

# Yiyili Aboriginal Community School



## Improvement Plan 2023-2026

Educating our children on Gooniyandi country

# Contents

Our strategic plan.....	3
A four-year plan.....	4
Analysis and discussion of data.....	5
A culture that promotes learning.....	6
Targeted use of school resources.....	7
An expert teaching team.....	8
Systematic curriculum delivery.....	9
Differentiated teaching and learning.....	10
Effective pedagogical practices.....	11
School-community partnerships.....	12
Afterword and contact details.....	13

# Our strategic plan

The Strategic Plan 2018-21 outlines the school's vision statement ('Educating our children on Gooniyandi country') and purpose statement ('To educate the children of Yiyili and its surrounding communities'). The school's strategic plan also states the school values and four main goals in order to provide clarity and direction in achieving our vision for the school. It was written to ensure the needs of our entire school community were being considered in the direction of our school.

Yiyili Aboriginal Community School's STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-26			
YACS's VISION		YACS's PURPOSE	
Educating our children on Gooniyandi country		To educate the children of Yiyili and its surrounding communities	
<b>WE VALUE</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gooniyandi language and culture</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Strong leadership and governance that is transparent and accountable</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Community involvement in all aspects of school life</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The fundamental role Aboriginal Education Workers play in the successful running of the school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Quality teaching and learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> A highly skilled teaching staff who ensure they deliver comprehensive, purposeful and differentiated teaching &amp; learning.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Culturally informed practise and a whole school two-way approach to teaching and learning</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships that bring value to our students' education</li> </ul>		
<b>OUR GOALS</b>			
<b>Students receive a strong, two-way education</b>	<b>Provide valued employment and quality professional training opportunities for Indigenous staff</b>	<b>Employment and retention of high quality teaching staff</b>	<b>Students are prepared for life</b>
<p><i>Staff, family and communities work together to:</i></p> <p>Provide students with a strong education in an inclusive, supportive and culturally responsive environment.</p> <p>Support students to value traditional language and culture alongside learning in English, Mathematics, STEAM &amp; other learning areas.</p> <p>Ensure that all members of Yiyili Aboriginal Community School support and value a whole school approach to two-way teaching.</p>	<p><i>Yiyili Aboriginal Community School aims to foster the professional development of AEWs by:</i></p> <p>Providing training opportunities for AEWs in order to continually upskill school workers from Yiyili and its outstation communities.</p> <p>Considering the need for career development opportunities for AEWs.</p> <p>Recognising the crucial support AEWs offer for students to feel comfortable within school grounds as well as a providing an important link between school and home.</p>	<p><i>Yiyili Aboriginal Community School ensures quality teaching and learning by:</i></p> <p>Recruiting high quality teaching staff</p> <p>Supporting teachers to deliver comprehensive, purposeful and differentiated teaching &amp; learning.</p> <p>Support teachers to draw upon best educational practise, including STEAM subjects, in order to ensure excellent student outcomes.</p> <p>Increasing staff retention &amp; longevity through job satisfaction and competitive terms and conditions.</p> <p>Requiring teaching staff to engage meaningfully in cultural awareness training as well as committing to learn from AEWs, families and community.</p>	<p><i>Yiyili Aboriginal Community School aims to prepare students for life by:</i></p> <p>Promoting the values of Prepare, Learn, Respect &amp; Care for all staff, students and community members</p> <p>Tailoring learning so students have the necessary English, Maths and STEAM skills for life, including those that prepare them for work.</p> <p>Valuing vocational education for our secondary students in the areas of hospitality, tourism and hands on trades such as mechanical, carpentry training.</p>

# A four-year plan

*This improvement plan is written to support the Yiyili Aboriginal Community School's Strategic Plan 2023-26.*

*This improvement plan is based around 9 key areas, as outlined in the National School Improvement Tool, and provides further detail in achieving Yiyili Aboriginal Community School's purpose of educating the children of Yiyili and its surrounding communities.*



# Analysis and discussion of data

Quality data and data analysis form the basis of a quality curriculum and the evaluation of student learning at Yiyili Aboriginal Community School. Through the collection and analysis of data in Literacy and Numeracy, we can ensure that the educational needs of students are being met at our school. We are committed to improving our analysis and discussion of data across all areas of the curriculum.

