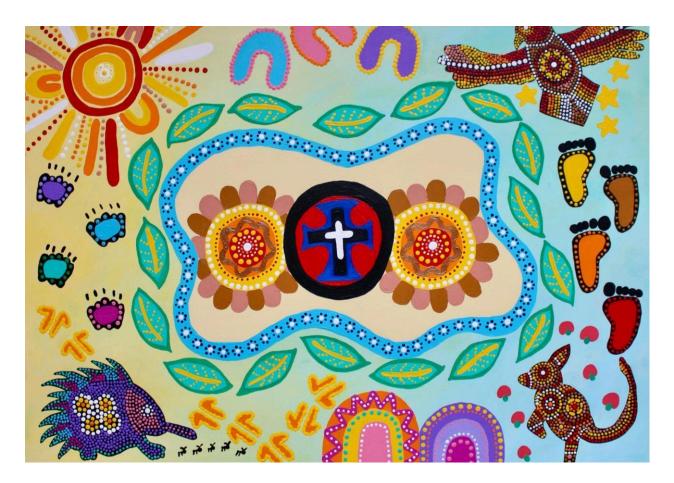
St Patrick's Primary School Port Fairy

Cultural Safety and Inclusion Action Plan



In February 2022 the Ministerial Order No. 1359 – Implementing the Child Safe Standards – managing the risk of child abuse in schools and school boarding premises (MO 1359) was released. The 11 Child Safe Standards outlined in MO 1359 came into effect on 1 July 2022 in all Victorian schools.

One of the Key changes included in the new requirements is for a greater focus on safety for First Nations children and young people linked to Child Safe Standard 1.

Child Safe Standard 1 – Culturally Safe Environments. Providing safe environments for children has positive lifelong impacts that can't be underestimated and cultural safety is a key dimension of safety for First Nations children

Cultural safety includes being provided with a safe, nurturing and positive environment where First Nations children:

• feel comfortable being themselves;

• feel secure to express their culture and spirituality;

• are supported by a school community who respect their Aboriginality, and encourage their sense of self and identity.

To support and continue to embed this Standard, St. Patrick's Primary School Port Fairy commits to continue to build a strong school culture to support cultural inclusion by:

- Having a RAP Team and RAP leaders who work together in a respectful, inclusive and effective manner to strengthen relationships and understanding of First Nations culture;
- When gathering as a school community with students, begin with an Acknowledgement of Country;
- When gathering as a school community on formal occasions, such a whole school masses, begin with an Acknowledgement of Country;
- When gathering as a school community with only adults present, such as School Board Meeting, PNF Meetings, Parent Information Sessions etc, begin with an Acknowledgement of Country;
- Fly the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags in the school entrance;
- Display an Acknowledgement of Country in the school entrance;
- Make First Nations voice part of decision-making in matters that affect First Nations students. Be open to different ways of doing and expressing things;
- Celebrate the local Gunditjmara community in communications with students, staff and families. Share learnings through school newsletters and school assemblies;
- Lead on safety and inclusion for all First Nations students and their families. Speak with respect and confidence about First Nations culture, knowledge systems and people;
- Provide a welcoming environment for First Nations children;
- Actively address racism;
- Build knowledge of First Nations culture in school planning, including immersions in significant cultural events;
- Embed First Nations histories and cultures when planning curriculum;
- Partner with members of the Gunditjmara Cooperative community;

- Review and assess how the school supports cultural inclusion, via development of a Reconciliation Action Plan;
- Recognise key events and anniversaries, such as National Sorry Day, National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.