

Narragunnawali  
Reconciliation in Education

**NARRA  
GUNNA  
WALI**



# NARRAGUNNAWALI AWARDS 2023

**INFORMATION KIT**



## ABOUT NARRAGUNNAWALI: RECONCILIATION IN EDUCATION

Narragunnawali: Reconciliation in Education is a program of Reconciliation Australia that supports schools and early learning services in Australia to develop environments that actively engage the hearts and minds of future generations to contribute to the reconciliation process.

*Narragunnawali* (pronounced narra-gunna-wally) is a word from the language of the Ngunnawal people. It means alive, wellbeing, coming together and peace and is used with permission of the United Ngunnawal Elder's Council.

Reconciliation Australia is an independent, national, not-for-profit organisation promoting reconciliation by building stronger relationships, respect and trust between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

## ABOUT THE NARRAGUNNAWALI AWARDS

The Narragunnawali Reconciliation in Education Awards are the first and only national awards program in Australia that recognises and celebrates educational environments implementing outstanding reconciliation initiatives – across the Government, Catholic and Independent sectors.

Finalist schools and early learning services are acknowledged for the ways in which they strengthen relationships, build respect, and provide meaningful opportunities in the classroom, around the school or early learning service, and with the community.

Held every two years since 2017; the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 are the fourth awards to celebrate outstanding commitments to reconciliation within the education sector.



## AWARD CATEGORIES

The two categories for the Narragunnawali Awards are:

**Schools:** This category incorporates primary, secondary, senior secondary and combined schools within the Government, Independent or Catholic sectors.

**Early Learning Services:** This category incorporates early childhood education and care, preschool, family day care and out of school hours care services.

## NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

*Nominations and applications for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 open on Monday 30 January 2023.*

### Nominations

Parents, carers, staff, students, and community members are encouraged to nominate a school or early learning service for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023.

In nominating a school or service, you will be asked why you wish to nominate them and what your relationship with the school or early learning service is (parent, teacher, community member etc).

You can nominate more than one school or early learning service.

Once a school or early learning service is nominated, the Principal/Director will be notified via email and encouraged to submit an application for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023.

**Nominations can be submitted online via the [Narragunnawali Awards page](#) from Monday 30 January, 2023.**

### Applications

Any school or early learning service with a **RAP** can start an application for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023, even if they have not received a nomination.

To start an application, members of the school or early learning service's RAP Working Group can follow prompts under the '**Your RAP**' tab when logged into the Narragunnawali platform.

While all RAP Working Group members will have technical capacity to start and save an application, only the Principal/Director (*defined by the individual listed in the position of 'Principal/Director' on the RAP*) will be able to submit it to Reconciliation Australia.

Applicants must meet all of the eligibility criteria below.

**Applications for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 open on Monday 30 January 2023 and close 23:59 AWST on Friday 5 May, 2023.**

## ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible to apply for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023, a school or early learning service must meet each of the following criteria:

1. Schools and early learning services must have a published Narragunnawali Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) **at the point in time that the application is submitted to Reconciliation Australia by the Principal/Director.**
  - Published RAPs have been approved by the Principal/Director and, following review and publication by Reconciliation Australia, are visible on the **Who has a RAP?** page on the Narragunnawali platform.
  - Schools and early learning services that would like to apply for the Awards, but haven't yet created a RAP, can do so **via the Narragunnawali platform** prior to starting their application.
  - The application can be started while the RAP is still in draft form but will only be able to be submitted to Reconciliation Australia by the Principal/Director once the RAP has been published. Please aim to submit your RAP to Reconciliation Australia at least 2 weeks prior to applications closing.
2. Schools or early learning services must be able to demonstrate that they have been actively carrying out reconciliation initiatives that meet the Selection Criteria during the years 2022 and 2023. The Selection Criteria are summarised in the next section (below).
3. Only one application can be submitted per individual school or early learning service.
4. Schools or early learning services that were Finalists in the Narragunnawali Awards 2021 are ineligible to re-apply for the Narragunnawali Awards until 2025. This does not preclude schools or early learning services that were Finalists in the Narragunnawali Awards 2017 / 2019 season for re-applying for an Award in 2023.
5. All submitted applications must attach evidence (in PDF or video URL link format only) that the application has been endorsed by the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Instructions on how to provide this evidence are included within the Narragunnawali Awards online application form.
6. The Principal/Director of the school or early learning service's RAP Working Group must submit the application to Reconciliation Australia. This is to ensure that the submitted application has undergone executive-level review and approval prior to submission to Reconciliation Australia.



## SELECTION CRITERIA

All schools and early learning services submitting an award application must respond to the following Selection Criteria. The selection criteria is aligned to the Narragunnawali RAP Framework and associated RAP Actions. Strong applications will draw on RAP Action commitments and will demonstrate a whole-school or service commitment to reconciliation, that engages all staff, students and community members.

Note: There is a 3000-character limit on responses to each of the criteria.

### **Criterion 1 - RELATIONSHIPS:**

the school or early learning service has strengthened relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous peoples in the classroom, around the school or early learning service and with the community, to achieve outstanding outcomes towards advancing reconciliation.

### **Criterion 2 - RESPECT:**

the school or early learning service has fostered a high level of respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and contributions in the classroom, around the school or early learning service and with the community, to achieve outstanding outcomes towards advancing reconciliation.

### **Criterion 3 - OPPORTUNITIES:**

the school or early learning service has established or extended opportunities for staff, students, children, families and community members to achieve outstanding outcomes towards advancing reconciliation in the classroom, around the school or early learning service, and with the community.

