



School Reconciliation Action Plan

Our vision for reconciliation:

We recognise Brisbane Catholic Education's long held commitment to reconciliation through education and we acknowledge that reconciliation must be gained through education of both staff and students within our school.

St Bernardine's has a long standing commitment to reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Our vision is the development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander study units as well as a development and implementation of indigenous perspectives across the learning areas of the curriculum from Prep through to Primary years.

We acknowledge and recognise the cultural value of the Brisbane Catholic Education run Aboriginal Cultural Centre, 'Ngutana Lui'.

We strongly believe that reconciliation calls for respect and understanding of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of our country.

Our aim is to empower both students and staff to recognize the importance of reconciliation with our Indigenous Australians through continued learning and teaching.

Our school:

St. Bernardine's Catholic School is under the direction of Brisbane Catholic Education and the Archdiocese of Brisbane. It is located in the Logan City suburb of Regents Park, south-west of the Brisbane CBD. St Bernardine's is a co-educational school from Prep to Year 6 with an approximate enrolment of 750 students.

We are committed to providing strong spiritual, academic, sporting and cultural diversity of curriculum. Students are supported within a pastoral care network system. Along with the staff and students our community also places a strong emphasis on the partnership between the school and home. This is highlighted by the number of opportunities our parents have to assist their son/daughter in the mission of education.

We strive to create a stimulating learning environment as we respond to our motto of *'To Serve, To Challenge'*.

Our school community is represented by many different nationalities and cultures including Aboriginal and Torres Strait students. The core Gospel values underpin our teaching of respect for one another and acceptance of each other as equals.



Our RAP:

Our School RAP was initiated by the Assistant Principal Religious Education. It was coordinated by a committee collaboratively with school administration, staff, students and the wider school and parish community.

1. Relationships:

We believe that if we are going to grow together as a community, we need to work collaboratively with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to create a society that is equitable and just. In doing so these personal relationships will leave a lasting imprint in the minds of our students and staff.

Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Measurable Target
Establish a committee to develop, monitor, review and refresh the RAP. This committee should include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The school assistant principal (APRE)▪ Teachers/staff from across stages and/or departments	APRE	Term 1 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RAP Committee established.• Two RAP Committee meetings held each year.• Minutes and 'action items' recorded for all meetings.• The RAP is reviewed and refreshed annually using Reconciliation Australia's Tracking and Reporting tool.• Utilise BCE Molum Sabe resource to inform our future actions.
Build relationships with our school's local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.	APRE and Teaching Staff	Term 4 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As a school, time will be allocated to explore the traditional owners of the land to understand their culture and the background of the people from this area.• Year 4 studies include an in-depth study of traditional and contemporary aboriginal life and as part of this study the children visit Ngutana-Lui to get first-hand experience of this way of life.• Year 2 studies include• The A&TSI team from Brisbane Catholic Ed. will be involved on an ongoing basis for research and support. <p>Optional targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community events published in the school newsletter and on the school website.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close the Gap – share good news / success stories - create an area to display
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2. Respect:

St Bernardine's School has a responsibility to grow and nurture effective, responsive and respectful citizens of Australia. We recognise that respecting the experiences and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and giving the children the opportunities to study their culture and traditions will enhance our responsiveness and inclusivity and strengthen community understanding.

Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Measurable Target
Publicly display our school's respect for, and knowledge of, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, cultures and histories.	Admin, Staff Members	Term 4 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags flown or hung all year round. • Acknowledgement of Country takes place at all school assemblies and specifies the tribal name. • Traditional Owners/ Elders perform Welcomes to Country at significant school events, e.g. the opening of a new building. • NAIDOC and National Reconciliation Weeks celebrated. • National Sorry Day is acknowledged each year (Series 1 of My Place features Kevin Rudd's address on the first National Sorry Day). • Naming of grounds after significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members. • The painting of a mural along the fence on Jimbelung Oval depicting the indigenous culture - painted by indigenous artist. • Sacred garden space symbolic of the Gugingin and Jagera people. • Employing Aboriginal performers to educate staff and students about Australia's cultural background. <p>Optional targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the possibility of painting a mural along the highway fences depicting the indigenous culture.



			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional owners acknowledged on the school website and publications, such as newsletters/bulletins – Close the Gap • Display Indigenous art in school foyers etc. • Paint rear wall of Hall with Indigenous mural – to be painted by indigenous artist if possible. • Meditative Garden with Indigenous Flora - Plaques depicting names of plants and usage in real life. • Each Classroom to have Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags
Ensure all staff at our school are culturally educated, aware and respectful.	APRE	Term 4 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each staff member receives an Acknowledgement card to be used in staff meetings, assemblies, class prayer etc. • Artwork symbolic of Brisbane Catholic Education’s vision and mission for Reconciliation for each class. • BCE Indigenous Consultants to provide PD for teachers.

Include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples perspectives in a range of curriculum areas.	Staff Members	Term 4 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples perspectives/content included in the teaching of a range of curriculum areas across every grade. • Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples resources section, including books by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander authors and DVDs on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander issues, established in the school library.
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3. Opportunities:

St Bernardine’s School will provide practical measures to address the disadvantages experienced by Indigenous Australian people. We will

- Provide opportunities to help both Indigenous and Non-indigenous students to reach their full potential.
- Promote awareness of Indigenous people, culture and history across the school.

We hope our experiences will light the way for others and help contribute for a positive future for Indigenous Australians. Reconciliation is an important process in the wider community. Harmonious and civilized societies have reconciled the past wrongs and have embraced the best of both cultures into a united society – a progressive society, a compassionate society, a productive society.



Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Measurable Target
Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to reach their full potential.	Administration	Term 1 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-racism objectives or statements are included within our policies. • The needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are reflected in our school's strategic plan and budget. • Our school supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to access scholarships, financial support, career advice and mentoring. • School Officer works with identified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Employ or consult Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples at our school.	Administration	Term 4 2021	<p>Optional targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A performance will be held during NAIDOC Week to educate staff and students about Australia's cultural background. • Tutors from Ngutana-Lui to visit during Reconciliation Week to educate staff and students about Australia's cultural background. • Regularly consult with Indigenous support staff from Cath. Ed.
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4. Tracking progress and reporting			
Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Measurable Target
Review and implement our Reconciliation Action Plan.	APRE, Staff.	Term 4 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Reconciliation Action Plan has been developed by our RAP Committee. • The Plan will be presented at a Staff meeting in Term 1. • Once the Plan is finalised, it will be placed on the Portal. • Our Reconciliation Action Plan will be reviewed and refreshed at the start of each school year.

