



Leschenault Catholic Primary School

POLICIES

Topic: Indigenous Education Policy

Policy No: 2-B3

Policy Area: Education

Updated: 2017

Date of Review: 2019

Rationale

Aboriginal people are the original inhabitants of Australia. Catholic education embraces the richness and diversity which exists within the Aboriginal nations of Australia. Catholic education is committed to maximising the learning opportunities for Aboriginal people. Catholic school communities have a responsibility to create an understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal people, their histories, cultures and spirituality. Catholic schools will play an important role in the formation of their students to develop as active and contributing members of Australian society. 'Catholic schools can serve as models for all within Western Australia who seek to create genuine communities. Such communities are always founded upon shared commitment to the common good' (Mandate paragraph 6).¹

Vision

Leschenault Catholic Primary School is a community seeking to grow together in love. The development of each individual is nurtured through the integration of faith, life and culture. We acknowledge the Noongar people's prior custodianship of this coastal region, value the heritage and culture of the Noongar people and provide justice and equity for all.

Definitions

- The term Aboriginal refers to the original inhabitants of Australia and includes the Torres Strait Islander people.
- Aboriginal education applies to all areas within the school including learning and teaching, reconciliation, employment, career pathways and community partnerships.
- An Aboriginal Education Plan refers to schools developing a formalised approach through the development of a strategic action plan to address Aboriginal education in the school.
- The term 'Aboriginal Nation' refers to Aboriginal society as one that is diverse, complex and sophisticated. Australia is made up of many Aboriginal Nations.

Principles

- Aboriginal people have a rich history, culture and spirituality that can be shared with all Australians.
- Leschenault Catholic Primary School is committed to increasing knowledge and understanding of the histories, cultures and experience of Aboriginal people as the first peoples of Australia.

- LCPS recognises that parents are the first educators of their children.
- LCPS is committed to collaborative decision making and capacity building with Aboriginal people, parents, caregivers, families and communities.
- Aboriginal students in our school have the right to be provided with educational experiences comparable to all Australians whilst maintaining their cultural identity.
- Leschenault Catholic Primary School is committed to reconciliation which promotes the principles of inclusivity, equity, justice and consultation.
- LCPS is committed to increasing employment and promotional opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Responsibilities

Indigenous Education will be reflected in 3 main focus areas.

1. Learning for Indigenous Students.
2. Immersion of Indigenous Culture and
3. Indigenous Resources.

1. Learning for Indigenous Students at LCPS

- Individual Learning Plans for Indigenous students as required

2. Immersion of Indigenous Culture

- Address Cross Curriculum requirements in the AC in relation to Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander's History and Culture. (E.g Indigenous elder visit)
- Harmony Week / NAIDOC Week
- National 'Sorry Day' Liturgy (close to 26 May)

3. Indigenous Resources

- Indigenous Resource in the Resource Room
- CEO Indigenous Personal Contacts
- GECKOES Website
- Indigenous Agencies/Websites-State, Federal and Local

Procedures:

- Leschenault Catholic Primary School has developed an Aboriginal Education Plan which is consistent with guidelines provided by national and state agreements. (See Appendix.1)
- LCPS endeavours to integrate Aboriginal education across all areas of curriculum.
- LCPS is involved in the reconciliation process through the recognition, acceptance and celebration of Aboriginal cultural traditions and values.
- Gecko representative appointed (Bridget White) and Indigenous Education Folder to be placed on SharePoint

Appendix.1

| FOCUS AREA | PROCEDURE/RESOURCES | PLAN | ACHIEVEMENT |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Learning for Indigenous Students | Individual Learning Plans Is it CEO policy? | Written by classroom teachers in consultation with Administration staff. Proforma? To be kept on file | |
| Immersion of Indigenous Culture | Address Cross Curriculum requirements in the AC. The 3 key concepts are; 1. Connection to land; 2. Culture and 3. Diversity within societies Harmony Week NAIDOC Week National 'Sorry Day' Liturgy | Each class will state how they will integrate the 3 key concepts of Indigenous Education by identifying one activity per term. Participation in Indigenous activities during Harmony Week All classes will facilitate and participate in one Indigenous Education activity during NAIDOC (National Aboriginal Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week-July http://www.naidoc.org.au/celebrating-naidoc-week To be included in our annual Liturgy calendar. Term 2- May 26 th Brigid | List started and saved in Indigenous Education Folder of possible activities and ideas. New ideas/activities can be added to file on T-drive. Harmony Week programme run annually fulfils some of our Cross Curriculum requirements. Incorporate NAIDOC week activities into Harmony Week |
| Indigenous Resources | Indigenous Resources CEO Indigenous Personal Contacts GECKOES Website Indigenous Agencies/Websites- State, Federal and Local | All current resources are well organised and easily accessible in the Resource Room. Introduce staff to Indigenous Studies Resources folder on one-drive Identify annually current contacts within our local CEO and Perth office. All staff introduced to this CEO resource. http://geckos.ceo.wa.edu.au Identify annually current contacts and websites such as National Sorry Day http://www.nsd.org.au/ Noongar Boodjar Language Cultural Centre Bunbury https://www.noongarboodjar.com.au/?v=6cc98ba2045f | End of year Cultural Co-ordinator Perth Office- Team Leader Aboriginal Education Sharon Davis Bunbury Office Leon Ridgeway |