## Strengths

### **Collection of a range of results in Literacy and Numeracy**

*Teachers and independent consultants regularly collect data on:*

**English:** Phonemic Awareness, Letter Identification and Concepts About Print, Independent Reading Level (PM Benchmark).

Students are also assessed according to the EAL/D progress maps in Reading, Writing, Viewing and Speaking & Listening.

**Mathematics:** AICS Numeracy Portal on Number, Calculate and Measurement.

School leaders, alongside teachers, analyse NAPLAN data each year to assess ongoing student outcomes

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
More use of explicit individual targets and regular checking of targets	Teachers to create targets and refer to targets in their planning documents	Teacher term and weekly planning documents <a href="#">Ongoing</a>
Implementation of a new Numeracy program that is designed toward the specific needs of our students	Data on trials collated and discussed	Staff meeting minutes and Whole School and Term Planners <a href="#">Ongoing</a>
The development of a scope and sequence curriculum for Gooniyandi Language and Culture	Formalised scope and sequence for 2023	Curriculum being accessed by classroom teachers, in conjunction with Gooniyandi Language and culture teachers.



# A culture that promotes learning

*At Yiyili Aboriginal Community School we are committed to providing an environment that encourages student learning, where student learning is celebrated and children are encouraged to do their best at all times. We celebrate student learning in both Standard Australian English and Gooniyandi, and promote strong learning in Gooniyandi Culture. This must be done alongside the strong valuing of English and STEAM skills that will help to prepare our students for work later in life.*

## Strengths

### **Staff undergo training in student wellbeing and maintain healthy professional relationships with students**

In 2018 YACS staff commenced training with the Royal Far West team in student wellbeing, which helps staff to understand how best to interact with students and maintain positive classroom programs that work for our students. This programme continues to on a twice a term basis.

The school also uses the well-being programs Safe4Kids and Aussie Optimism programmes. This ensures all students are well equipped in making decisions and that the school is a positive and happy environment for all children.

### **Celebration of Gooniyandi language and culture**

The school employs a full-time Gooniyandi and culture teachers. Students participate in Gooniyandi classes every day. Culture classes run once a week and are usually conducted on-country.

Children engage in an overnight bush camp twice a term where they are taught cultural practices by Gooniyandi people on Gooniyandi country.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Ongoing improvement of the school grounds	Development of school oval, fenced, reticulated and grassed.	Funding generated and financial planning to invest in this major capital works
Engagement of community /parents/careers in student learning	School Open Days Community Events Student lead parent/teacher conferences	Events in the school calendar Evaluation of parent participation
Improved engagement and learning by Aboriginal Education Workers (AEW)	Online TAFE courses in Education Support, Early Childhood and Gooniyandi Language. Staff to oversee	AEW participation and completion of learning modules

	and work with AEW in and after school hours	
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# Targeted use of school resources

*Yiyili Aboriginal Community School is committed to providing teachers and students with the best quality resources available to ensure that their educational experience is the best it can be. We are committed to using our school budget in a sensible manner to ensure that teachers are able to provide the highest quality education program that they can. We believe our students need to be exposed to the most recent and best quality resources to ensure that they are prepared for life beyond school.*

**Strengths**

**Teachers are encouraged to investigate and procure top quality resources**

School spending on resources is significant and teachers are strongly encouraged to find quality teaching resources and use them in their classroom.

**All classrooms equipped with Interactive Whiteboards and iPads**

Every classroom at Yiyili Aboriginal Community School is equipped with an Interactive Whiteboard projector and a class set of iPads and iPad keyboards.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Upgrade of school internet to improve connectivity and use of ICT  Improved stocktaking and asset register	Implementation of Starlink to improve internet  Work with IT company to keep register UpToDate and functional	Improved access to online services including Royal Far West therapy sessions  Asset register present on OneDrive

# An expert teaching team

*Being one of the most remote schools in Australia, Yiyili Aboriginal Community School acknowledges that there are challenges in recruiting and retaining the highest quality teachers. Despite this, we believe that by providing an excellent working and living environment alongside the best quality professional development and mentoring programs, we can ensure that we maintain an expert teaching team every year.*

## Strengths

### **Teachers are provided with ongoing training and support in English and Mathematics programs**

The school provides teachers with significant training in the Teaching with Intent, including ongoing lesson observations and demonstrations by an external consultant throughout the school year. The school supports leading teachers in positions of responsibility in respective key learning areas to be professional developed and are given time to work with other members of staff.

