

Sacré Cœur

School of the Sacred Heart

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

OUR VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Sacré Cœur aims to seek, enable and empower reconciliation ensuring our community values, respects and celebrates the richness and diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, their cultures, perspectives, histories and futures.

We acknowledge Sacré Cœur stands on Wurundjeri Land, and as a community recognise the injustices of the past, and their ongoing impact that it continues to have. We seek to work to a future that promotes justice, equity and equality.

We are committed to respectfully embedding principles of reconciliation into our curriculum, our culture, and our daily lives. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives present us with an opportunity to learn and understand. We are committed to building a community where everyone fosters meaningful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders peoples with open minds and hearts.

Our goal is to formalise, confirm and build on the work and programs that have been developed continuing our approach to reconciliation within the Sacré Cœur School community.

Reconciliation within the framework of Sacred Heart Education

As a proud Catholic School in the Sacred Heart Network, Sacré Cœur aspires to follow the vision of our foundress, St Madeleine Sophie Barat, who saw education as a means of forming young people in intelligent faith, compassionate action, and courageous hope.

Sacred Heart Education is framed by the belief that education lays the foundation for students to contribute and build community, with an instilled sense of integrity and courage.

As Sacred Heart educators, we aim to guide our students on a path towards transformation and hope, within an inclusive community. Respect for the dignity of each person, and the integrity of all creation, is at the centre of our community.

As a Sacred Heart community, we are called to be people of justice, grounded in love, mirroring Christ's heart of compassion, hope and respect. As such, Sacré Cœur is committed to walking a journey of reconciliation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we gather on this land, united in the spirit of Cor Unum, One Heart, we acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin nation.

We pay our respects to the Elders, past, present, and emerging, and recognise their continuing connection and contribution to this land.

United together with our Indigenous Peoples and Cultures, we are reminded that we are called to be people of justice, mirroring the attitudes of Christ's heart of compassion, hope and respect. We respect the inherent dignity of each person and the integrity of all creation.



RELATIONSHIPS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom
Enhance teaching and learning activities by engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from within the School community.

Cultural Competence for Staff
Provide opportunities for staff to build and extend knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Welcome to Country
Co-ordinate a Welcome to Country for significant events.

Celebrate National Reconciliation Week
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week (NRW) from 27 May to 3 June each year.

Build Relationships with Community
Build relationships with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community that are founded on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness.

RESPECT

Teach About Reconciliation
Teach about the concept, history and progress of reconciliation in Australia.

Teach About Days of National Significance
Teach about National Days of Significance, demonstrating respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions.

Explore Current Affairs and Issues
Raise 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.

Acknowledgement of Country
Develop understanding of what it means to acknowledge Country, and provide everyone the opportunity to do so at meetings and events throughout the year.

Celebrate Days of National Significance
Raise awareness and celebrate National Days of Significance, demonstrating respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions around the school.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags
Fly or display the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags all year round to demonstrate pride and respect for Australia's First Peoples.

Physical Acknowledgement of Country
Display a physical Acknowledgement of Country such as an Acknowledgement plaque or mural.

RAP Launch
Hold a special event to launch the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).

Take Action Against Racism
Raise awareness of, teach about, and take positive action against racism.



OPPORTUNITIES

Curriculum Planning

Ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are incorporated in curriculum planning, development and evaluation processes.

Inclusive Policies

Ensure policies are inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and aim to increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.

Staff Engagement with RAP

Encourage staff to be involved in the ongoing development and implementation of the RAP through staff development opportunities.

RAP Budget Allocation

Establish a budget to enable the actions within the RAP to be met and achieved.

Celebrate RAP Progress

Celebrate RAP progress in the School and throughout the community.

ARTWORK

As part of our RAP journey, we were fortunate to engage the services of local Wurundjeri and Dja Dja Wurrung artist, Samantha Roberts. Samantha has created a piece of digital art for Sacré Cœur named Diversity, which features on the back of our Reconciliation Action Plan.

Diversity is about the different aspects of life that bring people together, to work together, share knowledge, build each other's strengths, their connection to the lands, to the people and the community.

This concept incorporates many different Wurundjeri traditional symbols:



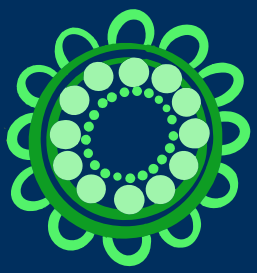
BLUE WAVY LINE
river/ journey/ travel



WHITE WAVY LINE
flow of time



FOUR CIRCLES WITHIN EACH OTHER
water/ watering hole/ swamp



DOUBLE CIRCLES
strength (physical/ mental/ emotional/ spiritual)



SINGLE CIRCLES
knowledge



SEMI CIRCLES
people/ community



LARGE CIRCLES SURROUNDED BY SMALLER CIRCLES
meeting place/ everybody talk

Wurundjeri Country

