

Noongar Garden

Birak, Bunuru, Djeran, Makuru, Djilba and Kambarang.

2023



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Mission Statement

At Aveley North Primary School, we envision a thriving and inclusive school garden that honours the wisdom of the Noongar people and their profound understanding of the land through the recognition of the Noongar Six Seasons.

We commit to fostering a deep connection between our students and the natural world while demonstrating a profound respect for Indigenous Australians and their traditional knowledge.

Our mission is to create a sustainable school garden that also focuses on reintroducing native flora, contributing to ecological restoration, and fostering biodiversity, all while aligning with the Aboriginal Cultural Standards Framework and Aveley North Primary School's RAP (Reconciliation Action Plan).

At Aveley North Primary School our school garden is a living testament to the harmony between Indigenous wisdom, ecological sustainability, and the revitalization of our natural heritage.

By embracing the Noongar Six Seasons, honouring Indigenous Australians, promoting sustainability, and reintroducing native flora, we aim to create an enduring legacy of environmental stewardship and cultural appreciation for generations to come.



Our Values:

Celebrate the Noongar Six Seasons

We embrace the cultural significance of the Noongar Six Seasons – Birak, Bunuru, Djeran, Makuru, Djilba, and Kambarang – by aligning our gardening practices and activities with the specific characteristics and teachings of each season. Through this, we aim to deepen our student's understanding of the local environment and Indigenous culture.

Incorporate Student Input

We value the voices and ideas of our students, recognising that they are instrumental in shaping the garden's design, development, and ongoing care. Students will actively participate in decision-making processes, ensuring the garden reflects their interests, knowledge, and creativity.

Promote Sustainability

Sustainability lies at the core of our garden's practices. We employ organic gardening techniques, implement water-efficient systems, and prioritize the use of renewable resources. Composting and recycling are essential components of our waste management strategy, fostering a circular and eco-friendly approach to gardening.

Reintroduce Native Flora

In partnership with local Indigenous knowledge holders and environmental experts, we strive to reintroduce and nurture native plant species that hold cultural significance and support the local ecosystem. By reintegrating indigenous flora, we aid in ecological restoration and create a habitat conducive to native wildlife.

Honour Indigenous Knowledge

We acknowledge the immense value of Indigenous knowledge and its role in preserving the environment for generations. Our school garden will serve as a platform for sharing Indigenous stories, history, and ecological insights, encouraging mutual respect and understanding among our diverse student body.

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Integrate the Aboriginal Cultural Standards Framework:

We recognise the importance of acknowledging and respecting the Aboriginal Cultural Standards framework in all aspects of our school garden. By incorporating these standards, we ensure cultural safety, authenticity, and sensitivity in our practices, promoting cultural understanding and appreciation among our students and staff.

Implement a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP):

Our commitment to reconciliation is demonstrated through the implementation of a RAP, which outlines specific actions and initiatives such as this garden, that promote meaningful engagement, respect, and partnership with Indigenous Australians. Our RAP serves as a roadmap for building positive relationships, promoting opportunities for learning, and fostering a culture of reconciliation within our school community.

Foster Biodiversity

Reintroducing native flora is crucial to fostering biodiversity within our school garden. Through careful planning and ecological design, we aim to create a vibrant and balanced ecosystem that supports a wide array of plant and animal life, enhancing the overall resilience and health of the environment.

Engage the Community

Our school garden extends beyond the boundaries of our campus, inviting local Elders, Indigenous community members, and environmental experts to share their knowledge and experiences. By forging strong community connections, we strengthen our commitment to reconciliation, environmental stewardship, and sustainable practices.

Cultivate a Love for Nature

Through hands-on experiences in the garden, students will develop a profound connection with nature, fostering a sense of responsibility and empathy towards the Earth. We aspire to nurture future leaders who are environmentally conscious and advocate for sustainable practices.

Aim

Our aim is to create six gardens, reclaiming the existing garden beds around the school



PROJECT PROPOSAL

Garden Example





















Melaleuca Teretifolia

Birak (Dec-Jan)

First Summer (season of the young) Birak is the season of warmer weather and cool afternoon breezes. Indicating, to the Noongar people it was time to start fires to care for the land.



Proposed Sites



Front of school

Proposed Timeline

Term 3 2023

Stages 1-3

Term 4 2023

Community Engagement Events Stage 4 Garden Beds 1&2 Term 1 2024

Stage 4 Garden beds 3 & 4 Term 2 2024

Stage 4 - 5
Garden beds
5 & 6

Art Work Commences (NAIDOC Week)

Term 3 2024

Stage 5
Digital fact Sheets
and QR Codes

Official Opening

Stage 6
Offical opening and of the garden

Stages

Stage 1: Creating a school community vision

Stage 2: Conducting Local research and investigations

Stage 3: Planning and Design of the area(s)

Stage 4: Preparing the site(s) and planting.

Stage 5: Celebrating place and space.

Stage 6: Ongoing care and school community engagement.



For inquiries, contact us.

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