Responses to these Criteria are to be submitted within the Narragunnawali Awards online application form under the '**Your RAP**' tab when logged into the Narragunnawali platform.



## JUDGING PROCESS

### Assessment

**Round 1: Longlist selection:** A review committee will assess all submitted and eligible applications to select a longlist of ten applications for each category.

**Round 2: Shortlist selection:** The review committee will interview each of the ten longlisted schools and early learning services respectively, via video conference to select a shortlist of six applications for each category. These interviews will take place from 19 – 23 June 2023 and longlisted applicants must be available for interview during these dates.

**Round 3: Finalist selection:** The judging panel will then review each of the shortlisted applications to select the three finalists for each category. The Narragunnawali Awards 2023 finalists will be announced late July 2023.

**Round 4: Winner selection:** The judging panel will then conduct a visit to each of the three finalist schools and three finalist early learning services to determine the winner in each category. The winners of each category will be announced at the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 presentation event in November 2023.

### Judging panel – site visits

The judging panel will visit each of the six finalists (three schools and three early learning services), accompanied by Reconciliation Australia staff and a small film crew, during August and September 2023.

The judging panel visits will involve interviews (both on film and with the judges) with members of the school or early learning service's executive, RAP Working Group members, parents, students/children and key stakeholders in the community such as members of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community involved in the school or early learning service's reconciliation initiatives.

Finalist schools and early learning services will need to be available for the judging panel visits over the following periods: **7 August – 8 September 2023**

Reconciliation Australia will work with the finalists to coordinate the judging panel visits accordingly.

### Finalist Workshop and Awards Presentation Event

Two representatives from each of the finalist schools and early learning services will need to be available to attend the finalist workshop and awards presentation event in November 2023.

The representatives will take part in a one-day workshop/forum, facilitated by Reconciliation Australia's Narragunnawali team in advance of the Awards presentation event.

Travel and accommodation will be provided for up to two people from each of the finalist schools and early learning services. Finalists can request to send more representatives at their own expense.

## PRIZES

The winners of each category of the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 will receive \$10,000 in prize money to support reconciliation initiatives within the winning school or early learning service community.

All finalists and winners will receive:

- A short film showcasing the reconciliation initiatives in their school or early learning service
- A commemorative trophy and certificate
- A featured article in Narragunnawali News

Finalists will also have access to special engagement and networking opportunities facilitated by the Narragunnawali team and will become part of the Awards Alumni network.



## CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions, or wish to find out further information about the Narragunnawali Awards 2023, please contact us: [narragunnawali.org.au/contact-us](https://narragunnawali.org.au/contact-us)

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following Terms and Conditions apply to the Narragunnawali Awards 2023:

1. By starting or submitting a nomination and/or application for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023, you warrant that you are a representative (e.g. Principal/ Director, staff member) or affiliate (e.g. local community member, parent of an enrolled student) of the school or early learning service in the nomination/application, and that you have read, understood, and agreed to abide by these Terms and Conditions.

Instructions on how to submit an application on behalf of a school or early learning service for the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 are included within the online Narragunnawali Awards application form and form part of these Terms and Conditions. See the 'Application Process' section above for more information.

2. Reconciliation Australia reserves the right to declare any application ineligible or invalid if the person submitting the application on behalf of the school or early learning service:
  - submits an application that is incomplete;
  - provides information that is false or misleading;
  - is considered to be unable to represent or promote the Narragunnawali Awards 2023 in a satisfactory manner;
  - is involved in any conduct or activity that is illegal, fraudulent, or may damage the reputation of Reconciliation Australia and the Narragunnawali Awards 2023;
  - does not comply with or meet these Terms and Conditions or the Eligibility Criteria.
3. The review committee and judging panel's decisions will be made by their own sole and complete discretion. Only one winner will be announced in the Schools Category, and only one winner will be announced in the Early Learning Services Category. While feedback regarding applications can be given upon request, the judging panel will not enter into correspondence regarding the winning entries.
4. Members of the review committee or judging panel are not permitted to submit an application for a school or early learning service for an award during their review/judging year.
5. In the case that they are selected as finalists, representatives from schools and early learning services must be available for the judging panel visits to the school and early learning service over the following period:  
**7 August – 8 September 2023**  
Reconciliation Australia will work with the finalists to coordinate the judging panel visits accordingly.
6. Two representatives from finalist schools and early learning services must be able to travel to Sydney for the awards ceremony and finalist workshop in November 2023.
7. Finalists must be willing to receive media attention for recognition of their efforts, and for the film and wider media to be shared on public platforms.
8. Prizes are not transferable or exchangeable. The \$10,000 prize money is presented to the winners in good faith, and while the winners are not required to formally report on how the prize money has been spent, it is intended to go towards reconciliation initiatives within their school or early learning service community. Reconciliation Australia may wish to publish follow-up stories on social media and/or in print publications, intending to share the reconciliation initiatives of the winners with the wider Australian community.
9. Reconciliation Australia collects personal information and other information relating to schools or early learning services that have been nominated/applied for a Narragunnawali Award to administer the Narragunnawali Awards 2023, judge applications and present prizes. Those applying on behalf of a school or early learning service must ensure that relevant parental/guardian consent has been received for all students that have been filmed, photographed, or otherwise represented in an application submission. Written consent must also have been received from any third party filmed, photographed, or otherwise represented in an application submission. Application submissions will remain the property of Reconciliation Australia, and may be reproduced in electronic or print forms as per the **Reconciliation Australia Privacy Policy** and in alignment with the Australian Privacy Principles contained in schedule 1 of the Privacy Act 1988. The films and photographs captured during the judging panel visits will also remain the property of Reconciliation Australia and may be reproduced in electronic or print forms.