

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**

# RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Styles Street Children's Community Long Day Care Centre  
June 2023 to June 2024



**STYLES STREET**  
Children's Community Long Day Care



**RECONCILIATION**  
AUSTRALIA



# CONTENTS

Vision for Reconciliation

The Working Group

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Actions

Relationships

Respect

Opportunities



## VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Exploring reconciliation is about rights. About the right of Australia's First Peoples to be valued and the right of all Australians to know the true histories and cultures of the land we call home - the land on which we live, work play, learn and enjoy each day.

As early childhood educators, we understand the importance of developing curriculum that fosters a high level of knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' histories, cultures, and contemporary lives.

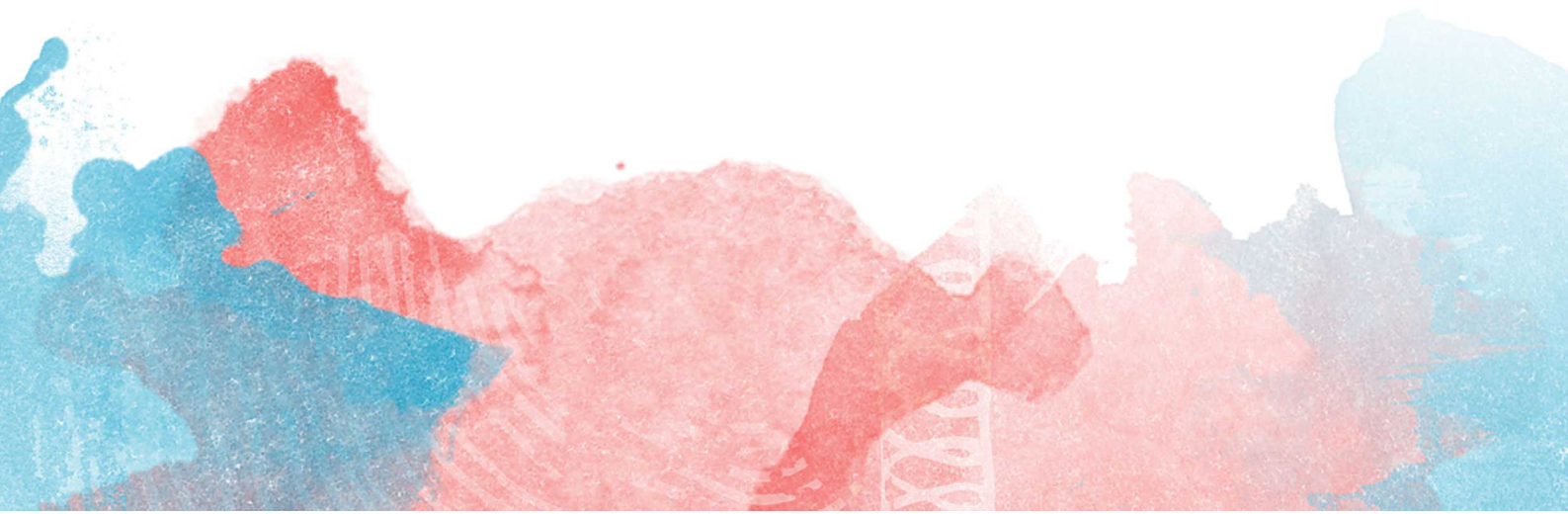
Cultural responsiveness means we have a genuine commitment to take action against discrimination in any form, respectfully embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' perspectives and voices in all aspects of the service environment, curriculum and decision making and working collaboratively with c children and families.

We are committed to building reciprocal partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and communities in order to promote a greater understanding and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing and being. We work to ensure children develop the ability to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people preparing them to live well with diversity and challenge bias.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

**Styles Street children's community long day care acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this Land, the Gadigal and Wangal peoples, we live and learn on each day.**  
We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are forever grateful for this beautiful part of Gadigal and Wangal Land and the learning opportunities it provides, as it has for First Nations Australians, for tens of Thousands of years before us.



