



## PORT MACQUARIE HIGH SCHOOL

### ABORIGINAL EDUCATION POLICY

Port Macquarie High School's Aboriginal Education Policy has been developed within the framework of the NSW Department of Education & Training Aboriginal Education Policy of 1996.

All schools are required to implement this policy. The Aboriginal Education Policy is a mandatory policy.

Port Macquarie High School has an enrolment generally of between ten and fifteen Aboriginal students.

It has its own ASSPA committee chaired by a nominated staff member. The school has strong links with Aboriginal support personnel through the School Education Area Office.

This policy complements the Anti-Racism, Multicultural and Grievance Procedures policies within the school.

#### **Goals:**

- Curriculum, teaching and assessment programs will be challenging and culturally appropriate.
- Schools will have a supportive learning environment.
- Aboriginal communities and the Department of Education and Training will become partners within the whole educational process.
- All Department of Education and Training staff and students will have a sound knowledge and understanding of and respect for Aboriginal Australia.

#### **Outcomes:**

##### **“Curriculum, teaching and assessment programs will be challenging and culturally appropriate”**

- Educational outcomes for Aboriginal students 7-12 are enhanced so that they are comparable with those of the rest of the student population.
- Teaching and learning programs reflect the diverse needs of Aboriginal students.
- Culturally appropriate teaching strategies and assessment methods are implemented.
- Aboriginal languages are maintained, revived and reclaimed.

##### **“Schools will have a supportive learning environment”**

- Supportive services are inclusive of the needs of Aboriginal students.
- In co-operation with the Department of Health, specific health issues affecting the education of Aboriginal students are addressed through Department of Education and Training programs.

- DET staff demonstrate awareness of all relevant issues affecting Aboriginal students.
- Targeted resources and programs provide for the educational needs of Aboriginal students.

**“Aboriginal communities and the Department of Education and Training will become partners in the whole education process”**

- Aboriginal people are empowered to become active partners.
- The knowledge held by Aboriginal communities is recognised and valued.
- Educational policies and programs are developed in consultation with Aboriginal communities.

**“All DET staff and students will have knowledge and understanding of and respect for Aboriginal Australia”**

- Knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal Australia is evident in all schools and throughout the public school system.
- Policies and programs reflect the views and aspirations of Aboriginal Australia.
- All students participate in Aboriginal studies programs.

**Evaluation & Monitoring:**

Each KLA has the responsibility for implementing this policy within their own teaching and learning program and faculty programmes must have a separate section dealing with Aboriginal education.

Programmes will be reviewed in the first instance by the Head Teacher and by the senior executive on a regular basis, that is, at least twice per annum.

Outcomes will be evaluated through the annual school self – evaluation process leading to the Annual Report.

The policy will be reviewed as part of the five-year cyclical evaluation programme at Port Macquarie High School.

August 2000    **Endorsed by School Council 19/05/2004**