

St Anthony's Reconciliation Policy

The St Anthony's vision states that:

“ Saint Anthony's School is a community growing together in faith, where the quality of education develops the potential and dignity of the individual within a framework of Catholic attitudes and values.”

The St. Anthony's School Reconciliation Policy incorporates principles of the school vision. It is also linked to the school Religion Policy, Pastoral Care Policy and the Evangelisation Plan.

We in Catholic Education seek to create environments that enhance learning, nurture young people and empower them to live the Catholic faith in the spirit of Jesus Christ by:
Embracing the DIVERSITY of the Earth and all its people.

The Reconciliation Vision states that:

“ Saint Anthony's School works towards a united Australia which respects this land of ours; values the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage; and provides justice and equity for all.” [Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation]

People of faith are called to help share this vision and bring it to reality.

RATIONALE

Reconciliation is a very important process that recognises cultural traditions and values. It promotes the principles of inclusion, equity and justice. Reconciliation is about working together to build positive relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community. Saint Anthony's school is committed to providing a learning environment, which is free from racial discrimination and harassment.

The Reconciliation process is developed at St. Anthony's through learning experiences and resources, which promote an understanding and respect of Aboriginal culture.

OUTCOMES

The St. Anthony's Reconciliation Programme will provide opportunities for all students to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to develop

- an understanding and respect for the history and culture of Aboriginal people.
- an acknowledgment of Aboriginal culture as part of the heritage of all Australians.
- an ability to recognise the causes and effects of racism and prejudice in Australian society.
- a desire to be involved in the call for reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
- strategies to assist them to work towards reconciliation.
- an awareness that Aboriginal people actively contribute to Australian society.

St. Anthony's will foster the development of these outcomes in a number of ways.

- Implementing Aboriginal studies experiences across all curriculum areas, which are linked to the Curriculum Framework and Outcomes and Standards Framework.
- Providing support for both staff and students, including staff in-services, teaching ideas and strategies, books, videos etc to assist with the teaching/ learning process.
- Fostering an acceptance of the contribution of Aboriginal people to our society with guest speakers and school performances by Aboriginal community members.
- Promoting Aboriginal awareness to the school community, which reflects the school's commitment in this area through,
 - School/ Class paraliturgies, prayer services and masses which recognise the symbols and spirituality of Aboriginal Australia.
- Displaying the Aboriginal flag and art work around school.
- Observing Harmony Week & NAIDOC