

Anagi Thanuja Gunasekera

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Profile

Third-year Deakin Vice-Chancellor's Scholar completing a Bachelor of Arts in Education and Visual Communication Design, with experience across learning design, music education, mentoring, tutoring and student engagement. Skilled in designing inclusive and learner-centered experiences, developing creative learning resources, facilitating and training others, and using reflection and feedback to improve programs and teaching practice. Founder of a social-emotional learning initiative that has reached more than 1,000 children, parents and educators across Sri Lanka, with a strong interest in learning design, education innovation and music education.

Education

November 2024 – Current

Bachelor of Arts

Deakin University, Burwood Campus

- Expected completion date: June, 2027
- Major: Education | Minor: Visual Communication Design
- Achievements:
 - Deakin International Vice Chancellor's 100% scholarship recipient
 - Certificate of recognition for hosting the most engaging, inclusive, and energizing meeting during the Arts and Education Faculty Peer Mentoring Program T2/2025

Aug 2021 – May 2023

Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Levels

Ladies' College, Colombo, Sri Lanka

- World Prize for Business (Scored 400/400) & High Achievement Award (4 A Stars) - Pearson Edexcel International A Level examinations (2023)
- Suneetha Pinto Jayawardane Memorial Service Award - Presented to a student who has made a significant contribution to the school, country or world through a project initiated (2022)
- Indrani de Silva Memorial Leadership Award -Presented to the school prefects (2021 and 2022)

Professional Experiences

July/2025 – Current

Kinder Beat Music Teacher

Musical Avenue, Clayton VIC

- Facilitate weekly Kinder Beat classes for children aged 2-4, adapting structured activities in response to learner interests and engagement to support cognitive, motor and early musical development.
- Lead onboarding and practical training for new Kinder Beat teachers through workshops and modelling, supporting consistent and confident delivery across the growing teaching team.
- Designed and trialled new curriculum activities in response to learner engagement needs, contributing ideas that led to an official chime bar course now incorporated into the Kinder Beat program.
- Collaborate with studio leadership to troubleshoot class delivery, learner engagement and parent experience, testing and refining strategies to improve participation and create smoother, more responsive learning experiences.

August/2025 – Current

Instrumental Music Teacher

Dynamic Music Studios, Burwood VIC

- Design and deliver personalised piano and violin learning experiences using game-based pedagogy, visual resources, student-selected repertoire and differentiated strategies, strengthening engagement, confidence and progress across learners with diverse needs and learning styles.
- Empower students to take ownership of their learning by co-designing goals, self-assessment systems and practice strategies, including tiered progress frameworks for examination repertoire, developing independence, reflective learning and musical confidence.
- Create and adapt original learning resources and repertoire in response to individual interests, including games, visual scaffolds and personally transcribed music when suitable arrangements are unavailable, helping re-engage learners and connect technical development with music they value.
- Evaluate and refine teaching through critical reflection after each lesson, maintaining learner progress logs to identify engagement barriers, trial inclusive strategies and adapt subsequent instruction, supporting sustained motivation and more responsive individualised learning.

February/2026 – Current

Senior Arts and Education Faculty Peer Mentor

Deakin University, Burwood VIC

- Lead and support allocated teams of peer mentors, acting as a key liaison between mentors, program coordinators and commencing students, and providing regular check-ins, guidance and first-point-of-contact support to promote consistent and student-centred program delivery.
- Facilitate onboarding and training workshops for new peer mentors, sharing practical mentoring strategies, modelling effective facilitation and drawing on previous mentoring experience to build mentor confidence and capability in supporting new students.
- Facilitate collaborative conflict resolution and team problem-solving, creating psychologically safe spaces for mentors to raise concerns, explore different perspectives and develop shared agreements that strengthen communication, trust and team dynamics.
- Analyse weekly mentor reflections and student-engagement information to identify emerging challenges, participation patterns and areas for improvement, contributing insights and strategies that inform continuous refinement of the five-week peer mentoring program.
- Coordinate mentoring activities and social connection opportunities that encourage belonging, authentic relationships and early engagement for commencing students during their transition to university.

February/2026 – Current

DeakinTalent Career Ambassador

DeakinTalent, Deakin University Burwood VIC

- Provide peer-to-peer career guidance at weekly pop-up stalls, engaging students in tailored conversations about their professional goals and circumstances and connecting them with relevant DeakinTALENT resources, programs and services to increase clarity around their next employability steps.
- Represent DeakinTALENT at employer showcases, career fairs and university events, welcoming students and employers, facilitating engagement and supporting event delivery to create accessible opportunities for students to connect with industry and career-development support.
- Selected to represent the student voice on a DeakinTALENT panel for Deakin International Country Managers, sharing student experiences and perspectives and impact of DeakinTALENT services to international university stakeholders.
- Recognised as Career Ambassador of the Month (July 2026) for bringing enthusiasm, positivity and energy to student and colleague interactions, demonstrating creativity and initiative, and supporting team learning through a strong collaborative mindset.

February/2025 – February/2026	Maths Tutor Ezy Math Tutoring, Melbourne, VIC - Designed and delivered personalised mathematics learning plans based on individual strengths, gaps and goals, with 100% of students improving their academic performance and 80% doubling or tripling their marks. - Adapted and scaffolded mathematical concepts using differentiated explanations, problem-solving strategies and learner-centred activities, building students' confidence, motivation and willingness to engage with mathematics.
January/2024– October/2024	Music Therapist and Music Teacher ABC School of Early Learning, Colombo, Sri Lanka - Designed and facilitated individual and group music experiences using rhythm, movement, play and sensory-based activities, adapting delivery for children with diverse learning and developmental needs to support communication, attention, social interaction and meaningful participation. - Collaborated with teachers and parents to monitor learner responses and progress, sharing observations and adapting strategies to provide consistent, individualised support across classroom and home environments. - Created inclusive and responsive learning environments by observing children's engagement, modifying activities and providing multiple ways to participate, enabling learners with varied abilities and support needs to engage confidently in music lessons.

Leadership

January/2021 – Current	Founder Goodville Program, Sri Lanka - Founded and led a social-emotional learning initiative for children aged 3–8, designing playful learning experiences that integrated storytelling, technology, movement, discussion and hands-on activities to develop empathy, emotional regulation, growth mindset, responsibility and civic consciousness. - Engaged with schools, educators and community organisations to secure and coordinate workshop opportunities, expanding Goodville from an initial pilot at Ladies' College Nursery to workshops and camps reaching more than 1,000 children, parents and teachers across Sri Lanka, including 65 rural preschoolers. - Led the end-to-end creative development of the program, from workshop design to presentations, activity resources, digital content, marketing and educational products such as Goodness Tracker Boards, creating a cohesive learning experience across face-to-face and digital touchpoints. - Received the National New Generation Wellbeing Award (2023) in recognition of Goodville's contribution to child and family wellbeing in Sri Lanka.
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Referees

Available upon request.