

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Holy Spirit Catholic School  
January 2023 to January 2024





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## VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

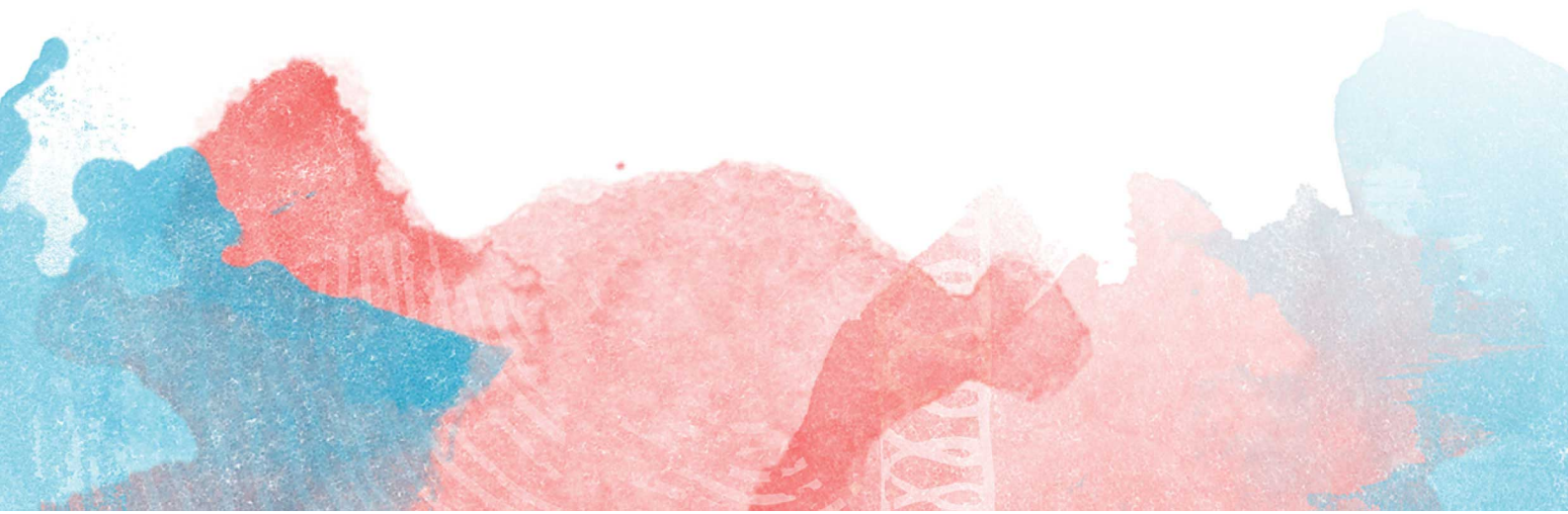
Holy Spirit Catholic School's vision for reconciliation seeks to foster strong respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous people as we strive for a more just, equitable and reconciled Australia.

We are committed to deepening our understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' histories and cultures through engagement with First Nations families and community members including local Elders and key organisations. We aim to create an environment where all students and their families feel safe, supported and empowered to reach individual academic, social and emotional goals by effectively using culturally responsive strategies and practices and establishing high expectation relationships within our school community.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this Land, the Wulgurukaba people. We also acknowledge the Bindal people from across the Ross River.

We value their stories and traditions and pay our respects to Elders – past, present and emerging.



## RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Kirsten Logan	Staff (teaching)
Ursula Ferguson	Staff (teaching)
Caroline Fuller	Other
Anne Mendiolea	Staff (teaching)
Tammi Webber	Staff (teaching)
Amber Church	Staff (teaching)
Esther Tambo	Parent/carers
Kath Tarttelin	Principal / Director
PELLEY MORGANSON	Indigenous Education Advisor





