

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Unity College

February 2026 to February 2027



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

CONTENTS

Vision for Reconciliation

The Working Group

Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Actions

Relationships

Respect

Opportunities



VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Our vision at Unity College is that we learn, care, engage, involve and inspire. Gods love and the Gospel is important to us and this guides the way we work towards reconciliation. We aspire to strengthen our relationships with First Nations learners, their families, as well as, the wider Australian community. We acknowledge that we are on the Land of the Ngarrindjeri Peoples, who are the Traditional Owners of this Land, and we further recognise the long histories, cultures, ways of being, and the identities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, and recognise their strength and resilience. Our unity is formed by weaving together a rich tapestry of diversity; the coming together of many people including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and all other peoples, where individual voices and perspectives are heard, valued, appreciated and respected, and are authentically represented and are respectfully embedded in our curriculum. We are strong in courage, compassion, hope, forgiveness, justice and service and use these to guide us in reconciliation. Goals, dreams, and aspirations into the future and wider community are bridged by the collaborative learning and sharing of language and cultural knowledge with local, and wider, First Nations communities. We aim to provide equal and equitable opportunities to all students, particularly learning about the experiences and needs of First Nations students in our school. We walk together, building self-esteem and resilience to feel strong about all of our own identities. No matter where we have come from, we look to the future together with respect for each other, knowing that we all have so much to give and to learn about each other and from each other. We express our gratitude in the sharing of this Ruwe (Country), our sorrow for the personal, spiritual & cultural costs that the Ngarrindjeri Nation have endured from that sharing and our internal hope that we may continue to walk forward together in harmony and in the spirit of healing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Unity College would like to acknowledge that we are located on the Lands of Ngarrindjeri Ruwe (Country). Unity College would also like to acknowledge and extend an appreciation to the Ngarrindjeri Nation, the Traditional Owners of the Ruwe (Country) that we are standing on today. Today, we pay our respects to Elders past, present & future for they hold the memories, the traditions and hopes of all Ngarrindjeri Peoples. God creates the world. God creates Australia. God creates this Land around Unity College and we acknowledge that this school has been built on Ngarrindjeri Land.



RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Sharon Gierus	Staff (teaching)
Penny Fielke	Staff (teaching assistant)
Wendy Kuchel	Staff (non-teaching)
Denise Frahn	Staff (teaching)
Francois Pienaar	Principal / Director
Karen Schoff	Self-described
Graeme Watkins	Staff (teaching)
Chloe Hill	Staff (teaching)
Conway Johnson	Community member
Nerylee Gollan	Parent/carers

CONTRIBUTORS

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

Name	Role/Organisation
Karen Schoff	schoffk@ais.sa.edu.au



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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.
Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students and Children	We commit to providing opportunities for all 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 school community.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Elders and Traditional Owners Share Histories and Cultures	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 local Elders and Traditional Owners will feel safe, and confident, to share their historical and cultural knowledge with our staff, students and children.
Cultural Responsiveness for Staff	We are supported to reflect on and build our cultural responsiveness to improve our practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We are provided with a range of opportunities to build our knowledge and understanding of our own positionality and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures.
Reconciliation Projects	Our school will collaborate on projects that visibly and authentically embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in learning programs and the physical environment. Through this culture of collaboration across the school and with the community, we commit to creating an environment where young people, staff and community members acknowledge, respect and experience connection to the First Australians.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Welcome to Country	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 the Land.
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week	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.
Build Relationships with Community	We commit to forming ongoing relationships with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Our relationships will be built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We respect these relationships and the way they make opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and the community.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Teach about Reconciliation	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.
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	We commit to knowing the news and being responsive to current issues significant to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. We will do this through delivering our curriculum, policies and procedures, and integrating it into the way our school operates.



RESPECT



AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Acknowledgement of Country	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.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies/displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag to demonstrate respect and recognition for the histories, cultures and contributions of the First Peoples of Australia. Flying or displaying the flags promotes a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.
Physical Acknowledgement of Country	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.

RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Take Action Against Racism	We will raise awareness of racism, its impacts and how to respond effectively when it happens. We will do this through an anti-racism strategy tailored to the needs of our school.



