

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Ocean Grove Primary School
March 2025 to March 2026



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COUNTRY

THIS EMAIL COMES TO YOU FROM
WADAWURRUNG
COUNTRY

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VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Our school community acknowledges the rich cultural heritages of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We are committed to promoting social responsibility and accountability, underpinned by a deep respect for the Wadawurrung People and their connection to Country. We seek to further our knowledge of, and respect for, the Wadawurrung custodianship of the Land, so that we may share in caring for Country. We acknowledge that the narratives of our community's history have not always been inclusive, and we seek to help integrate Wadawurrung culture within the school and local community.

We recognise that the dualities of knowledge and culture are pivotal to achieving reconciliation. Truth telling, deep listening, togetherness, reciprocity and acknowledgement of the past are foundational elements that underpin this process. Whilst we have taken our first steps on our reconciliation journey, we commit to reaching new milestones, guided along the way by the voices of Traditional Owners.

Our living vision for reconciliation at Ocean Grove Primary School is grounded on the belief that all students have the right to a safe, respectful and supportive environment which promotes and encourages student voices and a love for learning. This is paramount for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, given the past and present injustices and ongoing impacts of colonisation on First Nations peoples. We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all students, supporting them to contribute to a future which acknowledges and respects their unique contributions of First Nations peoples to a diverse and inclusive society.

We acknowledge the call for real, lasting change and recognise our sphere of influence through education. We believe that the steps towards reconciliation we take as a school community can contribute to greater leaps in society towards improved race-relations and social policy, true justice and genuine reconciliation. The love of learning we aspire to for students is one we hope to embody as we progress on this vital journey. Let's walk together.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ocean Grove Primary School acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who are part of the local community today.



RAP WORKING GROUP

| Name | Position |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Kristy Dodds | Staff (teaching) |
| Kristy Hannan-Cuthbertson | Staff (non-teaching) |
| Scott McCumber | Principal / Director |
| Andy McNeilly | Staff (teaching) |
| Anita Mullick | Community member |
| Jo Chapman | Staff (teaching) |
| Sarah Womersley | Parent/carer |
| Kim Kenny | Staff (non-teaching) |
| Corrina Eccles | Community member |



| RAP ACTIONS | COMMITMENT |
|--|---|
| <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students and Children</p> | <p>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.</p> |





| RAP ACTIONS | COMMITMENT |
|---|---|
| <p>Elders and Traditional Owners Share Histories and Cultures</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Cultural Responsiveness for Staff</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Reconciliation Projects</p> | <p>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.</p> |





| 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 |
|---|--|
| <p>Build Relationships with Community</p> | <p>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.</p> |





| 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. |



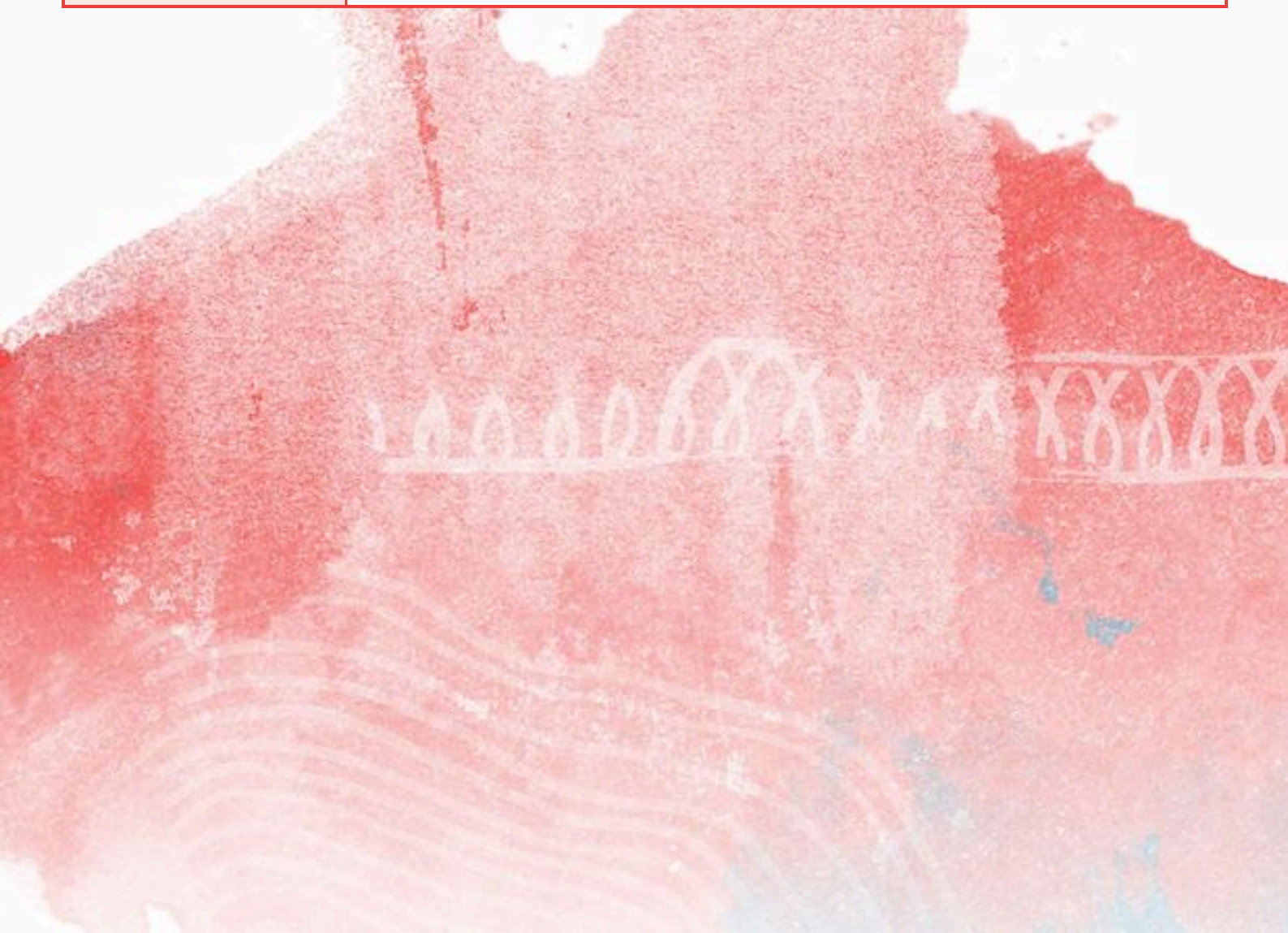
OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CLASSROOM

| 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 |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <p>Inclusive Policies</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Staff Engagement with RAP</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>RAP Budget Allocation</p> | <p>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.</p> |



OPPORTUNITIES



WITH THE COMMUNITY

| 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. |



