Bealiba Primary

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 the principal on 03 54691256

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

Bealiba Primary embraces the vision of the [Marrung Aboriginal Education Plan](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/marrung.aspx) 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, Student Support Groups, during the development of Individual Education Plans and student 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.
* partnering with Dja Dja Wurrung elders where available to seek feedback and advice on existing and new actions we can take to support the identities and experiences of Aboriginal students and children in our community.

**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)](https://www.vaeai.org.au/community-understanding-safety-training-online-information-session/) training
* 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.
* 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**

Bealiba Primary 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](https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/koorie-education/policy)
* ensuring that all Koorie students have individual education plans developed in partnership with students, families, and KESOs.

**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 Dja Dja Wurrung country at the start of school meetings.
* arranging incursions and excursions and recognising key events and anniversaries that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

**Built and digital environment**

We ensure our environment 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 that Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners

**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 the principal with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

## Review and approval

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| Plan last reviewed | December 2022 |
| Consultation | School Council & CommunitySchool Council December 2022 |
| Approved by | Principal  |
| Next scheduled review date | 2024 |