



## POLICIES

# Leschenault Catholic Primary School

**Topic: Indigenous Education Policy**

**Policy No: 2-B3**

**Policy Area: Education**

**Updated: 2016**

**Date of Review: 2018**

### 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).<sup>1</sup>

### 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.
- The term Aboriginal education applies to all areas within the school including learning and teaching, reconciliation, employment, career pathways and community partnerships.
- The term 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.
- Catholic education is committed to increasing knowledge and understanding of the histories, cultures and experience of Aboriginal people as the first peoples of Australia. Policy statement 2-B3 – Aboriginal Education (Version 4 – 2010) Page 2 of 3
- Catholic schools recognise that parents are the first educators of their children.
- Catholic education is committed to collaborative decision making and capacity building with Aboriginal people, parents, caregivers, families and communities.
- Aboriginal students in Catholic schools have the right to be provided with educational experiences comparable to all Australians whilst maintaining their cultural identity.
- Catholic education is committed to reconciliation which promotes the principles of inclusivity, equity, justice and consultation.
- Catholic education 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 all Indigenous students
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
3. Indigenous Resources
  - Indigenous Resource in the Resource Room
  - CEO Indigenous Personal Contacts
  - GECKOES Website
  - Indigenous Agencies/Websites-State, Federal and Local

**Procedures:**

- All Catholic schools in consultation with their school communities shall develop an Aboriginal Education Plan which is consistent with guidelines provided by national and state agreements. (See Appendix.1)
- Catholic schools shall integrate Aboriginal education across all areas of curriculum.
- All Catholic schools shall be fully involved in the reconciliation process through the recognition, acceptance and celebration of Aboriginal cultural traditions and values.

## Appendix.1

FOCUS AREA	PROCEDURE/RESOURCES	PLAN	ACHIEVEMENT
Learning for Indigenous Students	Individual Learning Plans	Written by classroom teachers in consultation with Administration staff. <b>Proforma??</b> 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 Week-July  To be included in our annual Liturgy calendar. Term 2-May 26th	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.
Indigenous Resources	Indigenous Resources  CEO Indigenous Personal Contacts  GECKOES Website  Indigenous Agencies/Websites-State,	All current resources are well organised and easily accessible in the Resource Room. Introduce staff to Indigenous Studies Resources folder on T-drive  Identify annually current contacts within our local CEO and Perth office.	Current at Term 1  Cultural Co-ordinator Perth Office-Cheryl Lennox-Bradley <b>Leon Ridgeway?</b>  List started and saved in Indigenous Education Folder.

	Federal and Local	All staff introduced to this CEO resource. <a href="http://geckos.ceo.wa.edu.au">http://geckos.ceo.wa.edu.au</a> Identify annually current contacts and websites such as National Sorry Day <a href="http://www.nsd.org.au/">http://www.nsd.org.au/</a>	New websites can be added to file on T-drive.
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