

## Strengthening connections and community

### Prince Alfred College

#### Pilot 2

Four students from Prince Alfred College who participated in the SACE Recognition of Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Learning pilot have shared their experiences of the program and what had the greatest impact on their learning.

#### Kalen

Through participation in the program, Kalen increased his understanding and appreciation of different Indigenous cultures, which he could then share with younger generations.

Kalen explained, "The most significant change was learning new things from other boys and their culture because it was getting recognised. As a group, we were coming together, talking, and learning. For example, we were taught the positioning for dot painting and canvases, and even learned dances. We had a couple of opportunities to express ourselves and dance at functions. Learning from the other boys, especially since we're from different areas, was really good."

#### Rome

Rome found the agency offered through participation in the Recognition of Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Learning most beneficial.

Rome shared, "The biggest change was taking on my own learning and doing it myself, without a teacher forcing me to do work. Compared to other subjects where we have a teacher telling us what to do every lesson, this was student-led. You come in, sit down, and know what you're going to do. That was the biggest change."

#### Anthony

Anthony saw the visibility and appreciation of Aboriginal cultural activities within the school community increase during the course of his participation in the pilot.

Anthony reflected, "I feel like everything's happening now, like it's going the way it was meant to. One little thing happened, and now everything else is popping up and coming together. I think everyone really likes it when we do these things. The whole school enjoyed it when we danced in front of them. It was good to show everyone what we do."

#### Neil

Neil benefited from the strengthened connections and sense of community among the Aboriginal students that was fostered through participation in the pilot.

Neil said, "I probably enjoyed getting more comfortable with the boys because we all became friends. It was great because I'm from Darwin, and it was good to learn from other boys from different parts of the country. Learning from them and getting to know more was beneficial because it's better when more Aboriginal people get closer."