

Cultural Safety Statement



At Learning Co-operative, we respectfully acknowledge the Wurrunjeri Woi wurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land our school is on.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, we recognise their role in caring for Country over tens of thousands of years and their continuing connection to Country, culture, and community. We acknowledge Australia's true history and appreciate the significance of connection to our place as we live, work, and learn together.

We are committed to ensuring that our school is a place where all young people, including Aboriginal young people, feel safe, respected, and comfortable to be themselves. We seek to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of Australia's First Peoples and to create a culturally safe environment where all young people can express their culture, beliefs, and spirituality in the way that they choose. We are committed to listening, learning, and being accountable so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experience our school as a place of genuine belonging, respect, and safety.

Cultural safety at our school means that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people:

- Are welcomed and respected without judgement or discrimination
- Feel safe to express their culture and identity
- Are listened to and have their voices influence decisions that affect them

We recognise that cultural safety requires ongoing action and reflection, not just intention.

We commit to:

Creating a culturally safe environment

- Actively prevent and respond to racism, discrimination, and culturally unsafe behaviour
- Embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives across our curriculum and daily practice
- Support all children to develop respect for First Nations cultures, histories, and knowledge systems

Value identity and voice

- Support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to feel strong in their identity and culture
- Provide opportunities for children and families to share their perspectives and shape our community

Engage with community

- Build respectful, ongoing relationships with local Aboriginal community members and organisations
- Seek guidance to ensure our practices are culturally informed and appropriate

Support staff responsibility and capability

- Ensure all staff, volunteers, and community members understand their role in creating cultural safety
- Provide ongoing learning to build cultural awareness and responsiveness

Ensure policies and practices reflect cultural safety

- Embed cultural safety into our policies, procedures, and everyday practices
- Regularly review and improve our approach based on feedback and reflection