## RAP WORKING GROUP

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Cherie Longden	Staff (teaching)
Radha Babicci	Principal / Director
Jessica Metcalfe	Staff (teaching)
Matthew Gullotto	Staff (teaching)
Marie Claire Bunani	Staff (teaching)

## CONTRIBUTORS

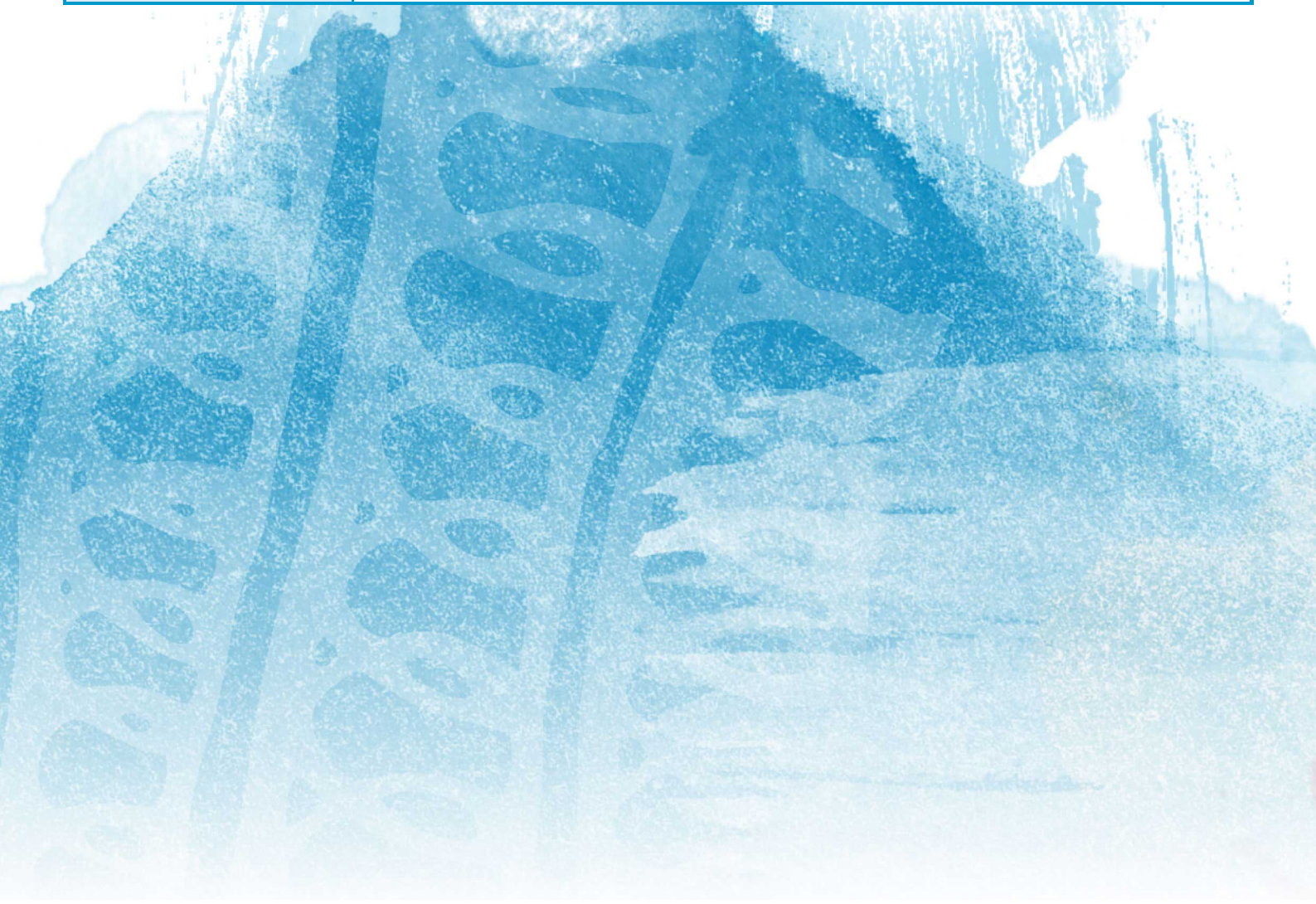
Styles Street Children's Community Long Day Care Centre would like to acknowledge the following contributors to the development of this RAP.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role/Organisation</b>
Deborah Lennis	Inner West Council
Jakalene Martin	Community member





