

Narragunnawali
Reconciliation in Education

**NAKRA
GUNNA
WALI**

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

Southern Montessori Education Child Care Centre, Southern Montessori School
October 2023 to October 2024



Southern
Montessori
School
Brave Hearts | Curious Minds



RECONCILIATION
AUSTRALIA

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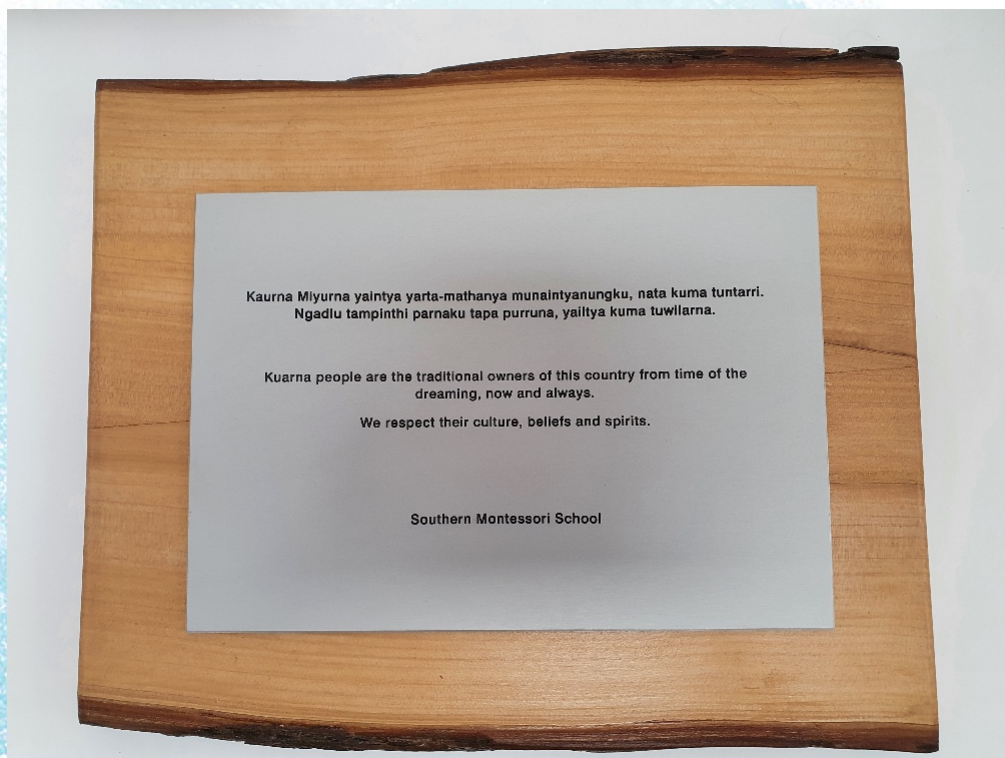
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VISION FOR RECONCILIATION

Our vision for reconciliation begins with our active acknowledgement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Original Custodians of Lands across Australia and we recognise that First Peoples' living cultures and heritage shape the identity of all Australians. We also acknowledge the Native Title Rights of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains area, who have continued to care for this Country for thousands of years. Through continuing to develop understanding and awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, our students will grow, learn and build a deeper understanding of the importance of First Nations voices and perspectives as together we walk the steps of the reconciliation journey. Southern Montessori Education Centre believes in the power of relationships. We believe in partnerships, wellbeing and the power of educators, children and families coming together to build a community of learners. We are committed to being an organisation that actively works to build a better future which is based on stronger relationships between ALL Australians. As an organisation, we believe that, as stated in the 2008 National Apology, that our reconciliation journey is about creating, "a future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility". Through open and thoughtful conversations, combined with deliberate actions, we will continue to work towards increasing our educational and wider local community's understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and experiences and to inspire ongoing reconciliation. We are committed to actively fostering an environment where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, heritage and continuing contributions are recognised, experienced and valued by our students and our wider community. We recognise the significance of the Uluru Statement from the Heart and actively listening to the voices, perspectives and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples will continue to serve as a guiding light on our reconciliation journey.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Kurna Miyurna yainty yarta-mathanya munaintyanungku, nata kuma tuntarri. Ngadlu tampinhi parnaku tapa purruna, yailtya kuma tuwilarna. Kurna people are the Traditional Owners of this Country from the time of the Dreaming, now and always. We respect tKurna people's culture, beliefs and spirits.



