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**ABORIGINAL EDUCATION POLICY**-draft

**Philosophy**

Kotara High School acknowledges that the school must be a place where Aboriginal students have a right to be Aboriginal and to express their own unique cultural identity. Aboriginal education involves the education of Aboriginal students as well as the provision of a curriculum incorporating an Aboriginal perspective for all students, highlighting traditional, transitional and contemporary Aboriginal cultures and heritages.

Equity is a democratic value underpinning Kotara High Schools education programs. This school acknowledges that all students are unique and that their differences must be taken into account when designing and monitoring quality teaching and learning programs for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginals alike.

Kotara High School strives to develop a better understanding of past Aboriginal issues, present needs and directions for the future.

**Guidelines**

* Develop strategic initiatives to facilitate the delivery of quality teaching and learning experiences for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students.
* Ensure that the 7 – 12 Curriculum provides scope to include an Aboriginal perspective.
* Develop Personalised Learning Plans for all Aboriginal students in collaboration with teachers, students, parents and caregivers.
* Ensure that the content provided to students about Aboriginal culture, history and identity is of an accurate and contemporary nature.
* The school will endeavor to support the cultural safety of Aboriginal students through anti -racism education for all students.
* Utilise resources from the local Aboriginal community to reiterate the significance of the Awabakal people in the Newcastle area.
* Interaction of the school with Aboriginal people and heritage with a focus on Aboriginal education.