



HARVEST HOME
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety

Action Plan

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 Harvest Home Primary School on 8468 9000 or email: harvest.home@education.vic.gov.au

GLOSSARY

Koorie

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

Cultural Understanding and Safety Training (CUST)

Cultural Understanding and Safety Training in schools promotes systemic change; enhancing all students' understanding and respect for Koorie culture and history, as well as supporting improved outcomes for Koorie students, by strengthening the cultural capability of all school staff. Drawing on the expertise of the DET's Koorie Education Workforce and Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Groups, topics include Welcome to/Acknowledgement of Country, Pre-and Post-Colonial History, Local Community today, and Inclusion and Reflective Practice. Schools are encouraged to rethink how they can support improved outcomes for Koorie students, how Aboriginal perspectives are conceptualised in the curriculum, and identify their next steps in supporting Koorie inclusion at their school.

Koorie Engagement Support Officer (KESOs)

KESOs are area-based professionals who are members of the local Aboriginal community with an understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and the histories. KESOs provide advice to schools about culturally inclusive learning environments, and the co-ordination of services to facilitate improved engagement of Koorie children and young people. KESOs play an integral role to engage families, communities, education and service providers to facilitate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learners to participate fully in education. They support all learning settings to transition students and families across all learning stages where appropriate: into early years, primary, secondary and further education.

OVERVIEW

Harvest Home 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 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 Three Way Conferences
- 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

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)
- 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.

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

Harvest Home 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's Koorie Education Policy
- ensuring that all Koorie students have Individual Education Plans developed in collaboration with students, families and KESOs.

ASSEMBLIES AND OTHER SCHOOL 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, information session, professional learning session with Acknowledgement of Country video
- 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 such as NAIDOC Week

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.
- Acknowledgement of Country posters in all learning spaces.
- including an Acknowledgement of Country video on our school website

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 a member of our Leadership team with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October, 2025
Consultation	School council
Approved by	Andrew Bouzikas (Principal)
Next scheduled review date	October, 2027