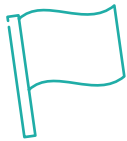


Walk to School Tip Sheet

Celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture



VicHealth's Walk to School program is a perfect opportunity to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Here are some great tips from our health promotion partner, Spark Health on what your school can do to help your students engage with Aboriginal culture. We've also included useful links and more information on the next page.



1. Proudly display the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.



2. Learn about the Traditional Custodians of the land you walk, scoot or ride to school on.



3. Organise a Welcome to Country at the start of the Walk to School program.

Bunjil = eagle
Wah = crow

4. Learn about local Aboriginal languages, words, songs, musicians and art.



5. Find out about local places of significance for Aboriginal people.



6. Perform student-led Acknowledgement of Country at assemblies and other Walk to School events.



7. Include an Acknowledgement of Country on school buildings, newsletters and websites.



8. Support and partner with local Aboriginal businesses and organisations for Walk to School promotions and activities.

9. Set up a class activity to get your students thinking about other actions your school could do to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.



Walk to School Tip Sheet

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Extra information

1. Proudly display the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

Flags are available free of charge for schools and individuals from your local Member of Parliament (MP).

You can find your local MP on the list here:
www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members

3. Organise a Welcome to Country at the start of the Walk to School program.

A Welcome to Country can be organised through the Traditional Owners at the local Recognised Aboriginal Party (RAP) organisation. You can find who your local RAP is at:
www.aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au

To find out the difference between a Welcome to Country and an Acknowledgement of Country, visit the Reconciliation Australia website at: www.reconciliation.org.au

5. Find out about local places of significance for Aboriginal people.

This can include local Aboriginal artwork, murals, organisations, parks or other locations of cultural significance.

To find out where these are, contact your local council. For example, Darebin City Council have an Aboriginal Spiritual Healing Trail in one of their local parklands.

7. Include an Acknowledgement of Country on school buildings, newsletters and websites.

Make sure you include your Acknowledgement on newsletters and websites. For Acknowledgements on buildings, our friends at Kinya Lerrk and ANTaR have beautiful plaques you can order:

www.kinyalerrk.com.au or www.antar.org.au

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we walk, ride and scoot to school. We pay our respects to all Elders past, present and future.

2. Learn about the Traditional Custodians of the land you walk, scoot or ride to school on.

An official language map is available from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies:
www.aiatsis.gov.au

For Victorian schools, you can find more information about Victorian Aboriginal history and culture at Koorie Heritage Trust: www.koorieheritagetrust.com.au

4. Learn about local Aboriginal languages, words, songs, musicians and art.

The Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages (VACL) is a great place to start to learn local Aboriginal language words: www.vaclang.org.au. Alternatively, you could contact your local Registered Aboriginal Party.

To find a list of Victorian Aboriginal music artists to add to your playlist, go to: www.songlines.net.au

6. Perform student-led Acknowledgements of Country at assemblies and other Walk to School events.

Customise your Acknowledgement of Country to suit your school and students. We really like this one, as an example:
We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional lands of the Kulin Nation and particularly the Wurundjeri people. We pay our respects to the Elders of our community, past, present and future, for they hold the customs, the culture and the hopes of Aboriginal Australia. The land upon which we are gathered, is, was and always will be, Aboriginal land.

8. Support and partner with local Aboriginal businesses and organisations for a Walk to School promotions and activities.

Aboriginal businesses and organisations can be utilised and partnered with for catering, incursions, excursions, performances and products. To find out about local Aboriginal owned businesses in your Area, go to:
www.supplynation.org.au or www.kinaway.com.au

Local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) can be found on the Victorian ACCHO website:
www.vaccho.org.au