

Our Voices, Our Future is about celebrating the voices of young people and empowering students to recognise that their voices matter. Young people are our future and every young person has a unique and important role to play in contributing their voices to reconciliation. Our Voices, Our Future is also about acknowledging and valuing the place of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' voices and perspectives within Australia's national story and reconciliation journey. It is about recognising the diversity and dynamism of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and contributions; celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and knowledges and appreciating the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination and self-representation. It is about recognising some of the ways in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices have been ignored or misrepresented in the past, and about creating a rightful place for the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be actively listened to – now and into the future. This theme explores the importance of coming together and engaging in conversations and collaborations that build mutual respect, trust and understanding. It is about listening, speaking up and working together to create a better future. Through exploration of this theme students will develop their understanding of the rich diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices and perspectives and the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination and self-representation in directing processes of reconciliation. We encourage young people to dream big and share their visions for our future and see the power that they have to effect change within their school and local community through their listening, words and actions.