Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

What is a RAP? According to the “Reconciliation Australia” website, a RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan) is a business plan that turns good intentions into actions. It's about creating respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians. Since 2006, the RAP programme has grown to include 300 organisations ranging from big corporations to community groups and schools.

The Beehive Montessori School’s Vision for Reconciliation

Dr Maria Montessori, the founder of the Montessori educational philosophy, advocated that positive education could bring about world peace and this is reflected in the School’s Principles and General Educational Outcomes which highlight the importance of respect for oneself, others and the environment.

The Beehive Montessori School’s move to publicly respect and value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their cultures and history is an extension of this philosophy into an Australian context. Dr Montessori believed in Cosmic Education which is underpinned by the idea that we are all interconnected. Her vision for education is to encourage peaceful human interactions with each other and the natural world. This is the foundation for the Beehive Montessori School’s vision for reconciliation where our students have the capacity to change the future.

Our RAP is also about embedding cultural change within a whole organization through building good relationships, respecting the special contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We believe that building strong relationships based on mutual respect will also lead to opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and our School.

The Beehive Montessori School is one of the first small Independent school in Australia to have achieved a registered Reconciliation Action Plan.

Reconciliation Smoking Ceremony performed at the Beehive’s RAP Launch

Some of the Beehive children singing “We are Australian” both in English and in Nyungar