

Government of Western Australia
PERCENT FOR ART SCHEME



CAVERSHAM VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL • 2025





Philip and Dawn Gamblen have created an abstract, wall-based artwork entitled *Metamorph* for Caversham Valley Primary School. It is inspired both by the mathematical structure of MC Escher's tessellated artworks, and jigsaw puzzle games, which are an integral part of childhood play.

Created in powder coated aluminium, the intricate shapes, patterns, and bright colours of the sculpture are inspired by the valley's landscape and the symbiotic relationships between the flora and fauna of the Swan Coastal Plain. Most specifically, the artwork references the connection between the local, ring-necked, 28 Parrot population and the species favourite habitats and preferred food source- *Banksia sessilis*, (commonly known) as Parrot Bush. Vibrant cobalt blue, yellow, and greens capture the flashes of colour and shimmer of this most loved parrot and the foliage in which it so often flutters and feeds. This artwork is designed to 'fly in one's imagination' and conjure a sense of connection, movement, rhythm, playfulness and joy.

Assembled on a courtyard wall, the configuration of sculptural elements creates a unique identity for the new architecture and the school and evokes a strong sense of place. The interlinking and folded panels not only echo the colour palette of the parrot and its habitat, but also fly off the surface of the wall through a series of faceted angles adding variety, animation and dynamism to the

overall aesthetic. Artists and architects have worked together to create a further, quieter resonance of the artwork, embossing identical shapes into the concrete walls to extend the visual language and add another element of discovery for young viewers.

This artwork has an ethereal, serendipitous quality and a lightness of being, which harmonises with the contemporary architecture. It is imbued with meaning, has a playful quality and provides opportunities for ongoing discovery for children of all ages.

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Department of Local Government, Sport
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