RAP WORKING GROUP

Name	Position
Karen Vianello	Staff (teaching)
Abby Schultz	Staff (teaching)
Kristy Dunstan	Staff (teaching)
Jim Maher	Community member
Heather McInerney	Principal / Director
Siobhan Curran	Staff (teaching)
Allie Geddes	Staff (teaching)
Michelle Pinto	Staff (teaching)



RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People in the Classroom	We are committed to engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our learning activities. Having Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices in learning environments is vital when teaching about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures.



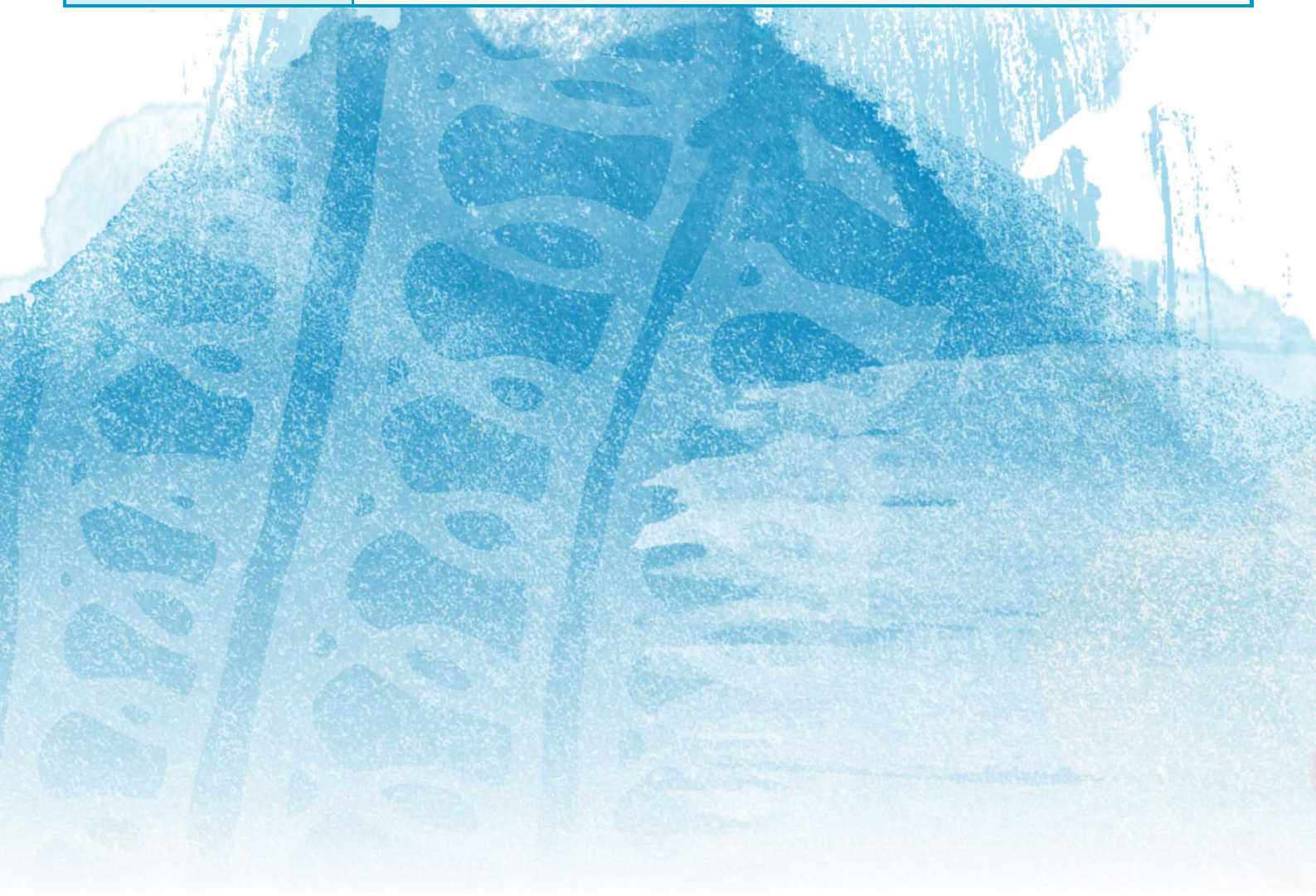


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Cultural Responsiveness for Staff	Staff are supported to reflect on and build their cultural responsiveness to improve their practice and best support the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Staff are provided with a range of opportunities to build their knowledge and understanding of their own positionality and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives, contributions and cultures.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Welcome to Country	Where appropriate, significant events at our school commence with a Welcome to Country. Protocols for welcoming visitors to Country have been a part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures for thousands of years. By incorporating these protocols into formal events and important occasions, we recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Custodians of the Land.
Celebrate National Reconciliation Week	Our school community celebrates National Reconciliation Week (NRW) which is held from 27 May to 3 June each year by talking about reconciliation in the classroom and around the school, and celebrating with the community. NRW is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.
Build Relationships with Community	We commit to building relationships with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community that are built on mutual respect, trust and inclusiveness. We value these relationships and their role in helping to create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous staff, students, children and community members.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Teach about Reconciliation	Our school community is committed to learning about reconciliation in Australia. Having an understanding of the concept, history and progress of reconciliation is an important part of continuing the reconciliation journey. This understanding also helps to strengthen engagement with our school's RAP by positioning it within the broader story of reconciliation in Australia.
Explore Current Affairs and Issues	We are committed to raising awareness of current affairs and issues in the public domain that are of particular significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the process of reconciliation. This will be done through curriculum delivery, policies and procedures, and will be integrated into the ethos of our school.

