	COBURG WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL **Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Action Plan (& Policy)**	**Last Reviewed: November 2026** **Review: November 2028**

Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact coburg.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call 9386 1286.

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

Coburg West Primary School embraces the vision of the Marrung First Nations Education Strategy 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 a number of measures in place to ensure our community acknowledges and appreciates the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. These measures are outlined below.

The following measures are in place to support Aboriginal cultural safety and inclusion:

- Begin events and meetings with a Welcome to Country or an Acknowledgement of Country as a standing agenda item. Use this as an opportunity to pause and reflect or open a discussion.
- Display Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags on school grounds.
- Display plaques and signs to Acknowledge Country and Traditional Owners.
- Equip staff, students, volunteers and the school community to acknowledge and appreciate the strengths of Aboriginal culture and understand its importance to the wellbeing and safety of Aboriginal children and students.
- Adopt measures to ensure racism is identified, confronted and not tolerated.
- Address any instances of racism within the school environment appropriately.
- Actively support participation and inclusion in the school by Aboriginal children, students and their families.
- Ensure school policies, procedures, systems and processes together create a culturally safe and inclusive environment and meet the needs of Aboriginal children, students and their families.
- Develop and endorse a policy or statement detailing the strategies and actions the school will take.
- Make Aboriginal voice part of decision making in matters that affect Aboriginal students. Be open to different ways of doing and expressing things.
- Celebrate the local Aboriginal community in communications with students, staff, volunteers and families. Share information through school newsletters, school assemblies, parent information nights and other school communication channels.
- Lead on safety and inclusion for all Aboriginal students and their families. Learn more about Aboriginal histories and cultures, both locally and across Australia. Speak with respect and confidence about Aboriginal culture, knowledge systems and people.

- Build school wide knowledge of Aboriginal histories, cultures, perspectives, First Nation languages, values, skills and attitudes.

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, through Student Support Groups, during the development of Individual Education Plans and or cultural support plan (where appropriate) seeking advice on how well we are meeting their needs, through initial enrolment meetings.
- 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 Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and KESO recommendations for community organisations and other needs for Koori groups 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 communities.

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
- provide tailored training and professional development as required 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 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

Coburg West Primary 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's First Nations Education Policy including the Marrung First Nation Strategy
- 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 (Kulin Nation land) 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.
- arranging incursions and excursions, that recognise key events and anniversaries that celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

Built and digital environment

We ensure our built environment and website demonstrate an appreciation and acknowledgment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through:

- displaying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait 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.

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 Coburg West Primary School (at coburg.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au or call 9386 1286.) with any feedback, concerns or suggestions.

Plan last reviewed	November 2026
Consultation	Consulted and shared with school community November 2026
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	November 2028