

# Footprints to the Future

A 10-year plan to strengthen education for Aboriginal learners in NSW public schools and beyond.

## Our vision

Increase knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal culture by ensuring every Aboriginal child and young person is a proud and confident learner, achieving at their maximum potential.

## About us

The role of the Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships Directorate is to advance education for Aboriginal students in public schools across New South Wales.

To achieve this, the Directorate works closely with a number of partners, within and beyond the Department including the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group Incorporated (NSW AECG).



## Footprints to the Future

A 10-year plan to strengthen education for Aboriginal learners in NSW Public Schools.

Footprints to the Future supports the implementation of evidence-based practices for learners and staff, to ensure the educational outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people are as good as or better than those of the general student population in New South Wales. The Aboriginal Outcomes and Partnerships Directorate (AOPD) aligns with, and delivers the goals of the Department of Education's Strategic Plan by ensuring that every student is known, valued and cared for in our schools. The AOPD will achieve this through our commitment to continuous improvement where all learners, teachers and leaders are supported to grow and improve. AOPD undertakes authentic collaboration with internal and external partners in implementing the Partnership Agreement with the NSW AECG, Premier's Priorities, Executive Priorities and Closing the Gap Outcomes through its strategic focus on students, staff and communities.

Partnership with Aboriginal Communities

All Staff and Learners

Aboriginal Staff

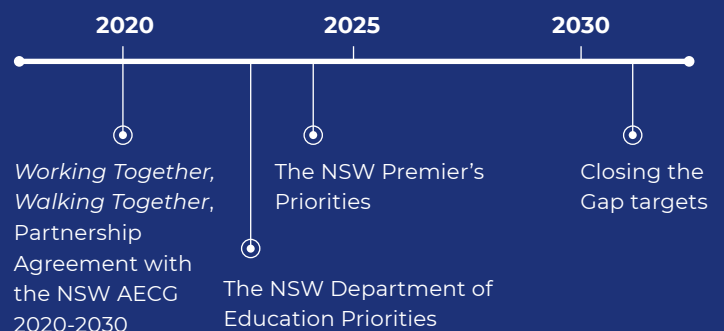
Aboriginal Learners

## Our Performance Measures

The AOPD will engage in ongoing evaluation by utilising a monitoring framework with interim goals. Our performance will be measured against the achievement of targets set by the:

- The **NSW Premier's Priorities**
- The refreshed **Closing the Gap**
- OCHRE **Closing the Gap** targets 2031
- The **OGHRE Plan** - NSW Government Aboriginal Affairs Strategy and
- Implementation the **NSW AECG Inc. Partnership Agreement 2020-2030**

## The Pathway



## Our Strategic Focus

### Partnerships with Aboriginal Communities

The NSW AECG and the Department of Education are committed to developing, growing and strengthening partnerships at all levels, including commonwealth, state, regional and local to ensure that Aboriginal people have the opportunity to self-determine and advocate for the rights of Aboriginal children and young persons in NSW to achieve their potential through education and training.

### All Staff and Learners

Staff and learners in NSW understand the heritage and culture of the Aboriginal Peoples on whose land/s they live, learn and work. Every student in NSW leaves school with an understanding of Aboriginal heritage and culture and the history of the interaction between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Peoples. All teachers have completed Aboriginal cultural education training, with refresher courses every three years.

### Aboriginal Staff

The Department of Education places specific focus on attracting and recruiting an Aboriginal workforce which reflects and aligns with population demographics. Aboriginal employees will be connected, supported and developed through targeted and specific professional development to support the promotion and retention of Aboriginal staff at all levels across the Department.

### Aboriginal Learners

On completion of school, Aboriginal young people will confidently express and demonstrate their knowledge of the cultures of their own Peoples as well as their achievement of Western education. The four focus areas of Footprints to the Future for Aboriginal students are Early Years, Primary Years, Secondary Years and Post Schooling and Skilling.

#### Early Years

All Aboriginal children are well prepared for school.

#### Primary Years

Aboriginal students find schools to be engaging and culturally safe places to learn

#### Secondary Years

Aboriginal students believe that they can succeed at school and they do succeed.

Aboriginal children and young people are equally represented in achieving the HSC

#### Post Schooling and Skilling

Aboriginal children and young people are equally represented in gaining places in further education and employment through post schooling pathways.