

## **ACARA Review of the Australian Curriculum**

### **Joint Statement of support for proposed revisions to the Australian Curriculum that progress reconciliation in education**

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Strengthening the Australian Curriculum to support reconciliation in education, and a positive relationship between non-Indigenous students and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, is a step towards a reconciled nation.

We support the calls from First Nations peoples and educators for a stronger focus on the inclusion of First Nations' histories and cultures, and for greater truth-telling in the Australian Curriculum.

A key recommendation in the curriculum review is to strengthen the existing [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures cross-curriculum priority](#). Aligned with two key goals from the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Education Declaration, the cross-curriculum priority is relevant to all learning areas and year levels and seeks to:

- provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with the ability to see themselves, their identities and cultures reflected in the curriculum;
- and allow all students to engage in reconciliation, respect and recognition of the world's oldest continuous living cultures.

We support the [proposed revisions](#) that strengthen these goals.

According to [Reconciliation Australia's Australian Reconciliation Barometer](#), over 80% of the Australian community believe it's important for First Nations histories and cultures to be taught in schools.

Each and every day, students across the country are engaging in a process of discussion, analysis and synthesis of historical and contemporary information to learn more about themselves as Australians and Australia's place in the world.

Learning about the histories, cultures and contributions of Australia's First Nations peoples is fundamental to learning about what it means to be Australian.

Curriculum changes that better honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and acknowledge the truths of Australia's shared history, respond to growing recognition of the education sector's responsibility to do more and do better to drive reconciliation across our nation.

Join us in supporting meaningful change by reading the [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures consultation document](#) and [completing the short Feedback Survey](#) on the cross-curriculum priorities by this Thursday 8 July 2021.

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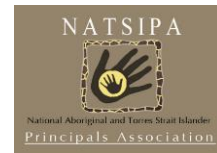
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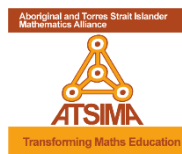
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