POLICY: Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Action Plan

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand this policy, please contact the office on 9702 2022.

PURPOSE:

Brentwood Park Primary School embraces the vision of the Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan and celebrates the culture, knowledge and experiences of First Nations Peoples.

AIMS:

We are committed to creating and maintaining a school environment that empowers Koorie students to feel valued, respected and culturally strong. The school has a number of measures in place to ensure our community acknowledges and appreciates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Provide a welcoming environment for Aboriginal children and support cultural inclusion

- Beginning events and meetings with a Welcome to Country or an Acknowledgement of Country as a standing agenda item.
- Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on the school's website home page
- Flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on school grounds.
- Displaying plaques to Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners.
- Celebrating the local Aboriginal community in communications with students, staff and families. Share information through school newsletters and provision to individual families.

Guide and train staff and volunteers

- Staff undertaking Cultural Understanding and Safety Training (CUST).
- Representation at Marrung Network Meetings.
- Anthea Barry, First Nations ES staff member presenting Cultural Understanding and Awareness PD to staff at staff meetings.

Build knowledge of Aboriginal culture in school planning and curriculum

- Leading on safety and inclusion for all Aboriginal students and their families.
- Learning more about Aboriginal histories and cultures, both locally and across Australia. Speaking with respect and confidence about Aboriginal culture, knowledge systems and people.
- Building schoolwide knowledge of Aboriginal histories, cultures, perspectives, values, skills, and attitudes, through Anthea Barry, First Nations ES staff member presenting talks to Foundation to Year Six classes. Use of Australians Together as a resource.
- Supporting teachers to work in their Professional Learning Teams(PLT) 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

Provide a high quality Curriculum and Learning program

Supporting the development of high expectations and individualised learning for Koorie students and creating a learning environment for all students that acknowledges, respects and values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and identities by:

- implementing the Department of Education's Koorie Education Policy
- ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs.

Partnership with Aboriginal communities

- Forming partnership with Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) and welcoming VACCA into the school to assist families.
- Engage with Koorie Engagement Support Officers (KESO) for advice and to build the school's capacity to provide support for individual Koorie students attending our school

Actively addressing racism

- The Student Code of Conduct and Child Safe Code of Conduct and the following policies: Child Safety, Student Wellbeing and Engagement, Student Wellbeing and Discipline, Bullying and Prevention and Inclusion and Diversity outlines zero tolerance of racism.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Child Safe Standards Booklet
- Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Bullying Prevention Policy

COMMUNICATION:

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following way:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Placed in a school newsletter
- Discussed at staff briefings/meetings as required

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Policy last reviewed	19/11/2024
Consultation	Consultation with school council and approved by School Council
Approved by	James Bell, principal
Next scheduled review date	October 2027