



"Working Together for a Better Future"

ABORIGINAL LEARNING, WELLBEING & SAFETY ACTION PLAN



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact Wallan Primary School.

Note: Throughout this document the term Koorie is used to refer to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Wallan Primary School embraces the vision of the [Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan](#) and celebrates the culture, knowledge and experiences of First Nations Peoples. We are committed to creating and maintaining a school environment that empowers Koorie students to feel valued, respected and culturally strong.

Our school has a number of measures in place to ensure our community acknowledges and appreciates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. These measures are outlined below.

- adopt measures to ensure racism is identified, confronted and not tolerated
- address any instances of racism within the school environment with appropriate consequences.
- actively support participation and inclusion in the school by Aboriginal children, students and their families.
- ensure policies, procedures, systems and processes create a culturally safe and inclusive environment and meet the needs of Aboriginal children, students and their families
- develop and endorse a policy or statement detailing the strategies and actions the school will take.
- begin events and meetings with a Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country as a standing agenda item. Use this as an opportunity to pause and reflect or open a discussion.
- fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on school grounds.
- display plaques and signs to Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners.
- celebrate the local Aboriginal community in communications with students, staff, volunteers and families.
- Share information through newsletters, assemblies, parent information nights.
- lead on safety and inclusion for all Aboriginal students and their families.
- Learn more about Aboriginal histories and cultures, both locally and across Australia.

- Speak with respect and confidence about Aboriginal culture, knowledge systems and people.
- implement the Koorie Education Policy to create a learning environment for all students that acknowledges, respects and values Aboriginal cultures and identities (Government schools).
- use Koorie Engagement Support Officers (KESOs) to provide advice to government schools about creating culturally inclusive learning environments.
- use the Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan 2016–2026 to guide the school’s support for Aboriginal self-determination.
- express zero tolerance of racism in your statement of commitment to child safety included in your Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy and other documents.
- address racism from students, staff, volunteers or visitors directly. Make sure racist speech or actions are always dealt with, and the culture of the school works to prevent incidents from occurring.
- arrange Community Understanding Safety Training (CUST) or equivalent for staff.
- use the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency cultural safety continuum reflective tool to make a tailored learning and development plan focused on staff cultural competence learning needs. recognise key events and anniversaries

Family and community perspectives and feedback

We actively seek participation and feedback from Koorie students, families and Community by:

- acknowledging the existing knowledge of Koorie students and their families and seeking their feedback on decisions that affect them, and on how well we are meeting their needs, through initial enrolment meetings, Student Support Groups, during the development of Individual Education Plans
- working with our regional Koorie Engagement Support Officers (KESOs) for advice on how we can create a culturally inclusive learning environment and to build our capacity to provide support for individual Koorie students attending our school

Training and professional development of staff

To ensure our staff are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to create and maintain a positive and inclusive school environment we:

- * ensure staff participate in Community Understanding and Safety Training (CUST) training
- * ensure training and professional development equips staff with an understanding and appreciation of the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and its importance to the wellbeing and safety of Koorie children and students.

Curriculum and learning

Wallan Primary School supports the development of high expectations and individualised learning for Koorie students and creates a learning environment for all students that acknowledges, respects and values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and identities. This includes:

- implementing the Department of Education and Training’s [Koorie Education Policy](#)
- ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs.

Assemblies and other school events and activities

We ensure our school events and activities acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture by:

- acknowledging the Country and the Wurundjeri People, Traditional Owners of the land on which our school is located, Wurundjeri Country, at the start of every school assembly and meeting
- arranging incursions and excursions, and recognising key events and anniversaries that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

Built and digital environment

We ensure our built environment and website demonstrates an appreciation and acknowledgment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through:

- flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on school grounds.
- displaying plaques/signs outside our main entrance that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners
- including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page

Community feedback

We recognise that our school’s practices must be regularly reviewed and updated in partnership with our families and local communities. We encourage you to contact Wallan Primary School with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

Review and approval

Plan last reviewed	August 2023
Consultation	School Council
Approved by Principal	Tanya Kirkright
Next scheduled	August 2025