The school also receives ongoing training each term by the AISWA Numeracy Consultant.

### **A strong teacher self-evaluation program**

The PRICE (Promoting Reflective, Innovative and Collaborative Educators) teacher performance and development cycle was developed specifically for Kimberley schools and helps teachers to set realistic and helpful targets to improve their teaching.

### **Strong incentives for maintaining quality staff**

YACS recognises that it has become increasingly difficult to recruit quality teaching staff. The school continues to provide outstanding accommodation and continues to. financial incentives to teachers to ensure that teachers feel valued in our school and community.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Improved engagement and learning by Aboriginal Education Workers (AEW)	Teacher engagement and mentoring programme to assist AEW online training. School commitment to providing release time for study	Planned timetable in place. AEW enrolment in online learning <a href="#">Semester Two 2023</a>
Improvement in staff mentoring	Leading teachers work in small groups to lead teaching and learning groups in key learning areas	Integration into yearly Professional Learning calendar <a href="#">Ongoing</a>
More sharing of teacher self-evaluation and goals	Teachers to share goals they have set and their progress with other staff at staff meetings	Staff meeting minutes <a href="#">Ongoing</a>



# Systematic curriculum delivery

*At Yiyili Aboriginal Community School we are committed to providing systematic, quality curriculum delivery across all areas of the Western Australian curriculum as outlined by SCSA. Through efficient and effective planning, teaching and assessment we can ensure that our students receive a well-rounded and deep education across all learning areas, ensuring that they are prepared for a rich and successful life following their schooling. Our School Curriculum Plan 2018 outlines the methods we use to ensure effective, systematic curriculum delivery.*

## Strengths

### **Teaching with Intent pedagogy**

Teaching with Intent is a well-researched pedagogy that delivers effective, systematic Literacy instruction appropriate for both EAL/D and Standard Australian English speakers. As its name suggests, this approach is designed to accelerate students' progress in English learning and so is able to cater for students who may have gaps in their learning, and in doing so aims to have all students working at an age appropriate level. We deliver Accelerated Literacy lessons daily, supported by systematic assessment to ensure the effectiveness of the program and next steps.

### **MacqLit**

MacqLit is being trailed at YACS targeting students with low level literacy in the upper Primary and High School range. Many of these students have traditionally been poor attenders or have other outlying challenges in their learning.

### **Focus on making curriculum relevant to students**

We acknowledge that children at our school come from a unique cultural background in the context of Australia. We are committed to ensuring that our curriculum is delivered in a manner that celebrates the richness of Gooniyandi tradition and culture, as well as celebrating the importance of Aboriginal people in Australia and the historical context of the Kimberley.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Implementation of a new Numeracy program that targets the specific needs of our students	Research of the RoleM Programme 2023. Implementation and evaluation of the RoleM program in 2024	Data collection and trial for year 3 students <a href="#">Semester Two 2023</a> Training and Professional development for teachers <a href="#">2024</a>
Strengthening curriculum delivery in HASS and Science through the teaching of Culture and Language	Implementation of Two-way Science Development of a Gooniyandi Language and Culture Scope and Sequence Curriculum	Whole School Plans <a href="#">2023</a>

Improved communication with parents, families and wider community regarding Curriculum	School Open Days Community Events Student lead parent/teacher conferences	Events in the school calendar Evaluation of parent participation
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## Differentiated teaching and learning

*Students at Yiyili Aboriginal Community School present with a diverse range of educational needs. These may range from students having missed some or significant periods of school, to students presenting with the impact of Early Life Trauma. The school focuses on ensuring that our educational programs are differentiated for each individual student, and that every student has the opportunity to access our teaching and learning programs through differentiated teaching practice and individual support programs. We are committed to ensuring this practice continues to improve at our school.*

### Strengths

#### **Individual Learning Plans for students at risk**

We have identified students at risk through data collected in regard to the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data, as well as students that are identified as being two or more years behind their expected level in English or Mathematics. We create ILP for all students who are EAL/D learners as well as students with special needs.

