

Indigenous Naming Policy

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1. Purpose

Flinders University acknowledges Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of this country. The University may demonstrate this acknowledgement by naming or co-naming University campuses, geographical spaces or dedicated facilities with traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages, when permitted to do so, as set out in this policy.

2. Scope

- a. This policy applies to any use of traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages to name or co-name any part of the University's physical environment.
- b. This policy does not apply to the naming of University assets or activities in recognition of individuals or organisations – see the [Naming Policy](#).
- c. This policy does not affect any University facility or other asset named with traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages prior to the establishment of this policy.

3. Policy statement

- a. Flinders University operates on the lands of many Traditional Owners and custodians. The University may acknowledge Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people as the First Peoples of this country by naming or co-naming the following with traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages:
 - i. University campuses
 - ii. campus geographical spaces (dedicated as such under the Campus Master Plan)
 - iii. University facilities specifically dedicated to the education, research or student engagement of Indigenous people.
- b. When selecting an Indigenous language name the following factors will be considered:
 - i. traditional place names and notable geographic features local to the area
 - ii. educational themes and concepts relevant to the activities that take place at the campus or in the facility
 - iii. other relevant factors, as decided by the University and the Indigenous people involved.
- c. All proposals for an Indigenous language name must:
 - i. be developed in consultation with the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous), Flinders' Elders Network, and the Director, Property, Facilities and Development, and
 - ii. include engagement with locally connected Indigenous communities and custodian(s), relevant to the location of the campus or facility, and

- iii. ensure any necessary consents or permissions are obtained from those communities and/or their representative organisations, and
- iv. be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor (via the Chief of Staff) for consideration and, if supported, recommended to Council for approval.
- d. The University acknowledges that traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages are an integral part of the cultural heritage of the Indigenous community. Permission to use an Indigenous language name is granted to the extent possible at the time and may be subject to change, for example, if the language evolves.
- e. When traditional place names or words from Indigenous languages are used for naming purposes, the University will collaborate with the Indigenous communities to ensure accurate spelling, and information will be displayed at the location to explain the context, history, timeline, and/or language group from which the name originates.

4. Authorities

Council	Approve the naming or co-naming of University campuses, geographical spaces or features, or facilities with traditional place names or words from Indigenous language, on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor.
Approval Authority	Vice-Chancellor
Responsible Officer	Chief of Staff
Approval Date	23 May 2025
Effective Date	23 May 2025
Review Date*	2028
Last amended	
CM file number	CF25/474
* Unless otherwise indicated, this policy or procedures still apply beyond the review date.	

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