

FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION AT STANNIES





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**Mr Peter Fitzsimmons
& Mrs Kyle Martinez
Leaders - First Nations
Education**



The stories and culture of First Nations people form part of the rich education of students at St Stanislaus' College. The College stands on Wiradjuri land and the ancestors of this land are recognised through story sharing and ceremonies during the school year as we move forward together with *Yindyamarra* (Respect Gentle, Polite, Honourable and do Slowly)

Our College Leaders - First Nations Education lead and support St Stanislaus' College in its commitment to being a culturally safe community that embraces the heritage, knowledge and values of all First Nations peoples. Mr Peter Fitzsimmons is a recognised leader within the College, and both he and Mrs Kylie Martinez as the Leaders - First Nations Education, participate in strategic planning, educational leadership and systems thinking to ensure our Indigenous students, families and staff are welcomed, experience success and forge new pathways to achievement and "a life to the full" (John 10:10).

CULTURAL TEACHINGS

Stannies Indigenous students meet weekly to discuss and practise many important aspects of Aboriginal Culture. The weekly cultural teaching meetings allow our Leaders - First Nations Education to discuss men's business and the important role of male role models within the family with the Stannies Indigenous students.







COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The College is a member of the Bathurst Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) and Junior AECG. The Stannies students are invited to local Bathurst AECG events and support the local community engagement in NAIDOC Week and Sorry Day. The Stannies students visit the Catholic Primary Schools in Bathurst, engaging with students in dance and didgeridoo playing.

LANGUAGE

There is a continuing interest at Stannies in developing a deeper understanding of Indigenous language with particular awareness of Wiradjuri. A particular, emphasis is placed on language learned in dance and song.

ACADEMIC AND TEACHER SUPPORT

The Leaders - First Nations Education provide individual support to students and parents in a range of academic matters, including school work, assessments and behaviour management, within and beyond the classroom. Along with the Inclusion Support Faculty, the Leaders - First Nations Education work closely with staff and students in developing Personal Learning Plans, assisting students set their academic and personal goals throughout the school year.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

The Leaders - First Nations Education and staff from the Pastoral Care Team provide support to students within the First Nationals Education program to talk and work with external services within Bathurst such as Headspace. Opportunities for academic and mental health support have led to continuing improved outcomes for students, such as increasing student retention rates and completing the HSC.

FAMILY

Connection with family is an important factor in supporting Indigenous students' enrolment, the majority of whom board at the College.



ST STANISLAUS' COLLEGE

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