



Deepdene Primary School Action Plan Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the office at Deepdene Primary School 9817- 1917

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

Deepdene Primary School embraces the vision of the [Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan](#) 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 refer to (*Deepdene: Protection Child Safe Standard 1*) to ensure our community acknowledges and appreciates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. These measures are outlined below.

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 and cultural plans
- partnering with Wurundjeri People, as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our school is located, to seek advice and guidance about local culture, histories, protocols and opportunities to strengthen Aboriginal learning, wellbeing and cultural safety; and
- working in partnership with Aboriginal students and their families to understand and respond to their individual identities, cultures, experiences and connections to family, Community and Country, recognising the diversity within Aboriginal communities.

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 [Community Understanding and Safety Training \(CUST\)](#) 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
- support teachers to work in their Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) 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.
- ensure staff understand and follow Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) protocols, including seeking appropriate permission before using Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories, artwork, language, symbols, images or cultural knowledge.
- ensure staff understand our school's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and their role in supporting its commitments to respectful relationships, cultural safety and the meaningful inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives.

Curriculum and learning

Deepdene Primary School 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 and Training's [Koorie Education Policy](#)
- ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs.

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 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

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 plaques/signs outside our main entrance that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners
- including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page

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 Principal or the Assistant Principal at the school with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

Review and approval

Plan last reviewed	July 2026
Consultation	Consultation on this plan is mandatory. In August 2026 consultation occurred with the Koorie Engagement Support Officer, student representative groups, School Council and School Leadership
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	July 2028 – noting that the Action Plan has a mandatory minimum review cycle of 2 years or following a relevant child safety incident.