

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Sacred Heart Primary School  
August 2024 to August 2025



**RECONCILIATION**  
AUSTRALIA



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## VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Sacred Heart School dreams are for a reconciled Australia where there are authentic, positive and culturally inclusive relationships built on mutual respect and understanding.

We believe that this begins at a local level, where we continue to respond to the needs of our learners so reconciliation builds to become part of our national identity. We believe that First Nations People and non-Indigenous community members working collaboratively will create a culturally safe environment supporting the development of active and informed citizens who maintain a sense of identity and a place of belonging. We believe a significant step to practical reconciliation is acknowledging and valuing the diversity of First Nations peoples and cultures.

Sacred Heart staff commit to deepening our knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories so that we can support our learners, families and staff to grow in their knowledge and understanding particularly through the embedding of the cross curricular priority – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives. In order to deliver a wholistic education that enables our students to thrive in a culturally safe environment, we will listen with the ear of our hearts to what Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples really want. (Reconciliation Australia)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today as we gather, we acknowledge the Yugera, Juggera and Ugurapul people who have walked and cared for this land for thousands of years. The Past ALL: We touch the ground We acknowledge their Elders who have lived and walked this Land before us. The future ALL: We stretch to the sky We acknowledge the emerging Elders of the Yugera, Juggera and Ugurapul peoples and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, for they will carry the dreams of their Elders into the future. The Present ALL: We touch our hearts We acknowledge everyone who is here today and we thank you for the care shown to us. There is much we can learn from each other.





## RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Genevieve Parer	Staff (teaching)
Naomi Boyle	Principal / Director
Kevin Eastment	Self-described
Alicia Hoger	Staff (non-teaching)
Claire Bohan	Staff (teaching)
Fiona Muller	Staff (teaching)

## CONTRIBUTORS

Sacred Heart Primary School would like to acknowledge the following contributors to the development of this RAP.

Name	Role/Organisation
Veronica Forsyth	Sacred Heart School Booval
Dan Hunter	Sacred Heart School Booval
Niki Hodson	Sacred Heart BOOVAL
Gen Parer	Sacred Heart BOOVAL
Kelli Broadbent	Sacred Heart BOOVAL







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom	We are committed to engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our learning activities. Having Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in learning environments is vital when teaching about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.
Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students and Children	We commit to providing opportunities for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to celebrate their cultural identities. These opportunities positively impact the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and children, and create shared pride for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, contributions, identities and histories in the wider school community.









RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Cultural Responsiveness for Staff	We are supported to reflect on and build our cultural responsiveness to improve our practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We are provided with a range of opportunities to build our knowledge and understanding of our own positionality and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures.









RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Welcome to Country	Where appropriate, significant events at our school commence with a Welcome to Country. Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for thousands of years. By incorporating these protocols into formal events and important occasions, we recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Custodians of the Land.
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week	Our school community celebrates National Reconciliation Week (NRW) which is held from 27 May to 3 June each year by talking about reconciliation in the classroom and around the school, and celebrating with the community. NRW is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.
Build Relationships with Community	We commit to forming ongoing relationships with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Our relationships will be built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We value these relationships and the way they make opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and the community.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Teach about Reconciliation	Our school community is committed to learning about reconciliation in Australia. Having an understanding of the concept, history and progress of reconciliation is an important part of continuing the reconciliation journey. This understanding also helps to strengthen engagement with our school's RAP by positioning it within the broader story of reconciliation in Australia.
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	We commit to knowing the news and being responsive to current issues significant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. We will do this through delivering our curriculum, policies and procedures, and integrating it into the way our school operates.







RESPECT



AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Acknowledgement of Country	Our school recognises the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the Country on which we live, work, learn and grow. All staff and students have the opportunity to show respect to Traditional Owners and Custodians by regularly conducting an Acknowledgement of Country at meetings and events throughout the year.







RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies/displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag at your school to demonstrate respect and recognition for the histories, cultures and contributions of the First Peoples of Australia. Flying or displaying the flags promotes a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.
Take Action Against Racism	We will raise awareness of racism, its impacts and how to respond effectively when it happens. We will do this through an anti-racism strategy tailored to the needs of our school.







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are a key, ongoing part of curriculum planning, development and evaluation across all year levels and learning areas. We will review curriculum documents to find out where we include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and to what extent and where we could include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in the curriculum.

