

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Djerriwarrh Community College



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## Welcome to Djerriwarrh

We are an independent specialist senior secondary school based in Melton delivering the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) for students aged 15-19 years.

## VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Our vision for reconciliation is an Australia where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are acknowledged as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands, skies and waterways of our nation; an Australia where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives are valued, respected and included as influential in building a nation that is equitable to all.

Djerriwarrh Community College is committed to respectfully embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures within our classrooms, school grounds and local communities. We will support a learning environment that teaches indigenous histories of Australia and will support a culturally safe learning environment where pride in identity flourishes and the longest living cultures are celebrated.

To reach our vision for reconciliation, we are committed to:

- 1: Building and maintaining culturally safe, aware and responsive classrooms and curricula.
- 2: Directly addressing racism.
- 3: Enriching each student's knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories.
- 4: Supporting meaningful opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by valuing, respecting and listening to the voices of families, carers and community organisations.
- 5: Supporting all students to grow up connected to, and proud of, their cultures.
- 6: Developing hope and courage through celebrating culture in all its diverse forms.
- 7: Building a deeper understanding and knowledge of First Nations worldviews amongst students and staff.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Djerriwarrh Community College acknowledges the *Wurundjeri - Wathaurong* people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our school is located, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded.



# RAP WORKING GROUP

The Working Group members listed below have confirmed their participation and therefore will be published in the RAP.

Name	Position
Amy Abdullah	Staff (non-teaching)
Paula Reynolds	Staff (teaching assistant)
Amy Farrell	Principal / Director
Jeanette Williams	Staff (non-teaching)
Kim Snooks	Staff (teaching)



The Working Group members listed below **will not** show in the published RAP as they have not confirmed their participation.

Name	Position
Marianne Santos	Staff (teaching)





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 our 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	Staff are supported to reflect on and build their cultural responsiveness to improve their practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Staff are provided with a range of opportunities to build their knowledge and understanding of their 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 building relationships with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community that are built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We value these relationships and their role in helping to create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and community members.



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 are committed to raising awareness of current affairs and issues in the public domain that are of particular significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. This will be done through curriculum delivery, policies and procedures, and will be integrated into the ethos of our 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.







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies or displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags as a demonstration of our pride and respect for the histories, cultures and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. 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.





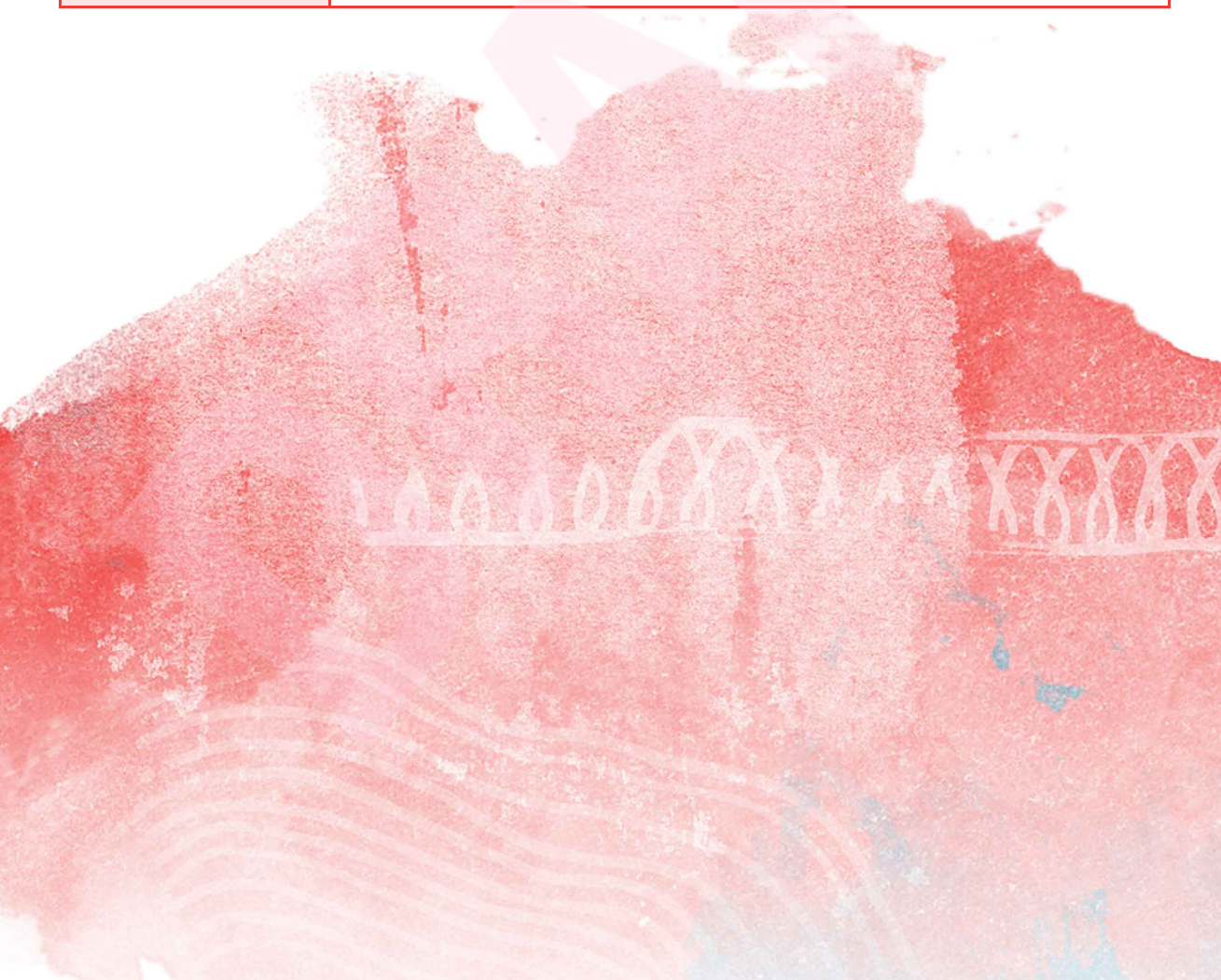


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in curriculum planning, development and evaluation processes is a key and ongoing consideration across all year levels and learning areas. Curriculum documents have or will be audited to identify the extent to which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions are already embedded, and to identify opportunities for strengthening the representation of this content in the curriculum.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Inclusive Policies	All staff in our school are aware of policies that refer specifically to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and increasing knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. We have a plan in place to ensure all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice. Our internal policies have been, or will be, amended to ensure they are also inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia.
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 ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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.

