



1.06 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Learning about Aboriginal reconciliation and promoting access and inclusion are important because Aboriginal people hold the unique status of being the first people of Australia. It is important that our service develops a sound understanding of our shared history and the impact colonisation had, and continues to have, on Aboriginal Australia.

AIM

St Nick's aims to provide children and their families with a positive awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of the service.

STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

Welcome to the country will be introduced to all team meetings, special events and morning yarning circles with the children. Preschool children will participate in a yarning circle each morning to discuss the day's events and share information and stories and a reflection yarning circle at the end of each day to reflect on children's accomplishments.

In relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders awareness, programs will:

- Recognise differences within the group.
- Encourage individual and group esteem.
- Promote the development of social skills and attitudes which foster co-operation and participation.
- Give parents the opportunity to contribute and participate in the programs to enhance awareness of their culture.

Educators/Staff will:

- Recognise and respect the Aboriginal child's unique cultural identity.
- Reinforce and maintain the child's self-esteem and cultural identity.
- Recognise non-verbal behaviours as an important part of communication for Aboriginal children.
- Collaborate Indigenous members of the community to share and embed the Aboriginal culture into the service.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS

Children (Education and Care Services) National Law NSW

73 Educational Program

SOURCE LIST

This section contains websites, industry bodies, or Legislation that have been used to assist in sourcing the information for this policy. It also acts as a guide to sourcing further reading on each relevant policy.

- [ACECQA Website](#)
- [Early Childhood Australia - Code of Ethics](#)
- [Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011](#)
- [Guide to the National Quality Standard](#)
- Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs – Child Care Service Handbook 2011- 2012
- [Including Aboriginal Australia in your Service](#)
- [Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Perspectives in schools](#)

RELATED POLICIES

- 1.01 Educational Curriculum Policy
- 1.02 Cultural Diversity Policy
- 5.01 Anti Bias and Inclusion Policy

POLICY REVIEW

The review schedule has been developed using a risk assessment methodology with consideration given to sector, industry, and legislative changes.

Date reviewed	Policy changed		Modifications	Next Review Date
May 2018	Yes	No	Modification to include “Collaborate Indigenous members of the community to share and embed the Aboriginal culture into the service.	May 2019