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Our Goal: To strengthen children's learning of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures we welcome Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people into our service to work alongside our children in learning experiences.</p>
<p>Early Years Learning Framework</p>	<p>We seek out ways to connect our reconciliation vision and plans and Early Years Learning Framework principles, practices and outcomes. Our efforts mean reconciliation is embedded in everyday early learning environments.</p> <p>Our Goal: Build confidence of educators and teachers to consistently use the principle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and the practice of cultural responsiveness in their work with children and families</p>







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Cultural Responsiveness for Staff</p>	<p>Staff are supported to reflect on and build their cultural responsiveness to improve their practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Staff are provided with a range opportunities to build their knowledge and understanding of their own positionality and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures.</p> <p>Our Goal:                      For educators to build and extend their knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures by providing them with a range of opportunities to participate in a variety of cultural awareness experiences and professional development opportunities that assists them on their journey of understanding.</p>





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Welcome to Country</p>	<p>Where appropriate, significant events at our school 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and custodians of their land by inviting Traditional Owners to welcome visitors to their Country at significant events.</p>
<p>Celebrate National Reconciliation Week</p>	<p>Our school 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Acknowledge the strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and to play a part in the healing process of our nation.</p>
<p>Build Relationships with Community</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Our Goal: By building relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community we aim to strengthen their knowledge and respect for First Nations Australians and their culture</p>





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Teach about Reconciliation	<p>Our school 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 school's RAP by positioning it within the broader story of reconciliation in Australia.</p> <p>Our Goal: To strengthen relationships between the Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by teaching and raising children's awareness about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and progress of reconciliation throughout the year.</p>
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	<p>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 school.</p> <p>Our Goal: To support the process of reconciliation by raising awareness of current events and issues in the public domain that are of particular significance to the process of reconciliation.</p>





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Acknowledgement of Country</p>	<p>Our school 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Demonstrate respect for community protocols and raise awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities by Acknowledging Country in meetings with children, staff or at events held at the centre.</p>
<p>Visibly Demonstrate Respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures</p>	<p>We commit to demonstrating our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in the physical environment of our school. 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Demonstrate our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in the physical environment of our service through the incorporation of meaningful, relevant and culturally appropriate art, artefacts and symbolism.</p>





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Celebrate Days of National Significance</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Our Goal: To show our pride in, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures by organising and participating in events to celebrate or commemorate days/weeks of national significance.</p>
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags</p>	<p>Our school 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Demonstrate our respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures to promote a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation by flying or displaying the flags.</p>
<p>Physical Acknowledgement of Country</p>	<p>Our school 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 school is located.</p> <p>Our Goal: Show respect for Aboriginal Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land we are located on by physically Acknowledging Country in our service. This will ensure that new and enrolled indigenous families feel welcome and respected.</p>



RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS

COMMITMENT

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 school.

Our Goal:

