

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

St Michael's College

October 2025 to October 2026

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VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

St Michaels College vision for reconciliation is for all college students and staff to recognise, acknowledge, understand, and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures. As a college, we acknowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are connected to the oldest continuing cultures on the planet. We also recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples cultures and connections to their Lands and Waterways are of ongoing importance today and into the future.

We commit to working respectfully and collaboratively with local First Nations Peoples, communities, and organisations. Through this partnership, we will seek to provide meaningful opportunities and experiences for all college students.

We recognise that we will always be learning as we work towards making reconciliation the heart of everything we do.

We commit to listening, learning, and growing in our understanding of Australia's true histories, First Nations peoples identities, and perspectives. This will be a visible and valuable part of our curriculum and ways of being.

We hope that by learning the truths about the past, we can actively contribute to creating a better future for our community.

Through our Reconciliation Action Plan, we endeavour to enact our Lasallian ethos of providing accessible quality education to the youth, especially those at risk and promoting peace and justice through experiences, formation, and social action programs.

St John Baptist de la Salle.

(Med 133.2 - on St Margaret, Queen of Scotland)

96-T You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St Michael's College acknowledges that the Land on which we learn and teach today is the Traditional Land of the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with Country. We also acknowledge and pay respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Damian Patton	Deputy Principal Primary Campus
Andrew Spencer	Staff (teaching)
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CONTRIBUTORS

St Michael's College would like to acknowledge the following contributors to the development of this RAP.

Name	Role/Organisation
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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.
Early Years Learning Framework	We seek out ways to connect our reconciliation vision and plans and Early Years Learning Framework principles, practices and outcomes. Our efforts mean reconciliation is embedded in everyday early learning environments.
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
Elders and Traditional Owners Share Histories and Cultures	We are committed to forging a meaningful and ongoing relationship with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, and people recognised in their community as Traditional Owners. We hope this relationship can be of mutual benefit, and that local Elders and Traditional Owners will feel safe, and confident, to share their historical and cultural knowledge with our staff, students and children.
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.
Reconciliation Projects	Our school will collaborate on projects that visibly and authentically embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in learning programs and the physical environment. Through this culture of collaboration across the school and with the community, we commit to creating an environment where young people, staff and community members acknowledge, respect and experience connection to the First Australians.





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.
Create Stakeholder List	We will develop and maintain a stakeholder list that reflects our current and future working relationships with members of the community who are committed to working collaboratively to drive reconciliation initiatives.



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Build Relationships with Community	We commit to forming ongoing relationships with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Our relationships will be built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We respect these relationships and the way they make opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and the community.
Cultural Responsiveness for Students and Children	Our everyday program will have ways for children and students to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures, in and outside the classroom. We will include cultural responsiveness principles our students and children have learned in the ethos of our classrooms and across our school.





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.
Teach about Days of National Significance	We commit to incorporating nationally significant days for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and reconciliation into our curriculum to increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, contributions and contemporary issues. We also commit to including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives when teaching about other national days, such as 26 January (Australia Day) and ANZAC Day.
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.



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.
Visibly Demonstrate Respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures	We commit to demonstrating our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in the physical environment of our school. We understand that making our respect visible in the learning environment through the incorporation of meaningful, relevant and culturally appropriate art, artefacts and symbolism reinforces our work toward reconciliation. It also makes our intentions and actions clear to our students, parents and the broader community.
Recognise and Respect Rights	We are committed to recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge that working within the frameworks of both declarations is important to reducing discrimination and promoting equality and equity in the educational and wider community.

RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies/displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag 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.



