

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Trinity College

February 2023 to February 2024



**RECONCILIATION**  
AUSTRALIA

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## **VISION FOR RECONCILIATION**

At the most basic level, Trinity College seeks to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are taught and respected in our school, but we also desire to extend this further, and see them celebrated.

Our vision for reconciliation is to see all our students and staff educated to be culturally aware, respectful and appreciative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. We are committed to providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to engage in activities that celebrate their cultural heritage and identities, as well as for all students, staff, families and the wider community to engage in activities that educate them about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and perspectives.

As always, we will seek to implement and regularly renew this RAP by the key aspects of Relationships, Respect and Opportunities and to meaningfully continue to incorporate our RAP in the College's Strategic Plan.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Trinity College RAP committee wish to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Land on which our College was built, the Yugambah-speaking people, who have walked and cared for this Land for thousands of years. We wish to offer our respects to Elders; past, present and emerging, and our gratitude for their contributions to this region and to Australia as a whole.



## RAP WORKING GROUP

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Emma Buckley	Staff (teaching)
Reuben Chalmers	Staff (teaching)
Faith Severs	Parent/carer
Candice Hughes	Parent/carer
Emma Robinson	Staff (teaching)
Allison Elcoate	Principal / Director
Stephanie Morris	Staff (teaching)

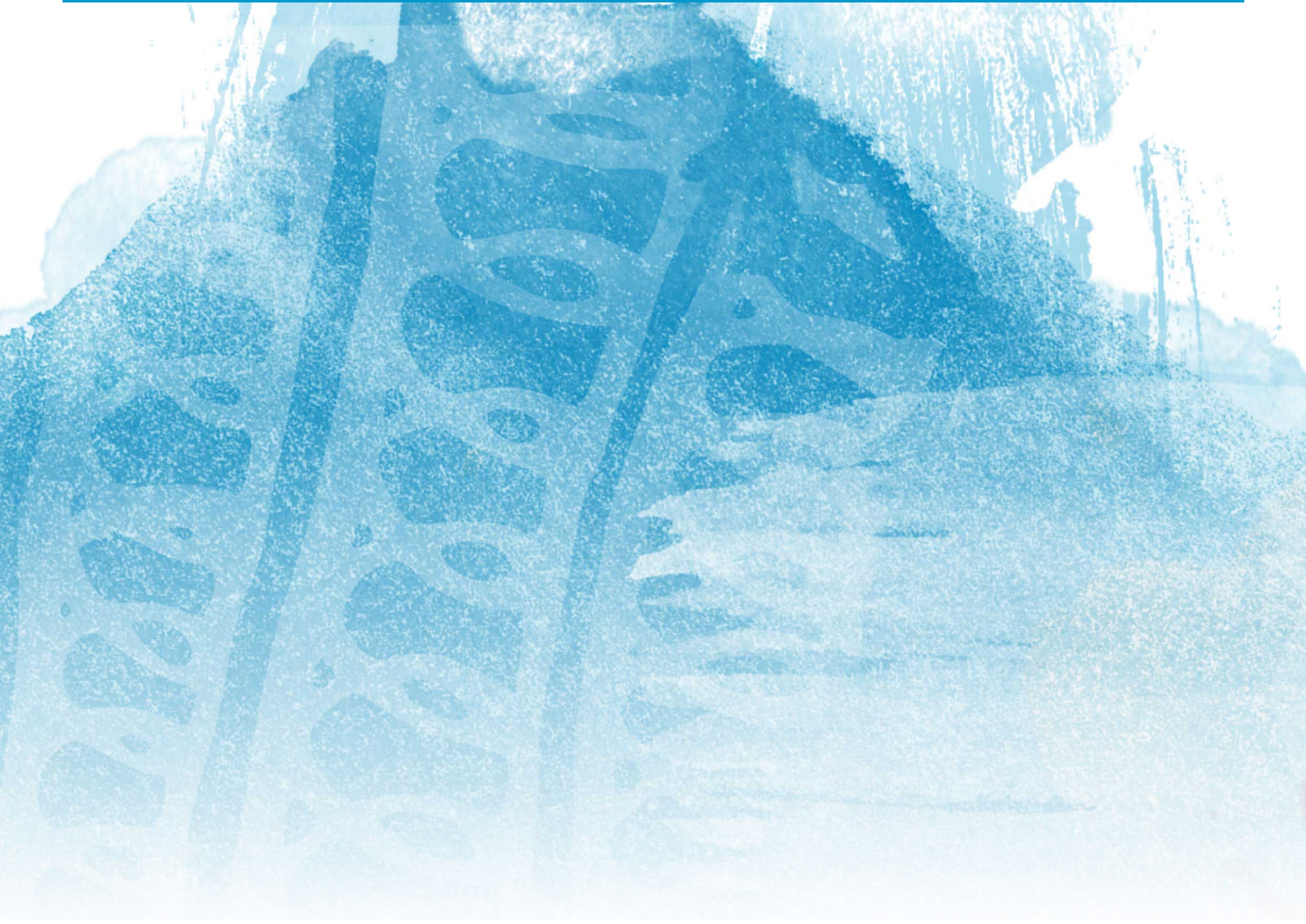
## CONTRIBUTORS

Trinity College would like to acknowledge the following contributors to the development of this RAP.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role/Organisation</b>
All Teaching Staff	Teachers
All Curriculum Leaders	Curriculum Leaders
All Pastoral Leaders	Pastoral Leaders
Student Committee Members	Students
Student Committee Members	Students