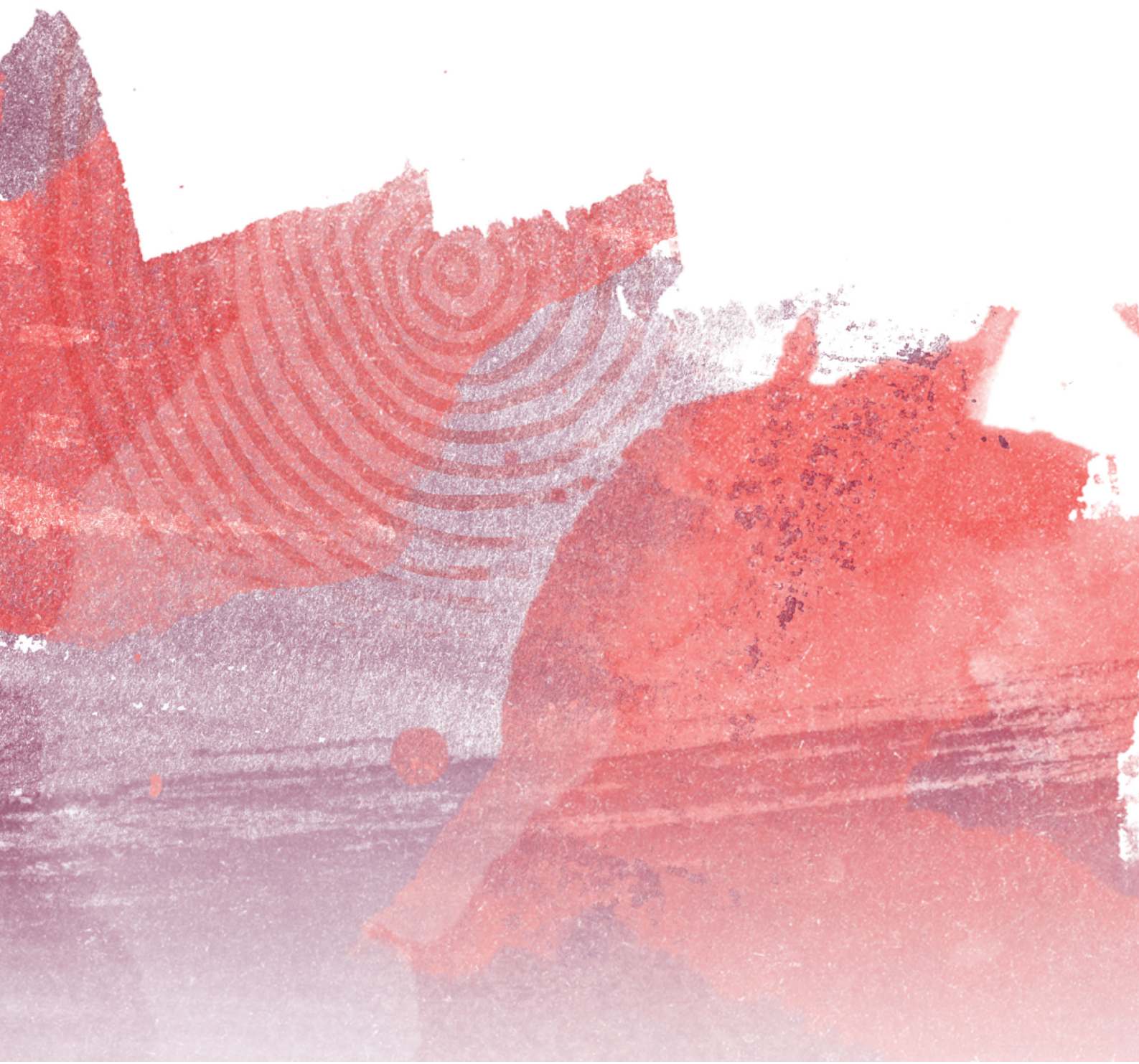


RESPECT



AROUND THE SCHOOL

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Acknowledgement of Country	Our school recognises the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to the Country on which we live, work, learn and grow. All staff and students have the opportunity to show respect to Traditional Owners and Custodians by regularly conducting an Acknowledgement of Country at meetings and events throughout the year.

