



# Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety

## Action Plan



### Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the school Office.

### Purpose

Grovedale West 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 several measures in place to ensure our community acknowledges and appreciates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. The measures are outlined below.

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

### Family and Community Perspectives and Feedback

Grovedale West Primary school values and actively seeks participation and feedback from Koorie students, families and Community.

In providing a positive and supportive learning culture we:

- acknowledge and value the existing knowledge of Koorie students and their families.
- seek their feedback on decisions that affect them, and on how well we are meeting their needs.
- provide initial enrolment meetings, Student Support Group meetings and collaborate in the development of Individual Learning Plans.
- actively draw upon Koorie knowledge and culture to support student learning opportunities for all students.
- work 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
- engage with community organizations such as Wuthorong, Narana Creations and NDIS 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.

<p>Training and Professional Development of Staff</p>	<p>To ensure our staff are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to create and maintain a positive and inclusive school environment we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• draw upon the support of our Koori Engagement Support Officers</li> <li>• ensure staff participate in <u>Community Understanding and Safety Training (CUST)</u></li> <li>• ensure training and professional development equips teaching staff to deliver Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives within the classroom curriculum</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<p>Curriculum and Learning</p>	<p>Grovedale West 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implementing the Department of Education and Training's <u>Koorie Education Policy</u></li> <li>• ensuring that all Koorie students have Individual Education Plans developed in partnership with students, families and support services such as Keso's.</li> <li>• ensuring that an appreciation of Koori culture becomes part of the curriculum program across all levels of learning,</li> <li>• implementing a Landcare program that has a strong focus on indigenous planting</li> </ul>
<p>Assemblies and School Events and Activities</p>	<p>We ensure our school events and activities acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• acknowledging the Country and Traditional Owners of the lands on which our school is located, the Wadawurrung people, at the start of every school assembly and meeting</li> <li>• acknowledging our Koori community on entry to the school with an acknowledgment of Country and Traditional Owners welcome sign.</li> <li>• arranging Welcome to Country by Koori school or community members at major school events such as the opening of new buildings or campuses</li> <li>• arranging incursions and excursions, and recognising key events and anniversaries that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture</li> </ul>

Built and Digital Environment	<p>We ensure our built environment and website demonstrates an appreciation and acknowledgment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags during assemblies and events</li> <li>• displaying a plaque inside our main entrance that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners</li> <li>• including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page</li> <li>• maintaining a native landscape with indigenous gardens and design</li> </ul>								
Community Feedback	<p>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 Principal with any feedback, concerns, or suggestions.</p>								
Review cycle	<table border="1" data-bbox="432 792 1441 1043"> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 792 815 837"><b>Policy last reviewed</b></td> <td data-bbox="815 792 1441 837"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 2022</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 837 815 936"><b>Consultation</b></td> <td data-bbox="815 837 1441 936"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Consultation 18/11/22</li> <li>• Staff and School Council Consultation 10/08/22</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 936 815 1003"><b>Approved by</b></td> <td data-bbox="815 936 1441 1003"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gretta Lynch Principal 7/12/22</li> <li>• School Council 7/12/22</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 1003 815 1043"><b>Next scheduled review date</b></td> <td data-bbox="815 1003 1441 1043"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 2024 or if required earlier</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<b>Policy last reviewed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 2022</li> </ul>	<b>Consultation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Consultation 18/11/22</li> <li>• Staff and School Council Consultation 10/08/22</li> </ul>	<b>Approved by</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gretta Lynch Principal 7/12/22</li> <li>• School Council 7/12/22</li> </ul>	<b>Next scheduled review date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 2024 or if required earlier</li> </ul>
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