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.	Reuben C, Allison E	Ongoing
Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students and Children	We commit to providing opportunities for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to celebrate their cultural identities. These opportunities positively impact the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and children, and create shared pride for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, contributions, identities and histories in the wider early learning service community.	Reuben C, Allison E	Ongoing





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Representation on Committees</p>	<p>We commit to inviting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, parents/carers and community members to be active representatives on our early learning service’s committees. We commit to ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives inform decision-making processes by respecting the experiences and knowledge that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can bring to our committees.</p>	<p>Candice H, Allison E</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Elders and Traditional Owners Share Histories and Cultures</p>	<p>We are committed to forging a meaningful and ongoing relationship with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, and people recognised in their community as Traditional Owners. We hope this relationship can be of mutual benefit, and that our local Elders and Traditional Owners will feel safe, and confident, to share their historical and cultural knowledge with our staff, students and children.</p>	<p>Reuben C, Allison E</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Cultural Competence for Staff</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Reuben C</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
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 their Land.	Allison E	Ongoing
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.	Allison E, Reuben C, Emma B	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.	Reuben C, Emma B	Ongoing

# RELATIONSHIPS



# WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Cultural Competence for Students and Children	We will develop our everyday program to ensure it provides children and students with explicit opportunities to build their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, within and beyond the classroom. This commitment extends to the inclusion of cultural competence principles, fostered in teachers and educators, in the ethos of our classrooms and across our early learning service.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
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.	Reuben C, Allison E, Emma B	Ongoing
Teach about Days of National Significance	We commit to incorporating nationally significant days for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and reconciliation into our curriculum to increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, contributions and contemporary issues. We also commit to including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives when teaching about other national days, such as 26 January (Australia Day) and ANZAC Day.	Allison E, Reuben C, Emma B	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 early learning service.	Allison E, Reuben C, Emma B	Ongoing



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
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.	Reuben C	Ongoing
Visibly Demonstrate Respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures	We commit to demonstrating our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in the physical environment of our early learning service. We understand that making our respect visible in the learning environment through the incorporation of meaningful, relevant and culturally appropriate art, artefacts and symbolism reinforces our work toward reconciliation. It also makes our intentions and actions clear to our students, parents and the broader community.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing
Recognise and Respect Rights	We are committed to recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We acknowledge that working within the frameworks of both declarations is important to reducing discrimination and promoting equality and equity in the educational and wider community.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing

RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Celebrate Days of National Significance	We commit to organising and participating in events to celebrate or commemorate days/weeks of national significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the reconciliation movement to show our pride in, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions. We also commit to including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives when we commemorate other national days, such as January 26 (Australia Day) and Anzac Day.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our early learning service 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.	Reuben C	Ongoing
Physical Acknowledgement of Country	Our early learning service proudly commits to displaying a physical Acknowledgement of Country as a way of showing awareness of, and respect for, the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our early learning service is located.	Allison E	Ongoing

RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
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 early learning service.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing



# OPPORTUNITIES



# IN THE CLASSROOM

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Embed Cross-curriculum Priority	All staff from across the school are supported to understand and embed the Australian Curriculum cross-curriculum priority Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures in the curriculum. The cross-curriculum priority is considered in the development of units, lesson plans and resources in all learning areas and across all year levels.	Reuben C, Allison E	Ongoing
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.	Reuben C, Allison E	Ongoing
Australian Professional Standards for Teachers	All teachers are supported to understand and meaningfully engage with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, specifically Focus Area 2.4: 'Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians'.	Reuben C, Allison E	Ongoing

# OPPORTUNITIES



# AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Inclusive Policies	All staff in our early learning service 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.	Allison E	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.	Allison E	Ongoing
RAP Budget Allocation	We have set aside dedicated funds from within our budget to procure relevant goods and services that strengthen the sustainability of our RAP Actions. Staff are aware that it is important to consider remuneration for people who have been involved in RAP initiatives out of respect for the time and resources that they have contributed.	Reuben C	Ongoing



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT	ASSIGNED TO	DUE DATE
Local Sites, Events and Excursions	We commit to learning more about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions of the Country on which we live, work, learn and play, by working with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to learn about events of historical and cultural significance and visit appropriate sites.	Allison E, Reuben C	Ongoing
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.	Allison E	Ongoing

