, before enrolling in the 10-week Sydney University Winter Schools Development Program. After completing this course, I became a member of Balmain Rowing Club, where I have been rowing up to 3 times a week in a novice squad and on my own. I also recently joined the UTS Development Program.
- I have so far competed in the following regattas, and intend to race in many more.
- Head of the Nepean WU19 1x.
- RNSW Reindeer Regatta 2025 - WN 1x (1st place) and WN 2x (2nd place).
- Balmain Rowing Club Regatta - WD 1x.

Education Showcase Presentation **November 2025**
PyCon Australia 2025

- I presented my "Phones Aren't Real" project virtually at the 2025 Python Convention in Melbourne, one of a select few students chosen by the committee. This was an exciting opportunity to share my work with the Python Developer community, including scripting, filming and editing. I learnt a lot from this exciting experience about effective and engaging communication as well as working under time pressure and adapting to an unfamiliar medium.

References

Available on request.