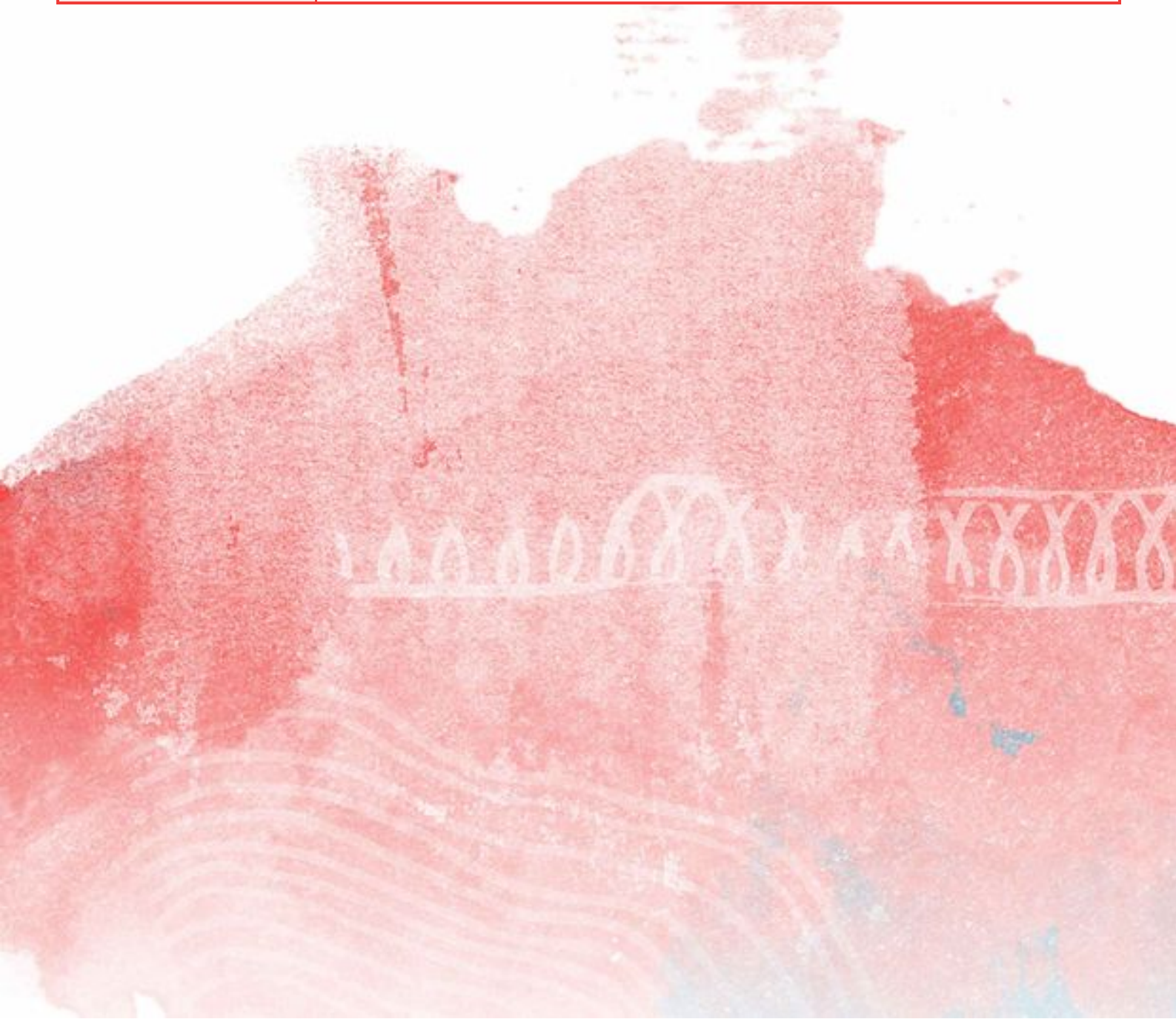


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures are a key, ongoing part of curriculum planning, development and evaluation across all year levels and learning areas. We will review curriculum documents to find out where we include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and to what extent and where we could include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in the curriculum.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Inclusive Policies	All staff at school are aware of policies referring to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and building knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. When internal policies are reviewed and developed, we will ensure that they are inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and perspectives, and that there is a plan in place to ensure that all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice.
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.



OPPORTUNITIES



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
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.
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 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.
Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Owned Businesses	We promote supplier diversity and support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses and their employees through the procurement of goods and services related to our RAP, as well as our general business. We maintain a list of local, regional, state-based and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander owned businesses to accompany procurement policies and procedures.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages	We commit to providing students and children with a deeper knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and identities by learning about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages. We acknowledge the importance of language maintenance and revitalisation efforts and will provide students and children with opportunities to learn – or learn about – the First Language of their local area.

