



BLAXLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION POLICY

Blaxland Public School acknowledges the custodianship of the land and waterways by the Aboriginal Elders and Aboriginal people; the keepers of traditions, cultures and Lore.



POLICY STATEMENT

Blaxland Public School recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the First Australians. We understand the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture to be one of the oldest and enduring cultures of the world.

We respect the right of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to sustain their languages and cultures and acknowledge their association with the Australian land and water.

Blaxland Public School will deliver quality education for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in a framework where we ensure:

- readiness for school is assessed.
- attendance is regular.
- engagement in curriculum and social interaction is positive, happy and successful.
- learning is appropriate to the students' needs.
- growth in learning outcomes is evidentiary.
- achievement is commensurate or above that of the broader school population.

Blaxland Public School is committed to:

- improving educational outcomes and overall wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students match or better the outcomes of the broader student population.
- increasing the knowledge, understanding, respect and value of the history and culture of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the first people of Australia.
- providing cultural Aboriginal education for our learning community.
- respecting, valuing and promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as custodians of country.
- collaborative practices with Aboriginal community members.
- providing fair, equitable, culturally inclusive education opportunities for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The Principal will:

- ensure the development and implementation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy.
- provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parent, family and community collaboration.
- provide for transition support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander pre-schoolers and Year 6 to Year 7 students as required.
- encourage and cater for whole school variation to routine with indigenous days such as Harmony Day, NAIDOC etc.
- arrange for a visual environment that displays outcomes of indigenous days, demonstrating that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture is valued, respected and part of the teaching and learning at Blaxland Public School.
- provide information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families via the newsletter and website.
- deliver professional development to support the successful implementation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education
- brief staff on policy and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Action Plan 2010 – 2014.
- provide for the assessment of pre - schoolers as to readiness for Kindergarten.
- encourage links through the Lower Blue Mountains learning Community and external sources.

Staff will:

- engage in professional development activities as required.
- implement policy
- develop individual matrices – personalised learning plan for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in consultation with parents, families.
- monitor attendance and follow up with procedures for attendance where required. Where there is no improvement in attendance the principal is to be notified. The Principal will then work with the family to elicit positive outcomes for all.
- ensure teaching and learning is sensitive to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and culture.
- monitor literacy and numeracy performance implementing intervention by the Support teacher for Learning if required.