



ABORIGINAL EDUCATION POLICY

Aboriginal education in Catholic schools must address;

- a) Services affecting the education of Aboriginal children and programs which enhance the self-esteem and cultural identity of Aboriginal children.
- b) The education of all children in a Christian understanding of contemporary Aboriginal society. (Catholic Education Commission of NSW, 1988).

1.0 Rationale

We believe that:

- Aboriginal education plays an integral role in a life-giving and loving environment which encourages all members of the school community to realise their true potential.
- Students will better appreciate how Australia developed as a nation if they are given opportunities to learn about Aboriginal society, including such things as history, culture and identity.
- Aboriginal education provides a window of opportunity in the reconciliation process between Aborigines and other Australians.

2.0 Aims

- 2.1 Foster a welcoming environment that supports the enrolment of Aboriginal students at Mother Teresa Primary School.
- 2.2 Encourage staff to increase their awareness about issues affecting Aboriginal people in Australian society.
- 2.3 During Religious Education lessons, teachers encourage students to embrace all cultures in our society and to use Jesus as a role model, paying special attention to the inclusive practices Jesus practiced during his lifetime.

2.4 Include Aboriginal perspectives in classroom units across a variety of KLAs.

3.0 Implementation

3.1 Teachers at Mother Teresa Primary School act as role models for all their students, fostering an inclusive approach in all their interactions with members of the school community.

3.2 Teachers are encouraged to keep abreast of current affairs, especially those dealing with the lives of indigenous Australians.

3.3 Teachers closely monitor the school experiences of their students and are diligent in countering any forms of racism that surface in daily school life.

3.4 The Principal approves any requests for professional development of teachers relating to Aboriginal education. The school will liaise with Jarara Indigenous Education Unit for advice or professional development opportunities.

3.5 Financial difficulties arising from school fees are given special consideration at the school.

3.6 Other related documents:-

[Anti-Racism Policy](#)

4.0 Budget

A budget is provided for the professional development of staff and acquisition of resources.

5.0 Evaluation

The Principal, with delegated responsibility to Executive members and Staff, will be responsible for the planning, implementation and review of this program.