

HHA Commitment to establishing a culturally safe environment

At HHA, we are committed to establishing an inclusive and culturally safe school where the strengths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, values and practices are respected. We have implemented several strategies to promote cultural safety in our school community and have appointed a First Nations Coordinator to assist us in embedding these strategies.

We are committed to support students explore their connections to culture, community, and country by engaging their families and relevant Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander organisations. We will provide opportunities for students to share their cultural identity and express their culture at school.

We consider how every student can have a positive experience in a safe environment. For Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander students, we recognise the link between culture, identity and safety and we will actively create opportunities for Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander students and communities to have a voice and presence in our school planning, policies, and activities. Our policies and procedures address accessibility, anti-discrimination, cultural safety, diversity and inclusion. We have zero tolerance to racism and have clear steps on how racism will be managed.

We are committed to showing respect for the Traditional Owners on which our campuses are located and acknowledging the continued connection of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander peoples to country. All meetings and school events will commence with an acknowledgment of country, which will also be introduced into all our classrooms. We will also acknowledge Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander culture by ensuring specific cultural artifacts are present across all campuses and we will recognise and celebrate main key events and anniversaries for Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander students, families, and communities.

We are committed to strengthening the knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander culture across our school community. All staff will participate in both cultural awareness and cultural safety training and have access to ongoing training around the strengths of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander culture and its importance to the wellbeing and safety of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander children and young people. All students will have the opportunity to engage in curriculum that increases their understanding around Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander history, culture and its importance to our lives.

HHA acknowledge the ongoing cultural knowledge and role of the Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander communities in creating services and supports to ensure that all Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander children are raised in safe, healthy and culturally rich families and communities, and have every opportunity for a bright future.