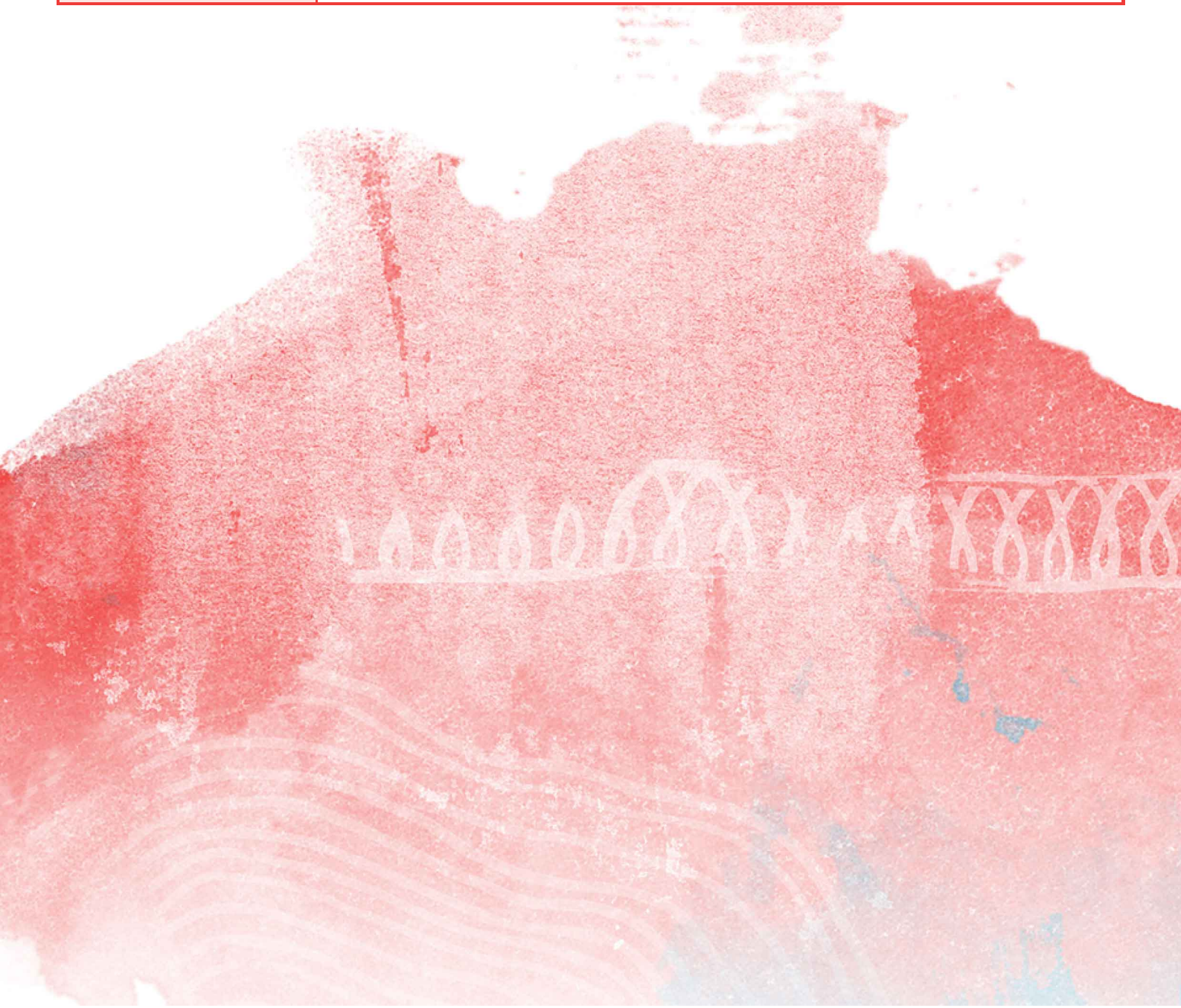
For children to appreciate their own cultural identity and an appreciation of other people's cultural identities by teaching children about the importance of treating others equally and celebrating different cultures, educators can make a significant impact on how children's attitudes mature and develop.