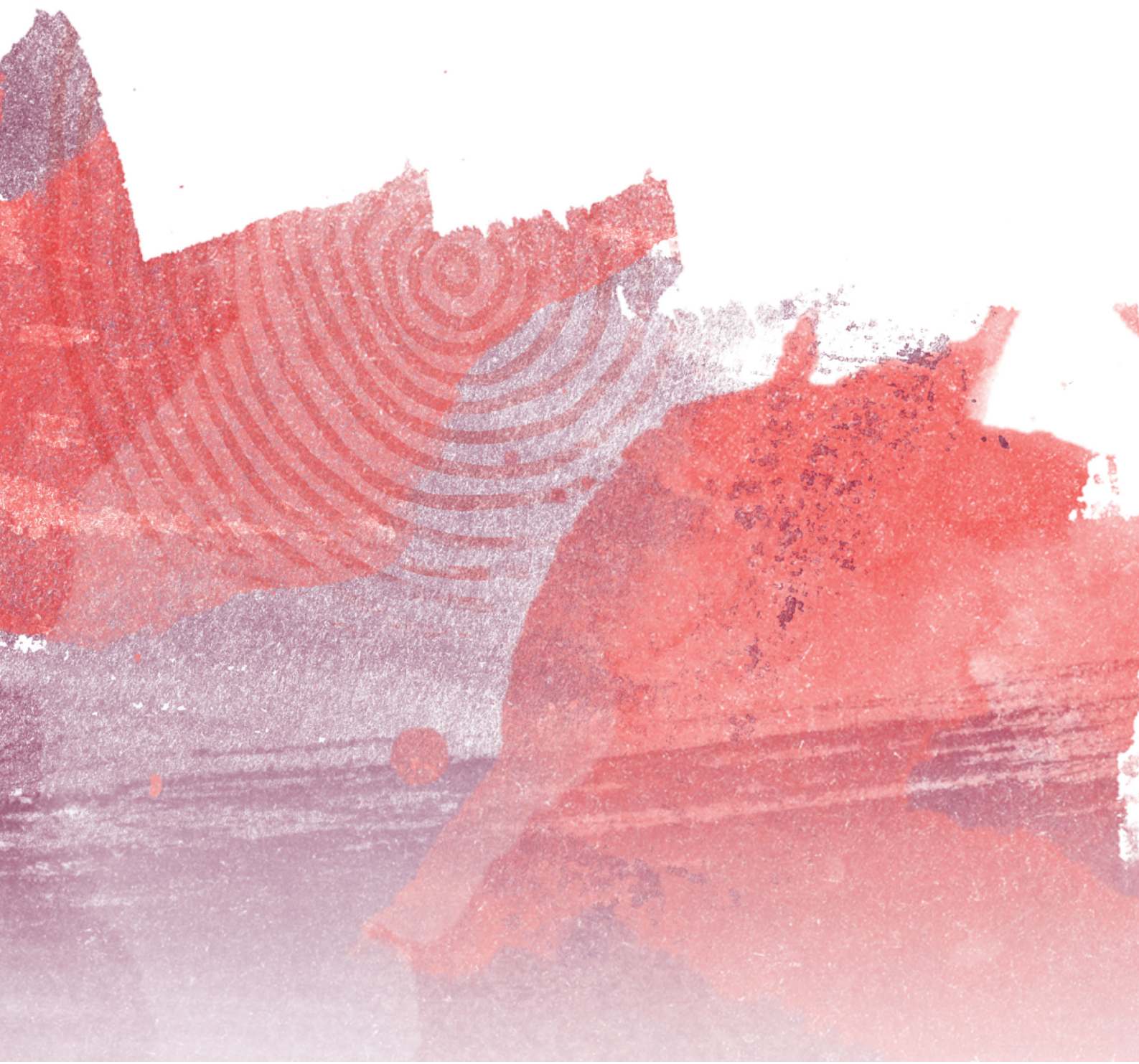


RESPECT



WITH THE COMMUNITY

RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags	Our school flies or displays the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags as a demonstration of our pride and respect for the histories, cultures and contributions of Australia's First Peoples. Flying or displaying the flags promotes a sense of community partnership and a commitment toward reconciliation.
Take Action Against Racism	We will raise awareness of racism, its impacts and how to respond effectively when it happens. We will do this through an anti-racism strategy tailored to the needs of our school.



