

FIRST NATIONS STATEMENT FOR CARCLEW

Acknowledgement of Country

Carclew, or Tutu Karralikanungku (Looking Out From Above), is located on the unceded land of the Kurna people. We express our respect to the Kurna people today and all those who have come before and will follow. We extend our respect to First Nations people across all areas where we work.

This land has always been Kurna land. Tutu Karralinkanungku is used with permission from Kurna Warra Pintyanthi (KWP) as the name given to Carclew. It reflects what was, is and what will be. Located on a hill overlooking Karrowirra Pari (River Torrens) this has always been a place to keep watch, care for and look out from above.

The organisation, Carclew, is named after the house, which is named after a town in Wales. A colonial history on Kurna Land. It is our responsibility to deliver on Carclew's 52-year legacy with deep respect and connection to Kurna Yarta.

As we deliver our programs and continue to 'look out' for children and young people from all cultures here at Carclew, we cherish our place in this house, on this hill on Kurna Land.

Vision for Reconciliation

Carclew envisions a place where First Nations children, young people, and artists fully benefit from the creative opportunities available in South Australia.

We are committed to ensuring the broader Australian community acknowledges, respects, and celebrates the cultures, contributions, knowledge, and histories of Australia's First Peoples.

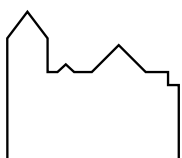
Our commitment to reconciliation is demonstrated through our project delivery, youth arts leadership, and organisational governance.

We make the following commitments as an organisation:

Commitment to Cultural Protocols and Learning

At Carclew, respect for First Nations peoples and communities is a guiding principle and embedded in our history and functions. Carclew will:

- Ensure all staff and board members have a minimum of one annual cultural awareness training and participate in a minimum of one cultural immersion activities.
- Actively listen to First Nations cultural leaders to guide our cultural learning strategy, ensuring it evolves as advised.
- Follow Creative Australia, Arts SA and other nationally and internationally respected protocols for working with First Nations artists including, but not limited to: [Protocols for using First Nations Cultural and Intellectual Property in the Arts - Creative Australia](#).



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Programs and Opportunities for First Nations Peoples

Carclew provides opportunities for First Nations artists and communities. Carclew will:

- Acknowledge Reconciliation Week annually with events that amplify and elevate First Nations voices and our collective responsibility as Australians towards a more unified future.
- Celebrate NAIDOC Week with artistic events that empower the community.
- Support the professional development of artists through fellowships, residencies, and grants through clear targeted programs.
- Employ First Nations staff members across all areas of our business and ensure all staff are aware of their rights around cultural leave and support as a public sector employee are known and understood.
- Set clear targets around First Nations staff retention, employment pathways and professional development.

Respect and Inclusion in Our Work

We recognise the specific creative and cultural aspirations of young First Nations people. Our programming is informed by deep listening and consultation, ensuring it is genuinely led by the needs of the communities we serve. Carclew will:

- Maintain First Nations representation on our board and staff, employing best practice to ensure comfort and accountability.
- Implement a First Nations advisory body to inform our work and support our staff.
- Engage with First Nations businesses across all areas of our operations.
- Ensure a high proportion of our funding programs are dedicated to First Nations artists and quarantine funding for this purpose as well as ensuring First Nations representation on all funding assessment panels.

Strategic Goals and Actions

Aligned with our strategic plan for 2024–2028, Carclew will:

- Amplify and elevate youth arts, focusing on empowering First Nations leadership.
- Ensure art, culture, and creativity are accessible to every child and young person in South Australia with clear pathways and access points for First Nations children.
- Enhance education, skill-building, and career development pathways, prioritising programs for First Nations young people and other seldom-heard voices.
- Foster a sustainable organisation that welcomes ideas, innovation, and growth to ensure we have future funding to support First Nations programs.

Through these efforts, Carclew aims to connect all children and young people to the world of creative possibilities where the cultural pride and expression of First Nations peoples are celebrated and respected.

Conclusion

Always was. Always will be.

Carclew stands on Kurna land and is committed to reconciliation. We recognise our role in addressing past and present injustices experienced by First Nations peoples. We are inspired to make a difference through our ongoing dedication to the principles of respect, relationships, and opportunities.

This statement integrates the elements from Carclew's previous Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and the strategic plan for 2024–2028, ensuring that the commitment to First Nations peoples is deeply rooted in the organisation's vision and operations. First Nations is the terminology used in this document and encompasses all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with an aim to honour all identities.