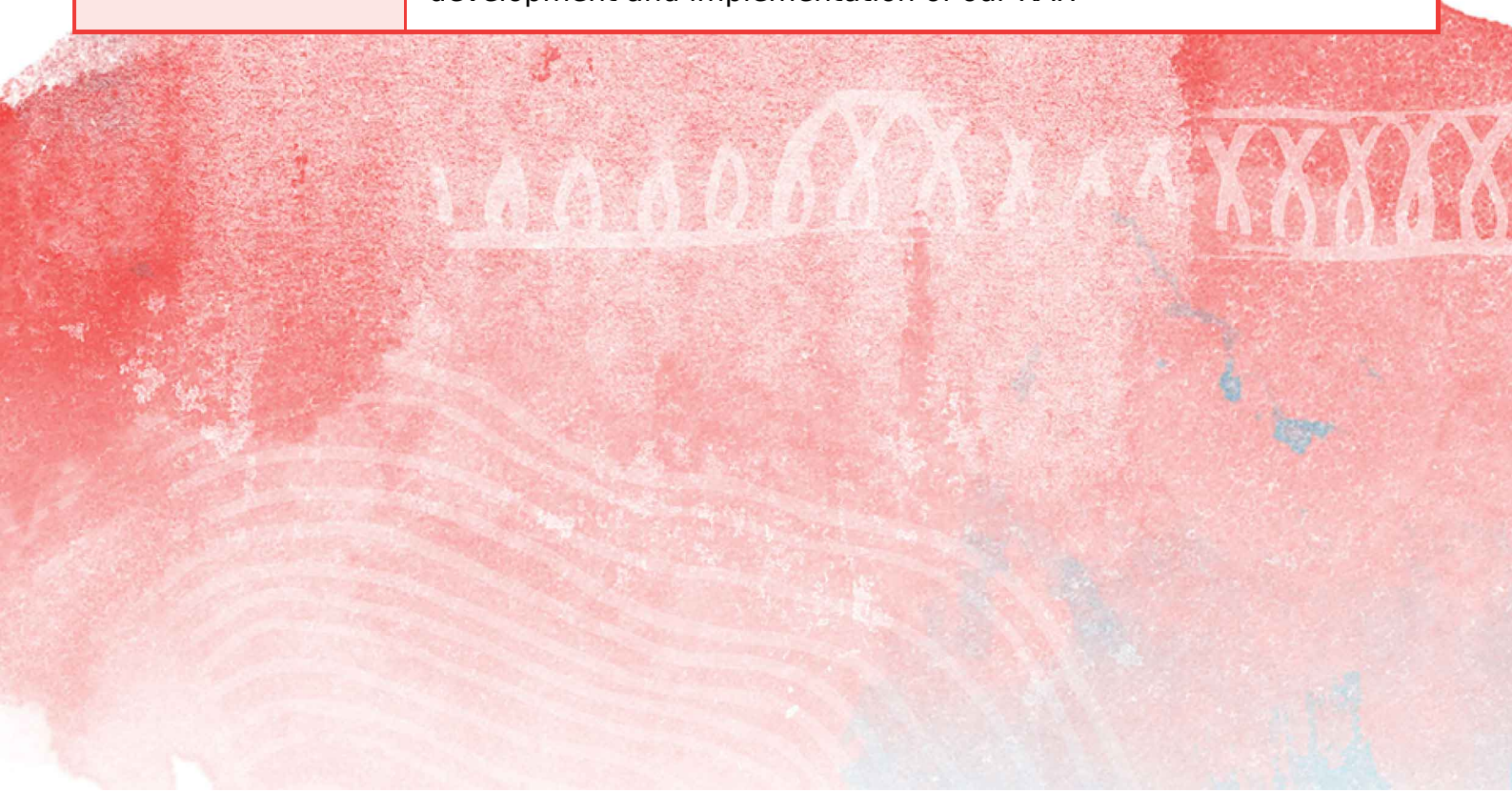
RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	<p>Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in curriculum planning, development and evaluation processes is a key and ongoing consideration across all year levels and learning areas. Curriculum documents have or will be audited 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.</p> <p><b>Our Goal:</b>                      For children and educators to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures by embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in curriculum planning and development.</p>







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Inclusive Policies</p>	<p>All staff in our school 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.</p> <p>Our Goal: To improve educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and increasing knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia by ensuring policies are inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and that the policies strive to increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia.</p>
<p>Staff Engagement with RAP</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Our Goal: Facilitate achieving meaningful and sustainable outcomes of the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) by involving all staff in the ongoing development and implementation of our RAP.</p>







RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
<p>Celebrate RAP Progress</p>	<p>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 school. 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.</p> <p>Our Goal:                      Reflect on the progress made in the growth of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions by tracking the progress of our RAP, continually revisit our commitments, and celebrating our achievements, while generating new ideas to develop and sustain our RAP into the future.</p>