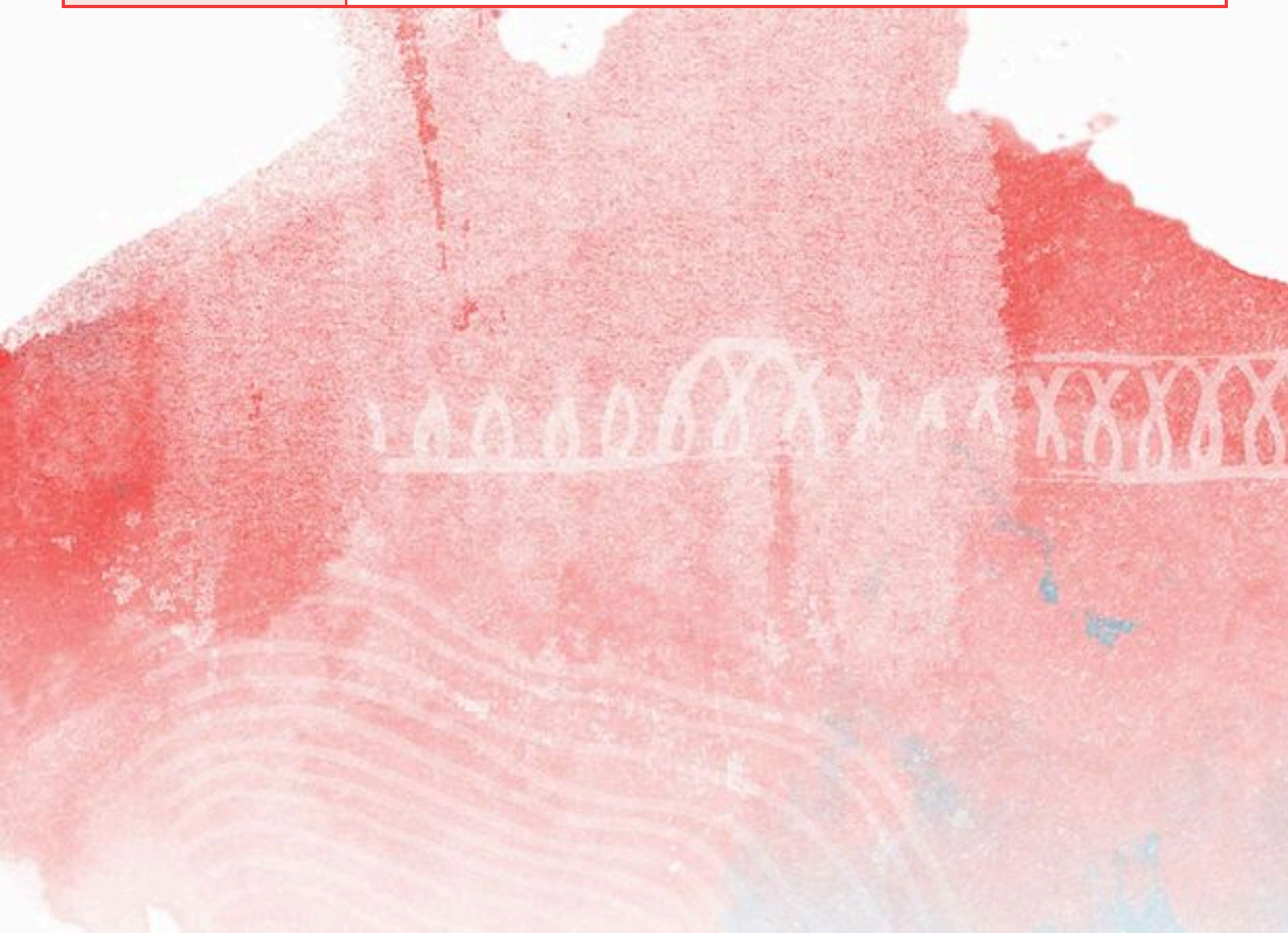








RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Inclusive Policies	All staff at school are aware of policies referring to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and building knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. When internal policies are reviewed and developed, we will ensure that they are inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and perspectives, and that there is a plan in place to ensure that all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice.
Staff Engagement with RAP	Commitment to the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) from all staff is essential for developing a RAP that is implemented in a meaningful and sustainable way. All staff will be involved in the ongoing development and implementation of our RAP through staff development opportunities facilitated by the RAP Working Group.
RAP Budget Allocation	We have set aside dedicated funds from within our budget to procure relevant goods and services that strengthen the sustainability of our RAP Actions. Staff are aware that it is important to consider remuneration for people who have been involved in RAP initiatives out of respect for the time and resources that they have contributed.





## OPPORTUNITIES



## WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Local Sites, Events and Excursions	We commit to learning more about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions of the Country on which we live, work, learn and play, by working with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to learn about events of historical and cultural significance and visit appropriate sites.
Celebrate RAP Progress	We are committed to reflecting on the progress made in the growth of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in our school. We will track the progress of our RAP, continually revisit our commitments, and celebrate our achievements, while generating new ideas to develop and sustain our RAP into the future.





