



Reconciliation Action Plan Approved

Thursday 11 June 2026

Mercedes College is proud to announce that our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) has been formally approved and published, marking an important milestone in our commitment to reconciliation and justice.

A Reconciliation Action Plan is a framework developed through Reconciliation Australia that helps organisations build respectful relationships, create opportunities, and strengthen understanding between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. At its heart, reconciliation is about recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this land, acknowledging the truths of our shared history, and working together towards a future built on respect, equity and partnership.

As a Mercy community, this work is deeply connected to our faith and values. Guided by our Mercy Keys of respect, loyalty, responsibility, integrity, compassion and justice, we believe reconciliation is not simply something we learn about; it is something we actively live. It calls us to listen deeply, build authentic relationships, seek understanding, and take meaningful action that contributes to healing and hope.

Our College Vision for Reconciliation reflects this commitment. It speaks of creating an inclusive community where open and honest conversations about unity, truth-telling, equity and equality are welcomed. It commits us to respectfully embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives throughout College life, strengthening relationships with students, families, Elders and community members, and learning from the wisdom and guidance of First Nations peoples.

A particularly meaningful expression of this commitment is our College Acknowledgement of Country, written by Year 12 student, Alexis Mynott. This Acknowledgement of Country will be shared with our community at all College events, serving as a visible and ongoing reminder of our respect for the Kurna people as the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which we learn, play, work and gather.

The publication of our RAP is the result of significant collaboration, reflection and commitment from many members of the Mercedes College community. We extend our sincere gratitude to the members of our RAP Working Group, including representatives from the College Senior Leadership Team, staff, Old Scholars, students, families and community partners, whose time, care and dedication have shaped this important work. We are particularly grateful to Geoff Aufderheide from Catholic Education South Australia for his tireless support, guidance and feedback throughout the development process. We also acknowledge the contributions of our student leaders, co-designers, guest speakers and community members who generously shared their perspectives, experiences, ideas and inspiration. Their collective wisdom and commitment have helped create a RAP that authentically reflects our College values and aspirations for reconciliation. We are especially grateful for the relationships we continue to build with local Aboriginal leaders and educators, whose generosity, knowledge and guidance help shape our journey.

While the approval of our RAP is a significant achievement, it is not the end goal. Rather, it provides a roadmap for the work ahead. Reconciliation is an ongoing process of learning, listening and action. Through initiatives across teaching and learning, community engagement, cultural awareness and partnership, we seek to ensure that reconciliation becomes an authentic and visible part of everyday life at Mercedes College.

We invite you to read our published [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) at your leisure.