

Kate Morris (Class of 1995)



**Launceston
Grammar**

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Kate Morris is the co-founder of [Adore Beauty](#), growing the business from its inception in her garage in 1999 to Australia's leading pureplay beauty e-tailer, winning multiple awards and boasting the top beauty podcast in the country. In October 2020 Adore Beauty listed on the ASX (ASX:ABY), setting a record for the largest ever IPO with a female founder and female CEO.

Kate is Chief Innovation Officer at Adore Beauty and sits on the Board of Directors as Executive Director. Kate is also a co-founder of successful SaaS startup Findation.

A two-time winner at the Telstra Business Women's Awards, in 2017 Kate was the first woman to receive the Industry Recognition Award for e-commerce at the StarTrack ORIAS. In 2019, Kate was a finalist in Veuve Clicquot's Business Woman Award, and in 2020, she was also named an 'All Star Legend', receiving Power Retail's lifetime achievement award. In 2021 she was awarded the Alumni Excellence Award from Monash University.

As a sought-after speaker in the areas of ecommerce, retail and beauty, Kate has presented at notable conferences and events including Vogue Codes, The Australian Institute of Company Directors' annual Governance Summit and Future Women x Veuve Clicquot's Business Woman Talks.

Kate has previously served as a non-executive director to the National Online Retailers Association (NORA) and on the Advisory Board of the Monash Business School.

Today, Kate is a passionate advocate for gender equality and committed to giving back to the Australian startup ecosystem. In 2021, Kate completed The Wade Institute of Entrepreneurship's VC Catalyst program - an immersive executive education program for active venture capital investors. She mentors up-and-coming startup founders via the Startmate accelerator and is a mentor and investor to a number of founders and their early stage companies.

Kate lives in Melbourne with her partner James Height, and two daughters aged 10 and 5.