

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

St Patrick's School
May 2024 to May 2025



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VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

St Patrick's Catholic Primary school's vision for reconciliation is to develop and promote a shared understanding of reconciliation for staff, students and families so that we can engage respectfully with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories and cultures.

We aim to provide culturally responsive learning environments and structures free from race and bias that promote equal and equitable opportunities for First Nation students and all students to attain success in education and life.

Guided by our school Mission Statement, our vision for reconciliation incorporates Faith, Community, Learning, Diversity and Kindness.

Faith - Inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ and Nano Nangle to be Faithful and True, St Patrick's school aims to provide an environment that supports equality and equity in all aspects of life and ensure that we develop relationships, respect and opportunities with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Community - Building respectful relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the community and working together to ensure that all members of the community feel empowered, valued and supported.

Learning - Offering a culturally responsive and supportive environment where learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories is valued by all staff, students and families.

Diversity - Recognising the gift that diversity brings to our community and celebrating the richness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, cultures and histories in the community.

Kindness - Following our Gospel values that all people are made in the image of God, we will ensure that we walk alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in our school and the community with respect and value the contributions they bring to our Nation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School acknowledges the Western Kangoulu People as the Traditional Custodians of the Land that our school is built upon and where we learn, play and grow. We extend our respect to the Kairi and Wangan Peoples.

We also pay our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia as the Traditional Custodians of the Lands, Waterways and Skies.

We acknowledge and pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and future and we honour them for their continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices.

RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Lia Creedon	Staff (Indigenous Education Worker)
Kylie Heinemann	Principal / Director
Andrea Isles	Staff (teaching)
Natalie McCosker	Staff (teaching)
Kierin Walford	Community member
Carolyn Pearce	Staff (teaching)
Sarah Cusack	Staff (teaching)
Alicia Milles	Staff (teaching)



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Cultural Responsiveness for Staff	We are supported to reflect on and build our cultural responsiveness to improve our practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We are provided with a range of opportunities to build our knowledge and understanding of our own positionality and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Welcome to Country	Where appropriate, significant events at our early learning service 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 the Land.
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week	Our early learning service 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.
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.





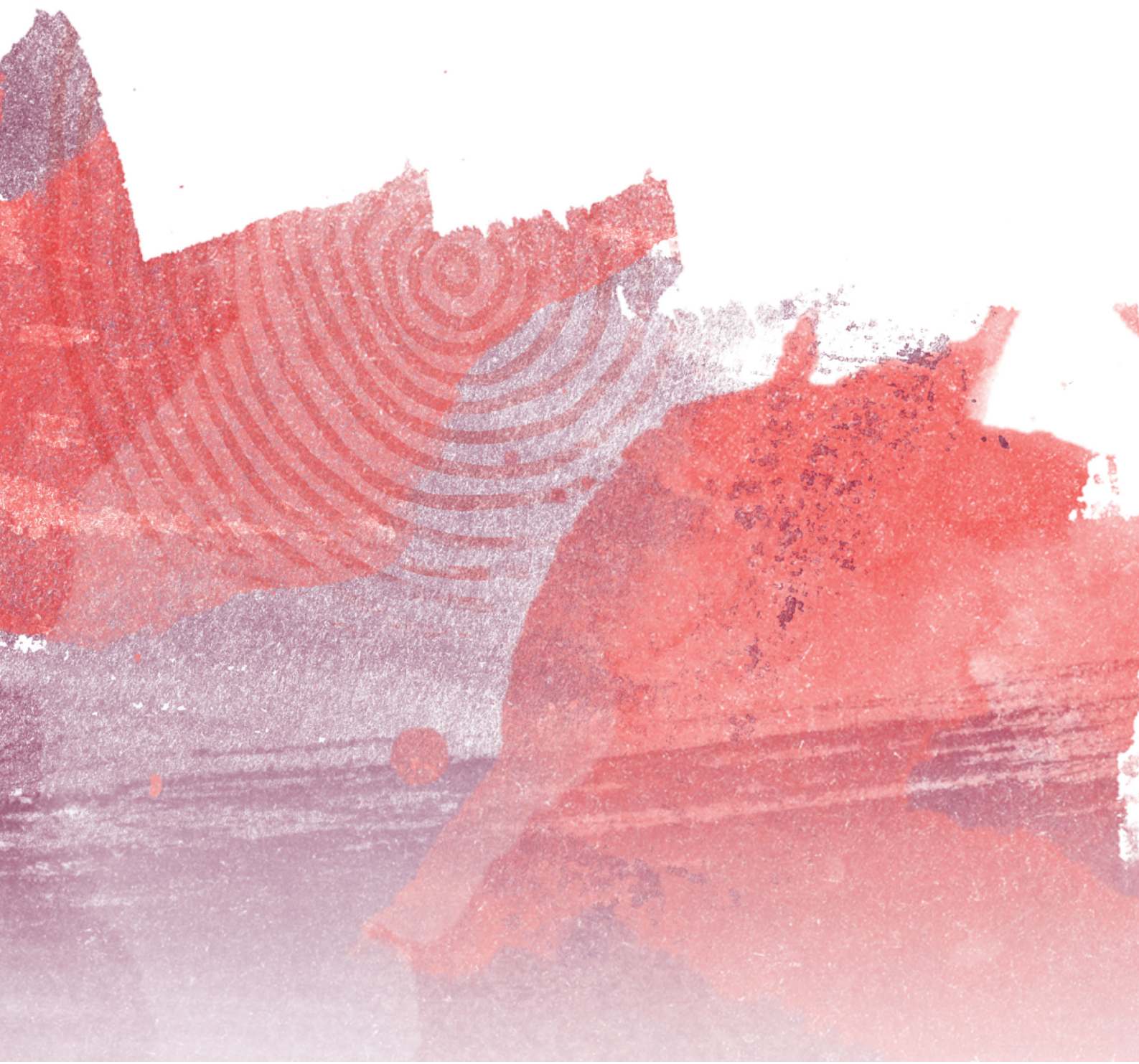
RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Teach about Reconciliation	Our early learning service community is committed to learning about reconciliation in Australia. Having an understanding of the concept, history and progress of reconciliation is an important part of continuing the reconciliation journey. This understanding also helps to strengthen engagement with our early learning service's RAP by positioning it within the broader story of reconciliation in Australia.
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	We commit to knowing the news and being responsive to current issues significant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. We will do this through delivering our curriculum, policies and procedures, and integrating it into the way our early learning service operates.

