



welcome respect

Australian Principals Associations Professional
Development Council (APAPDC)
PO Box 112 (9 George Street), Hindmarsh SA 5007
T: 08 8245 9800 F: 08 8340 7800
E: apapdc@apapdc.edu.au

Some APAPDC projects include:

- **Dare to Lead** (www.daretolead.edu.au)
- **MindMatters** (www.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters)
- **KidsMatter** (www.apapdc.edu.au/kidsmatter)
- **Leaders Lead** (www.apapdc.edu.au)

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acknowledge

Arranging a ***Welcome to Country*** or an ***Acknowledgement of Country*** acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and shows respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as Australia's First Peoples.

A ***Welcome to Country*** is where a traditional Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander custodian or Elder welcomes people to their land. An ***Acknowledgement of Country*** may be performed by anyone.

Acknowledgement of Country

Providing an Acknowledgement of Country is a way to demonstrate respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and the ongoing relationship of traditional owners with the land.

The following are two examples of acceptable words that may be used when giving an Acknowledgement of Country:

● ***//we would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the (appropriate group) people.***

or

● ***//we would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and pay my/our respects to the Elders both past, present and future for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia.***



The text can be modified to suit the occasion and audience. APAPDC recommends using a generic Acknowledgement of Country as given in the second example above, unless you are certain who are the traditional owners of the area.