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom	We are committed to engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our learning activities. Having Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in learning environments is vital when teaching about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.	Kirsten L, Anne M	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Cultural Competence for Staff	We will reflect on our current level of cultural competence and provide staff with a range of opportunities to build and extend their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. We also commit to supporting staff to independently seek out and participate in a variety of cultural awareness experiences that assist them on their own journey of understanding.	Tammi W, Kirsten L, Anne M	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Welcome to Country	Where appropriate, significant events at our school commence with a Welcome to Country. Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for thousands of years. By incorporating these protocols into formal events and important occasions, we recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Custodians of their Land.	Anne M	Ongoing
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week	Our school community celebrates National Reconciliation Week (NRW) which is held from 27 May to 3 June each year by talking about reconciliation in the classroom and around the school, and celebrating with the community. NRW is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.	Kirsten L, Anne M	27/05/2023 - 03/06/2023
Build Relationships with Community	We commit to building relationships with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community that are built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We value these relationships and their role in helping to create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and community members.	Kath T, Kirsten L, Anne M	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Teach about Reconciliation	Our school community is committed to learning about reconciliation in Australia. Having an understanding of the concept, history and progress of reconciliation is an important part of continuing the reconciliation journey. This understanding also helps to strengthen engagement with our school's RAP by positioning it within the broader story of reconciliation in Australia.	Kirsten L, Anne M, Tammi W	Ongoing
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	We are committed to raising awareness of current affairs and issues in the public domain that are of particular significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. This will be done through curriculum delivery, policies and procedures, and will be integrated into the ethos of our school.	Kirsten L, Anne M, Kath T, Tammi W	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Acknowledgement of Country	Our school recognises the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the Country on which we live, work, learn and grow. All staff and students have the opportunity to show respect to Traditional Owners and Custodians by regularly conducting an Acknowledgement of Country at meetings and events throughout the year.	Kath T, Kirsten L, Anne M	Ongoing
Care for Country	We commit to actively connecting with, and caring for, the Country/place on which our school stands. This involves respectfully learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, philosophies and practices about caring for Country/place, as well as physically demonstrating respect for the skies, waterways and Land on which we live and learn. We will consider First Nations perspectives as part of broader sustainability plans, policies and practices. This will reinforce the meaningful and continuous connections Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have continued to have with Country/place since time immemorial, as well as provide positive opportunities for all members of our educational community to become socially and environmentally responsible citizens who display a growing awareness of the importance of First Nations land management and sustainability.	Kirsten L, Anne M, Kath T, Tammi W	Ongoing

