



St John's Mullumbimby

School Community Partnership Policy

Engagement Plan

This agreement acknowledges and outlines the collective efforts of the staff at St John's and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students and their parents, caregivers and families in working together to achieve the very best outcomes for each and every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child at our school.

Here at St John's Primary school we are committed to providing every child with greatest opportunity to achieve and experience the *fullness of life*. (John 10;10)

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of this country here, where St John's is located, the Arakwal people of the Bundjalung Nation.

School staff agree to:

- Through professional development build on and expand their understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, connection to Country, cultures & traditions, languages, ways of being and learning.
- Support and empower students to be school leaders in promoting and presenting A&TSI culture in the school
- Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures through annual NAIDOC celebrations, Sorry day, reconciliation week and local significant dates.;
- Acknowledge the diversity that exists amongst Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of this land.
- Respect and value students and acknowledge and celebrate their cultural heritage.
- Strive to meet students' individual learning needs through;
 - consulting and collaborating with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, parents and/or community members
 - utilising relevant and culturally appropriate resources
 - employing technology that may assist learning and achievement.
- Ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives are integrated into the curriculum and learning programs.
- To support students through;
 - maintaining high expectations in regards to their abilities and achievement
 - developing and updating individual learning plans where appropriate
 - informing parents, caregivers and families of student progress and achievement including work samples
- To support families by;
 - investigating and responding to any concerns raised by students, parents, caregivers or families.
 - welcoming new families to the school so that they have a sense of

- belonging to the community
- being flexible with school organisation and resources
- being aware that some families may have difficulties accessing new technologies.
- creating a culturally welcoming space by displaying signs and symbols of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures. eg flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags, Aboriginal artwork and local Bundjalung.

Students will:

- Expect the school to be a welcoming place that acknowledges and celebrates their cultural heritage.
- Expect the school and staff to provide high quality and relevant learning opportunities that meet their needs and aspirations.
- Understand that they are encouraged to share their culture with students and staff and participate in and/or lead Welcome to and/or Acknowledgement of Country ceremonies to the extent that they feel comfortable.
- Agree to follow the school code and class learning agreements
- Aim to succeed and do their best in school learning activities
- Know that teachers, parents, caregivers and their families all want to help them to be their best and that going to school is one way to achieve this.
- Respect, work and learn with and from other students, the school and its staff, parents, caregivers and families.

Parents, Caregivers and Families will:

- Expect the school to be a welcoming place that acknowledges and celebrates their cultural heritage.
- Expect the school and staff to provide high quality and relevant learning opportunities for their children.
- Have high expectations of their children's ability to learn and achieve.
- Praise and celebrate the efforts and achievements of their children.
- Meet with the staff to discuss their children's progress at school
- Encourage their children to undertake any learning tasks at home i.e reading
- Be consulted and take part in school policy and planning