#### **Close monitoring of individual progress by school leadership**

Individual students are closely monitored by their teachers, and this information is relayed to school leadership to help identify any students whose may need additional, targeted support to ensure their educational needs are met.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Targeted programs of intervention and extension	Small-groups for students in each class in intervention and extension in Literacy (MacqLit) and Numeracy with in-class extra support by qualified teacher once a week	MacqLit assessment, student attendance data In-class support for target groups of students in Numeracy <a href="#">2023</a>
Communication with parents around ways to support and extend their learning	School Open Days Community Events Student lead parent/teacher conferences	Events in the school calendar Evaluation of parent participation <a href="#">2024</a>

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# Effective pedagogical practices

*At Yiyili Aboriginal Community School, we recognise that the best way to improve student learning is through highly effective, researched-based teaching approaches in our classrooms. We ensure that we are using educational approaches that are best-practice and keep abreast of new research and development in all areas of the curriculum. The school principal ensures that our teaching approaches provide the best opportunities for our students, while teachers must ensure that every classroom provides an environment where effective teaching and learning takes place every day.*

## Strengths

### **Strong focus on research-based pedagogical practices**

The school is committed to delivering research-based programs throughout the school. Teaching with Intent is a well-researched program that has had a positive influence in Aboriginal Independent Community Schools over a long period of time.

### **Each teacher is observed and provided with feedback**

Every teacher in the school goes through a review process with Literacy and Numeracy consultants as well as the school principal.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Implementation of a new Numeracy program that targets the specific needs of our students	Research of the RoleM Programme 2023. Implementation and evaluation of the RoleM program in 2024	Data collection and trial for year 3 students <a href="#">Semester Two 2023</a> Training and Professional development for teachers <a href="#">2024</a>
The development of a scope and sequence curriculum for Gooniyandi Language and Culture	Implementation of Two-way Science Development of a Gooniyandi Language and Culture Scope and Sequence Curriculum	Whole School Plans <a href="#">2023</a>

# School-community partnerships

*As an Independent Community School, Yiyili Aboriginal Community School was set up by the community to educate their children on Gooniyandi land. The school forms the backbone of Yiyili and the surrounding communities, providing their main source of employment and a community hub for the people of Yiyili. We are committed to improving our ongoing involvement with the community, and ensuring that the children and people of Yiyili and the surrounding communities have opportunities to be involved with the school and experience success.*

## Strengths

### **High number of community workers employed at the school**

The school is the main employer of community people, who work as educators within classrooms, grounds-people, cleaners, cooks and receptionist.

### **Ongoing bush-trips to promote community involvement**

Each class goes on two trips per term out on country, taking community people with them to teach about Gooniyandi language and culture on Gooniyandi country.

### **The Yiyili Aboriginal Community School board drives school decision-making**

### **Laarri Art Centre within the school is an integral part of the community**

The Laarri Art Gallery provides an opportunity for community members to showcase their painting and artefacts to visiting tourists from all over Australia and the world. The school utilises this resource as an opportunity to provide teaching and learning opportunities for students, including hospitality through the Bush to Belly programme.

IMPROVEMENT OUTCOMES	ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
Improved use of Art Gallery as a 'Tourist Hub', providing a learning space for students	Development of coffee trailer outside Laarri Arts Centre	High School students making and selling coffee and food to tourists <a href="#">2023</a>
Increased involvement of non-working parents at school	Open Days Community Events	School Facebook Page updates <a href="#">2023</a>

**With our rich history and promising future, 2023-26 will be a period of growth and excellence for Yiyili Aboriginal Community School.**

We are committed to the ongoing improvement of our school alongside our core vision and purpose.

'Educating our children on Gooniyandi country'



**YIYILI ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

YIYILI COMMUNITY

GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY

CENTRAL KIMBERLEY, WA

08 9191 7195

[www.yiyilischool.wa.edu.au](http://www.yiyilischool.wa.edu.au)

[principal@yiyilischool.wa.edu.au](mailto:principal@yiyilischool.wa.edu.au)