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Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Action Plan



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS AND FOR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Lyndhurst Primary School (LPS) on 03 8768 6700 or <u>lyndhurst.ps@education.vic.gov.au</u>.



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

LPS embraces the vision of the <u>Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan</u> 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 ensuring our school is culturally safe and inclusive, as outlined below.

1. 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
- partnering with The Bunurong Land Council, Nairm Marr Djambana and Aboriginal Elders to seek feedback and advice on existing and new actions we can take to support the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal students and children in our community

2. 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 <u>Community Understanding and Safety Training (CUST)</u> training
- provide tailored training and professional development each year to build knowledge for specific staff based on any emerging or current areas of need
- ensure training and professional development equips teaching staff to deliver Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives within the classroom curriculum
- ensure training and professional development equips staff to identify racism and that it is identified, confronted and not tolerated, and any instances of racism are addressed with appropriate consequences
- support teachers to work in their Professional Learning Teams (PLTs) to map and develop teaching and learning activities within the Victorian Curriculum priorities to enable staff to build their confidence with

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content and to recognise opportunities to draw upon Aboriginal pedagogies and practices within their classrooms

• 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

3. Curriculum and learning

LPS 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's Koorie Education Policy
- ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs
- encouraging and actively supporting a child or student's ability to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights

4. 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 Traditional Owners of the land on which our school is located Bunurong Land at the start of every school assembly and meeting
- arranging Welcome to Country by local Elders at major school events such as the opening of new buildings or campuses
- arranging incursions and excursions, and recognising key events and anniversaries that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture

5. 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 an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners plaque in our school
- including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page and newsletter

6. 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 the school office with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Included in staff induction processes and staff training
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Discussed at annual staff briefings/meetings
- Discussed at student forums
- Included in transition and enrolment packs
- Discussed at parent information nights/sessions
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	Tuesday 20th May 2025
Consultation	Annual Child Safe Vision Day
Approved by	School Council

Next scheduled review date May 2028