# **NARRAGUNNAWALI** Reconciliation in Education

Reconciliation Australia's NARRAGUNNAWALI PROGRAM SUPPORTS SCHOOLS and EARLY LEARNING SERVICES to TAKE ACTION towards reconciliation. It fosters INTERGENERATIONAL CHANGE in CLASSROOMS, EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS and COMMUNITIES.

### THE NEED FOR RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION

Historically, the formal education system in Australia has served as a tool of colonisation.

Now, more than ever, we must harness the powerful role that education has in engaging Australia's future generations to contribute to a more reconciled future between non-First Nations Australians and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

**GOAL 1** Teachers, educators and school leaders champion reconciliation.

#### **GOAL 2** Schools and early learning services are holistically and actively committed to reconciliation.

PROGRAM VISION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination is at the centre of Australian education systems, which actively engages the hearts and minds of future generations to contribute to the reconciliation process.

#### GOAL 4

Education institutions actively collaborate with local communities and broader reconciliation networks.

#### GOAL 3

Education sector has optimal measures, resources and policy commitments to drive effective reconciliation practice. HOW WE DO IT

We connect educators with the tools they need to engage students in reconciliation learning and action. Our online platform includes:









A Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) **DEVELOPMENT PROCESS** specifically for schools and early learning services PROFESSIONAL LEARNING for educators Accessible CURRICULUM RESOURCES Celebration of success through NATIONAL AWARDS

**OUR IMPACT** Launched in 2015, the program has (at September 2023):



Narragunnawali (pronounced narra-gunna-wally) is a word from the language of the Ngunnawal people, Traditional Owners of the Land on which Reconciliation Australia's Canberra office is located. Narragunnawali means alive, wellbeing, coming together and peace, and is used with permission of the United Ngunnawal Elders Council.

## NARRAGUNNAWALI IN ACTION The Narragunnawali Awards recognise and celebrate Australian schools and early learning services that are implementing outstanding reconciliation initiatives.



#### TUMUT COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL Narragunnawali Awards 2021 Winner

"I went to school here in Tumut but there was no Aboriginal cultural content in my education. I went to school with Aboriginal people, but their culture was ignored. So personally, I've learnt and grown.

The **Narragunnawali program** has had a huge impact. Reconciliation and Indigenous perspectives have been embedded within our philosophy, in the way we work and how children are educated. We are known for this and this is what we are very proud of. The reconciliation program has also significantly increased the attendance of First Nations children at the preschool, with enrolments of local Aboriginal children lifting to 16-20% of all enrolments."

- Tess Herring, Tumut Community Preschool Services Manager

The external evaluation<sup>1</sup> of Narragunnawali shows an increasing need for THE FUTURE OF RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION commitment to reconciliation in education. To grow reconciliation through education, we focus on: This means demand for the program and its services will continue to grow. Findings from the latest wave of the Longitudinal Survey of Indigenous Children indicated that, where parents and carers were aware their child attended a school with a RAP, the child was: LESS LIKELY to be reported as NOT WANTING TO GO TO SCHOOI nffpfning SUSTAINING AND XTENDING MORE LIKELY to be reported as GROWING IMPACT ATTENDING A SCHOOL that understands at the individual and of our together with our partners their needs and is good for them<sup>2</sup> program institutional level and community of practice

RAPs provide an evidence-based, guiding framework for educational institutions to drive reconciliation in the classroom, around the school or early learning service, and with the community.

Scan to read more about the Narragunnawali program's impact and evidence through AITSL's Collaborate article

Sustained and substantive change towards reconciliation wouldn't be possible without our strong partnerships. Join us on the journey to shape a stronger future of reconciliation in education. HELP US REACH OUR GOALS! GET IN CONTACT WITH US: education@reconciliation.org.au • reconciliation.org/narragunnawali

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of all Australian schools

and early learning services

TO START A RAP

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<sup>1</sup> ANU Centre for Social Research & Methods, Evaluation of Narragunnawali Reconciliation in Education (2015-2022)

<sup>2</sup> ANU Centre for Social research & Methods, Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Education – Paper#18 – Capturing the impact of Narragunnawali (2022)