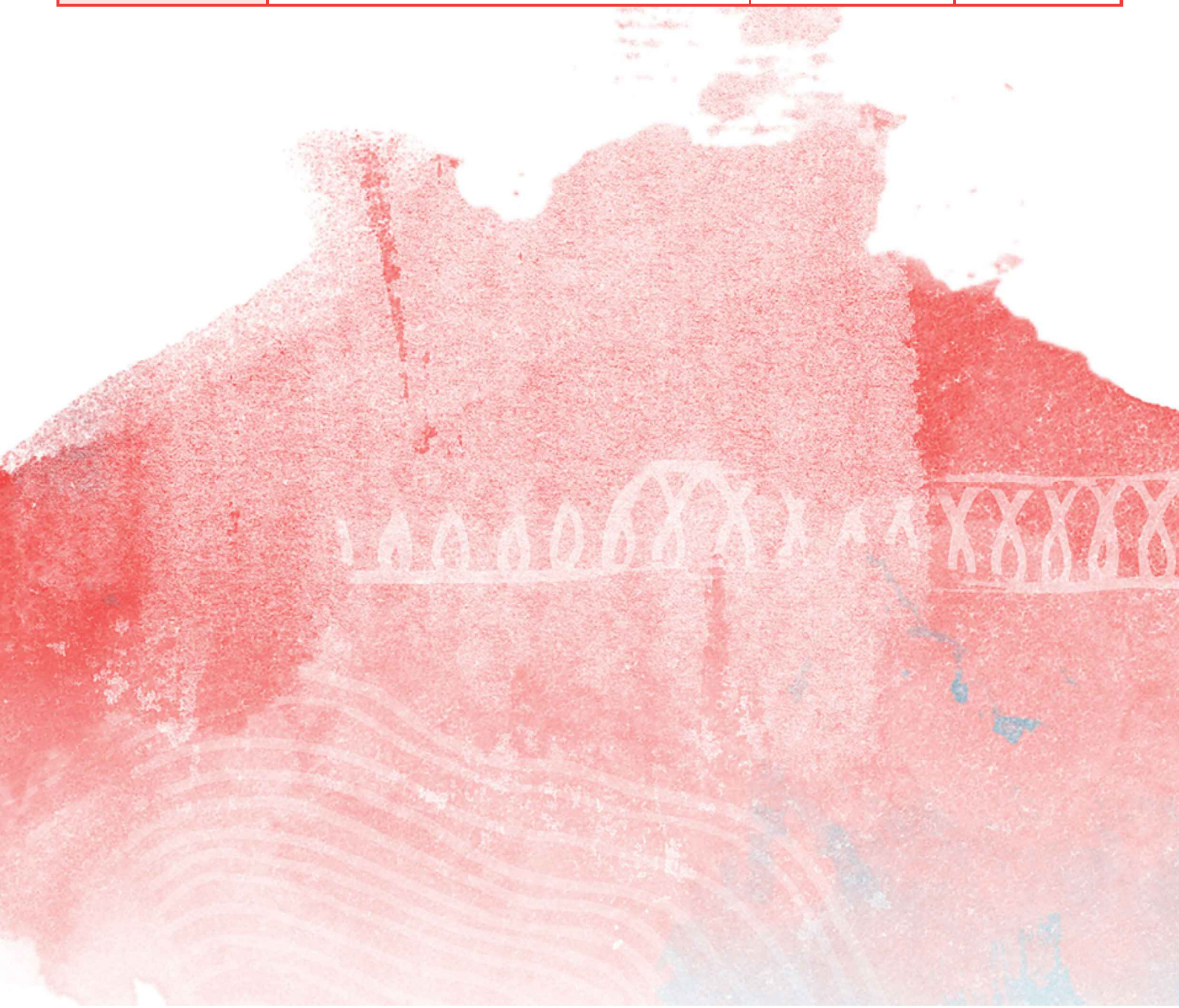


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies or displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags as a demonstration of our pride and respect for the histories, cultures and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. Flying or displaying the flags promotes a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.	Kath T	Ongoing
RAP Launch	Our school is proud to launch our RAP at an event that recognises the efforts of the working group and celebrates our school or service's commitment to reconciliation. We will use our RAP launch event to inform the wider community about our RAP and the many different ways they can get involved and take action toward reconciliation.	Anne M, Kath T	25/01/2023
Take Action Against Racism	Racism can have serious negative consequences for the people who experience it, for those who witness it, and for wider society. When racism is properly understood it is easier to overcome. We commit to building awareness of what racism is, the impacts of racism and how to respond effectively when it occurs through an anti-racism strategy tailored to the needs of our school.	Kirsten L, Kath T, Anne M	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Curriculum Planning	Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in curriculum planning, development and evaluation processes is a key and ongoing consideration across all year levels and learning areas. Curriculum documents have or will be audited to identify the extent to which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions are already embedded, and to identify opportunities for strengthening the representation of this content in the curriculum.	Kirsten L, Anne M, Tammi W	Ongoing



# OPPORTUNITIES



# AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Inclusive Policies	All staff in our school are aware of policies that refer specifically to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and increasing knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. We have a plan in place to ensure all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice. Our internal policies have been, or will be, amended to ensure they are also inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia.	Kath T, Tammi W	Ongoing
Staff Engagement with RAP	Commitment to the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) from all staff is essential for developing a RAP that is implemented in a meaningful and sustainable way. All staff will be involved in the ongoing development and implementation of our RAP through staff development opportunities facilitated by the RAP Working Group.	Kirsten L, Kath T, Anne M	Ongoing
Reconciliation Awards	We commit to creating opportunities to acknowledge students, children, staff and community members who are making an outstanding contribution to progressing reconciliation in our school.	Kirsten L, Anne M, Kath T	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Celebrate RAP Progress	We are committed to reflecting on the progress made in the growth of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in our school. We will track the progress of our RAP, continually revisit our commitments, and celebrate our achievements, while generating new ideas to develop and sustain our RAP into the future.	Kath T, Kirsten L, Anne M	Ongoing

