

# Reconciliation in Queensland Schools (RIQS) Program Guidelines



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## The Embracing 2018 Legacy Program for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games

From 4 to 15 April 2018, the XXI Commonwealth Games will be held on the Gold Coast, with events also taking place in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville.

As well as 11 days of world class sporting competition, the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) will bring long term positive impacts on Queensland's economy and communities.

As part of the Embracing 2018 Legacy Program for GC2018, a Reconciliation Action Plan (GC2018 RAP) has been developed by the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee (GOLDOC) and the Office of the Commonwealth Games (OCG). OCG is the Government office responsible for leveraging the Games to create a positive legacy for Queenslanders.

The GC2018 RAP is a practical plan of action based on relationships, respect and opportunities, developed to ensure inclusion and participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

### **What is Reconciliation?**

The ultimate goal of Reconciliation is to build strong and respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and other Australians, as a foundation for success and to enhance the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Reconciliation is also about increasing awareness of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, building respectful relationships as a means to deliver positive outcomes that contribute to Closing the Gap. Closing the Gap describes the actions that schools, governments and the community can take to help achieve equality of life expectancy, education and economic participation for all Australians.

## Reconciliation in Queensland Schools

Reconciliation in Queensland Schools (RIQS) is a grant program to enable state primary schools including state special schools to facilitate activities that promote cultural understanding between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities across Queensland.

The program is administered by the Office of the Commonwealth Games, within the Department of Tourism, Major Events, Small Business and the Commonwealth Games.

RIQS objectives are to:

- focus on stronger relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader Australian community through genuine and mutually beneficial engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community;
- increase understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, languages and cultures through school based learning activities;
- acknowledge and celebrate the valuable contributions made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander key dates and national events.

Under the RIQS program, Queensland state primary schools including special schools can apply for funding of up to \$5000 (GST exclusive) for events that support the objectives above.

### What is RIQS looking for?

Applications must give consideration to the following requirements:

- Alignment with at least one of the RIQS objectives;
- The lasting legacy of Reconciliation that the project creates for the school;
- Value for money.

RIQS provides the school with a flexible approach to develop activities at a local level. Funding may be used for the purchase of materials, goods or services that support the delivery of RIQS projects.

Funding is specifically aimed at strengthening Reconciliation in schools, and as such there is a range of matters that will not be funded:

- Purchase of non-RIQS project related resources, goods and services.
- Purchase of resources that are intended to be used by the school community outside of the RIQS activity including but not limited to laptops, televisions, and sound equipment.
- Delivery of activities not specified in the project application form.
- Delivery of activities or expenses incurred prior to the receipt of an acceptance letter from OCG.

While schools may submit multiple project applications, the maximum funding allocation available per school will not exceed \$5,000 (GST exclusive).

As RIQS will leverage the Commonwealth Games to leave a legacy based upon Reconciliation, all projects are to be delivered by end of school term 1 2018, 29 March 2018.

## The application process

RIQS is open to State Primary Schools including special schools across Queensland.

Project application forms and support information can be found on the [Embracing2018 website](#).

Forms are to be signed by the school principal and emailed to [GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au](mailto:GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au).

Applications will be assessed by a panel drawn from the Department of Education's Indigenous Education Unit and the Office of the Commonwealth Game's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Projects team.

Applications are open until 14 July 2017. Applicant schools can expect to be notified of the panel decision by September 2017.

Schools will be notified of a successful application by a letter of offer sent by email. Successful schools will then have 5 business days from the date of the letter of offer to confirm acceptance by email.

Project delivery can commence as soon as schools are advised that their acceptance of the offer has been received. However, project funding can only be provided upon receipt of an invoice. Schools are to provide an invoice for the sum as set out in the Particulars.

## Reporting

All schools participating in RIQS must complete the end of project report including feedback surveys.

As part of the end of project report all funds are to be reconciled with unspent funding to be reimbursed to OCG.

All end of project reports will be due to OCG by no later than the 28 April 2018 (1 month from the RIQS program end date).

