

Summary of Melbourne Polytechnic's Aboriginal Education Strategy (2018-2021)



VISION	Through education Melbourne Polytechnic embraces traditional Aboriginal values to create a harmonious and inclusive society.				
PURPOSE	To support a whole of institute approach to incorporate Aboriginal community values into day-to-day business and empower Aboriginal students and staff to uphold their cultural identity and achieve meaningful outcomes.				
VALUES	MELBOURNE POLYTECHNIC VALUES Authenticity: Trust and openness. Courage: Taking on challenges and thinking outside the square. Future Focused: Demonstrating progressive thinking and solutions focus. Operational Excellence: Commitment to quality and continuous improvement. Ownership: Demonstrating accountability, initiative and a 'can do' attitude. Shared Commitment: Shared purpose and capacity to collaborate effectively.		COMMUNITY VALUES Advocacy: We voice the needs of the Indigenous and Melbourne Polytechnic communities. Collaboration: We create partnerships and seek input from others. Empathy: We have an understanding and awareness of people's journey and their needs. Equality: We make sure all voices are heard and create opportunities for a fair process. Inclusiveness: We provide a sense of belonging. Integrity: We uphold and honour the Aboriginal community and the Melbourne Polytechnic's values and processes. Trust: We build trust through mutual respect and honesty.		
GOALS	COLLABORATING WITH COMMUNITY	IMPROVING CULTURAL SAFETY	FOSTERING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES	ENHANCING STUDENT EXPERIENCE	BEING VISIBLE
OBJECTIVES	<i>Melbourne Polytechnic creates and strengthens supportive and collaborative relationships with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities to achieve positive outcomes for all.</i>	<i>Melbourne Polytechnic protects a learning environment for Aboriginal students and Aboriginal staff to uphold a strong cultural identity.</i>	<i>Melbourne Polytechnic provides a safe and supportive pathway for Aboriginal students to achieve meaningful outcomes.</i>	<i>Melbourne Polytechnic provides Aboriginal students with experiences that align with their cultural identity while enhancing their graduate attributes.</i>	<i>Melbourne Polytechnic increases the cultural imprint of Aboriginal voices, knowledges, symbols and values through shared environments, experiences and learning opportunities</i>
STRATEGIES	Increase involvement of Aboriginal community members in educational decision making.	Ensure a culturally safe environment exists for Aboriginal students and staff.	Provide tailored support programs, mechanisms and services for Aboriginal students to enable successful and sustainable participation at Melbourne Polytechnic.	Offer Aboriginal students the chance to explore new interests and take advantage of opportunities beyond the classroom.	Establish the Koorie Services Centre as the authoritative voice on Aboriginal education and cultural issues for Melbourne Polytechnic.
	Strengthen partnerships with the school sector and the community to enhance Indigenous students' prospects for enrolment at Melbourne Polytechnic.	Establish expectations in relation to cultural safety for all students and staff.	Increase enrolment, retention and course completion rates for Aboriginal students.		Involve community members in sharing Aboriginal culture and knowledge
	Further develop partnerships and collaborations with community, industry and government regarding Aboriginal training needs.	Build a culture of committed leaders who understand and promote cultural safety and an appreciation of Aboriginal knowledge, history and culture.	Seek employment opportunities for Aboriginal students who are nearing completion of their course.	Encourage Aboriginal students to participate fully and achieve their goals.	Ensure recognition of Aboriginal heritage is visible.
			Develop and deliver culturally relevant training consistent with local occupational, industry and regional needs.		Ensure inclusion of Aboriginal Perspectives across all aspects of Melbourne Polytechnic activities
					Celebrate and promote achievements of Aboriginal students and staff.