RESPECT



AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Acknowledgement of Country	Our early learning service 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.



RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our early learning service flies/displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag at your early learning service to demonstrate respect and recognition for the histories, cultures and contributions of the First Peoples of Australia. Flying or displaying the flags promotes a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.
Take Action Against Racism	We will raise awareness of racism, its impacts and how to respond effectively when it happens. We will do this through an anti-racism strategy tailored to the needs of our early learning service.



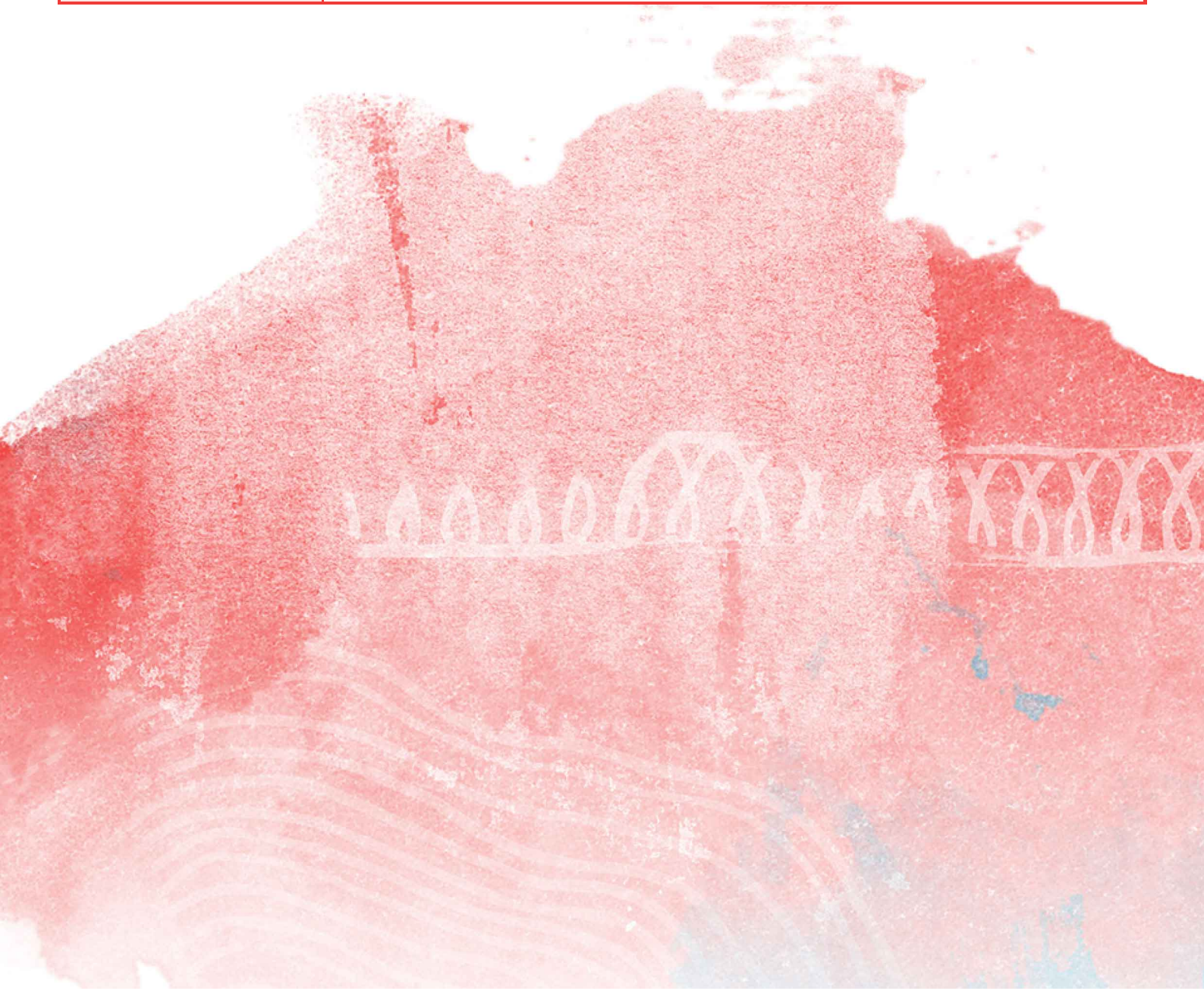


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are a key, ongoing part of curriculum planning, development and evaluation across all year levels and learning areas. We will review curriculum documents to find out where we include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and to what extent and where we could include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in the curriculum.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Inclusive Policies	All staff at early learning service are aware of policies referring to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and building knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. When internal policies are reviewed and developed, we will ensure that they are inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and perspectives, and that there is a plan in place to ensure that all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice.
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.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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 early learning service. 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.