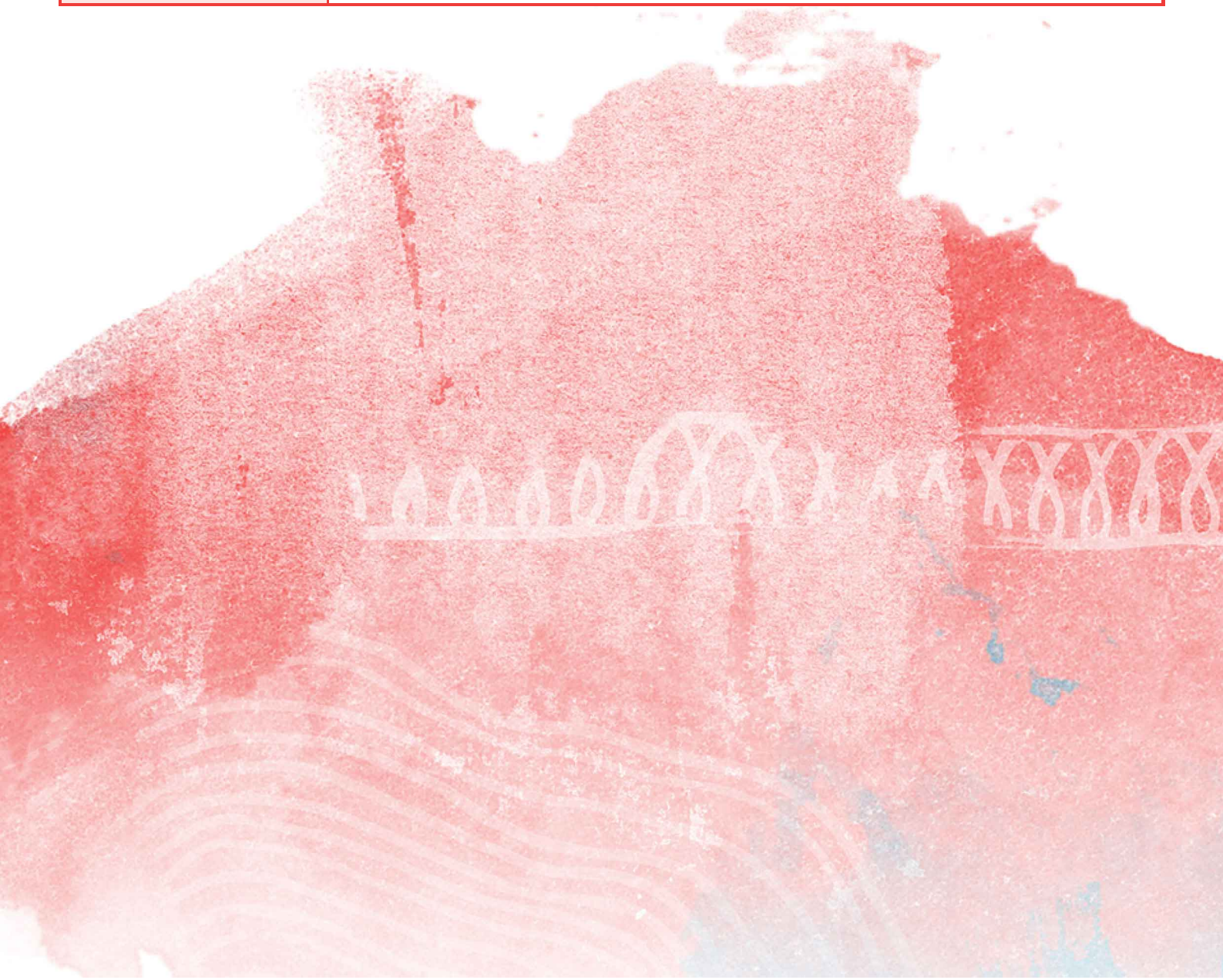


RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Curriculum Planning	Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in curriculum planning, development and evaluation processes is a key and ongoing consideration across all year levels and learning areas. Curriculum documents have or will be audited to identify the extent to which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions are already embedded, and to identify opportunities for strengthening the representation of this content in the curriculum.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Inclusive Policies	All staff in our school are aware of policies that refer specifically to improving educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and increasing knowledge of, and respect for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia. We have a plan in place to ensure all staff comply with these policies in their daily practice. Our internal policies have been, or will be, amended to ensure they are also inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and increase knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in Australia.
Staff Engagement with RAP	Commitment to the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) from all staff is essential for developing a RAP that is implemented in a meaningful and sustainable way. All staff will be involved in the ongoing development and implementation of our RAP through staff development opportunities facilitated by the RAP Working Group.





RAP ACTIONS	COMMITMENT
Celebrate RAP Progress	We are committed to reflecting on the progress made in the growth of knowledge and pride in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in our school. We will track the progress of our RAP, continually revisit our commitments, and celebrate our achievements, while generating new ideas to develop and sustain our RAP into the future.

