

## **Statement of Cultural Safety**

At Koonwarra Village School, we respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the South Eastern Kulin Nation, the Bunurong People, and we extend this acknowledgement to the neighbouring Gunai/Kurnai people. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and recognise their role in caring for Country over tens of thousands of years. We acknowledge our true history and appreciate the significance of our connection to place as we live, work, play and walk together.

We are committed to ensuring that all children feel safe and respected at KVS, including Aboriginal children, and we recognise and value the unique identities and experiences of First Nations peoples. We seek to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural heritage of Australia's First Peoples and to create a culturally safe environment where all children can express their culture, beliefs, and spirituality and feel supported by our staff and community.

We understand that valuing cultural safety requires ongoing effort and engagement with the Aboriginal community. We are committed to this process as we strive to create an inclusive and welcoming learning community.