Eastwood Primary School and Deaf Facility 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 School Office.

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

Eastwood Primary School and Deaf Facility embraces the vision of the <u>Marrung Aboriginal Education</u> <u>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 outlined below.

Family and community perspectives and feedback

We actively seek participation and feedback from Koorie students, families and Community by:

- working with our regional Koorie Engagement Support Officer, Thomas Harrison (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 local artist and ex Eastwood student Holly McLennan Brown to produce an original artwork representing the students and values of Eastwood Primary School.

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
- 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.

Curriculum and learning

Eastwood Primary School and Deaf Facility 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

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 The Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nations, at the start of every school assembly.
- arranging Welcome to Country by local Elders at major school events such as the opening of our Indigenous Garden
- 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 throughout our school that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners
- including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page
- including a bush tucker garden within our kitchen/garden area
- including a purpose designed Indigenous Garden in our school grounds.
- displaying Indigenous Art work produced by a local artist in conjunction with our students.

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.

Review and approval

Plan last reviewed	23 October, 2025
Consultation	School Council School community offered the opportunity to provide feedback on update policy via the newsletter, Epsilon.
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	2027