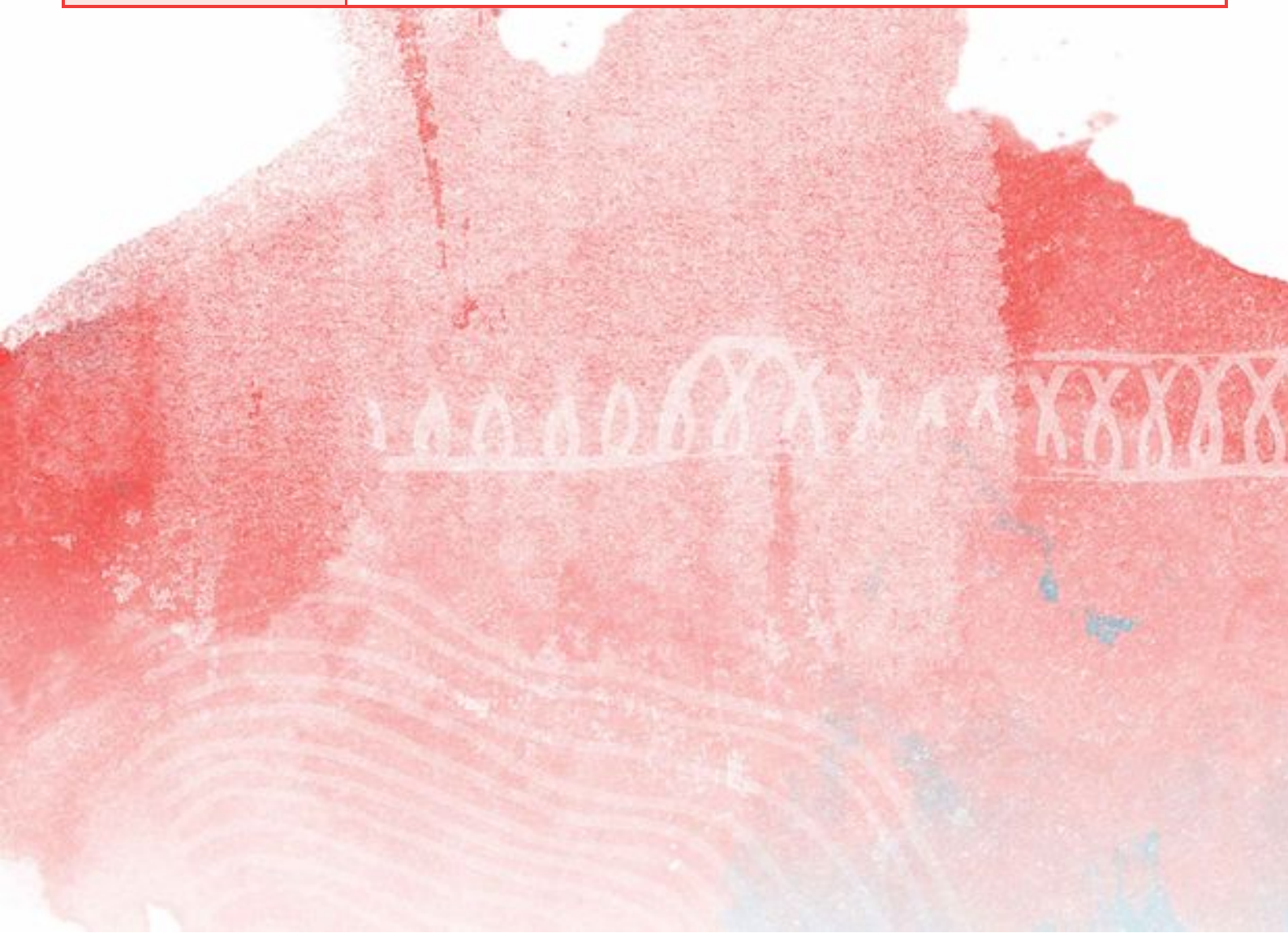


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Embed Cross-curriculum Priority	All staff from across the school are supported to understand and embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures in the curriculum. Teachers will consider the cross-curriculum priority when developing units, lesson plans and resources in all learning areas and across all year levels.
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.
Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Owned Businesses	We promote supplier diversity and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses and their employees through the procurement of goods and services related to our RAP, as well as our general business. We maintain a list of local, regional, state-based and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses to accompany procurement policies and procedures.