The key timeframes for the implementation of RIQS include:

| Milestone   | Deadline  |
|---|---|
| Applications open – schools are strongly encouraged to consult with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to plan their programs      | 30 May 2017   |
| Applications close  | 14 July 2017  |
| All applicants notified and successful applicants receive funding upon provision of invoice.<br><br>Schools to commence delivery of RIQS activities | By September 2017   |
| Delivery of all RIQS activities completed   | No later than 29 March 2018 (end of school term 1 - 2018) |
| Schools to provide OCG with End of Project Reports, including student feedback surveys  | No later than 28 April 2018                               |



## Help and resources

### Engagement with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community

We encourage schools to engage with their local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to assist with the development and delivery of RIQS activities. There are a range of services and resources that can assist schools to engage with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community:

- The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) has regional offices throughout Queensland. Visit the [DATSIP website](#) for more information.
- [ANTAR \(Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation\) Queensland](#)
- [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander SEQ Murri Service Directory](#)
- The Department of Education has implemented a [Parent and Community Engagement Framework](#) to assist with community engagement.

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses

The GC2018 RAP has a specific focus of increasing economic participation through Indigenous procurement. It is widely recognised that Indigenous businesses are more likely to employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Supporting Indigenous businesses can have a positive impact on Indigenous employment and Closing the Gap in your local community. OCG encourages schools to use Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses if possible, for the provision of goods and services as part of your RIQS project.

Further information about Indigenous businesses can be found at the directories provided below or by contacting the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programs team within OCG at [GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au](mailto:GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au)

- [Black Business Finder](#)
- [Supply Nation Indigenous Business Direct](#)
- [South East Queensland Indigenous Chamber of Commerce - Indigenous Business Directory](#)
- [Townsville Region Indigenous Business Network \(TRIBN\)](#)
- [Cairns Regional Indigenous Business Network](#)

## Need some ideas?

Below are some ideas that are aligned with the objectives of the RIQS program. Note that the success of individual applications is also linked to the application requirements on page 2.

### Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians

- Commence key school activities such as school assemblies with Acknowledgement of Country and of Traditional Owners.
- Install acknowledgement of Traditional Owner plaques at key locations within the school.
- Purchase of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags for your school.

### Participate in traditional activities

- Facilitate Traditional Indigenous Games and Sports - see [Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games manual](#).
- Traditional weaving activities for students.
- Activity on traditional painting techniques.
- Host a bush tucker day where students can sample a range of bush tucker.

### Learn about the people and places local to your school

- Students research local Traditional Custodians.
- Engage Elders and Traditional Custodians to discuss and share cultural knowledge and personal stories.
- Visit local places to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.
- Send a delegate of students/young leaders to represent the school at a significant community event.

### Integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and knowledge into your school

- Create a bush tucker garden with edible native plant species.
- Develop totems for the gardens using classroom materials.
- School based activities for key Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander events
- Integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages resources within curriculum activities
- Integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander videos and digital resources
- Develop an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mural at your school



## Language resources

Prior to European settlement, there were more than 250 distinct languages spoken in Australia. It's hard to know a precise number. As oral languages, they are traditionally not written down, and so are dependent on a strong population of language speakers for their survival. When these communities were disrupted, many languages were lost, however there is a strong focus on preserving and reviving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, and there are a number of digital resources available:

- OCG's [word of the week](#) campaign
- State Library of Queensland - [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander language resources](#)

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander digital resources

- Search for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content at [ABC online education - ABC Splash](#)
- State Library of Queensland [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queensland](#)

## Key dates

A RIQS project can also be aligned to significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander events and celebrations including but not limited to:

- Indigenous Literacy Day – 6 September 2017
- Anniversary of the National Apology – 13 February 2018
- National Close the Gap Day – 16 March 2018

## Other resources

Reconciliation Australia: [www.reconciliation.org.au](http://www.reconciliation.org.au)

The Global Education Program: [www.gc2018embracelearning.edu.au](http://www.gc2018embracelearning.edu.au)

The sporting events of GC2018: [www.gc2018.com](http://www.gc2018.com)

The Embracing 2018 Legacy Program for the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games: [www.embracing2018.com](http://www.embracing2018.com)

## Application checklist

- Consult with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups
- Consider opportunities to work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses
- Complete the application form, sign and email to [GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au](mailto:GC2018RAP@dtesb.qld.gov.au)
- On receipt of your letter of acceptance, sign and return with invoice for specified sum in your application
- Application process complete, commence delivery of project