



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
box.hill.hs@education.vic.gov.au

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

Box Hill High 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 several 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, and during the development of Individual Education Plans.
- 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
- partnering with neighbouring school Marrung Leads and the Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place to seek feedback and advice on existing and new actions we can take to support the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal students and children in our community.
- where the family does not identify as Koorie, the school will consult with the family on appropriate country identity.

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 \(CUST\)](#) training



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- Foster a culture of curiosity for our staff to unlearn and relearn as they deepen their understanding of First Nations perspectives and apply them to their teacher practice
- 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

Box Hill High 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 and Training's [Koorie Education Policy](#)
- ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs.
- BHHS Reconciliation Action Plan – students, staff, families and community are involved in a RAP working party.
- Students across the school are aware of when they are using the 8 Ways framework of learning and associate those practices to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

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 Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, at the start of every school assembly and meeting
- 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
- Celebrating significant days: Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC, May 8.
- Year 9 Social Justice term inquiry unit on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social issues and fundraising for relevant charities/community programs.



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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 outside our main entrance that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners
- including an Acknowledgement of Country and Traditional Owners on our website home page
- Teachers and students using our Wellbeing Indigenous outdoor classroom

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 box.hill.hs@education.vic.gov.au with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

Review and approval

Plan last reviewed	August 2024
Consultation	School Council Wellbeing Leader
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	August 2026