

KNOX GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MONDAY 6TH JULY - WEDNESDAY 15TH JULY 2020

CAPE YORK INDIGENOUS IMMERSION

WUJAL WUJAL, BURU, JAJIKAL, GREAT BARRIER REEF



“

Our boys will connect and learn from the custodians of the oldest surviving culture in the world.

They will give their time & passion, and bring back a rich understanding of Indigenous Australia.”

For the first time, Knox Grammar is giving students the chance to travel to the Indigenous homelands of the Cape York Peninsula to continue our legacy of supporting Indigenous communities.

Students will have the rare opportunity to make real connections with Indigenous Australians living on their own land with a deep connection to their culture and history. They will learn from Elders and Traditional Owners, and play with young Indigenous children eager for a window to the outside world.

The group will stay in safe areas on privately held Aboriginal land, not accessible outside of this setting. They will learn, make, gather, eat, give, grow and connect with Traditional Owners and Indigenous Australia.



Please note that this is an initial itinerary, and may change due to the customary obligations of our Indigenous partners.

Day 1- The Journey Begins

- ☉ Students depart early morning
- ☉ Crocodile tour on the Daintree River
- ☉ 4WD bus to Wujal Wujal
- ☉ Welcome to Country Ceremony
- ☉ Set up camp
- ☉ Stories around the camp fire

Days 2-4 - Buru Homeland

- ☉ Day hike to Buru Homeland
- ☉ Welcome to Country ceremony
- ☉ Work on community service project
- ☉ Axe making workshop
- ☉ Rainforest walk with Traditional Owner
- ☉ Plenty of time to get to know Elders
- ☉ Hike to sacred men's initiation site
- ☉ Swim in pristine rainforest waterholes
- ☉ Cook for and eat with Elders
- ☉ Stories around the campfire
- ☉ Nightly reflections on the immersion

Days 5-8 - Dikarrba Homeland

- ☉ Welcome to Country smoke ceremony
- ☉ Games and stories with local children
- ☉ Community project work
- ☉ Cool down with a swim in the local creek
- ☉ Bush medicine and dreamtime stories
- ☉ Fishing at the beach
- ☉ Mussel & mud crab hunting in mangroves
- ☉ Visit local art centre and meet artists
- ☉ Painting workshop with Elder
- ☉ Reflections on the immersion each night

Day 9 - Great Barrier Reef

- ☉ Farewell Dikarrba community
- ☉ Travel South to Cape Tribulation
- ☉ Snorkel at 2 remote sites on the GBR
- ☉ Final reflection and debrief

Day 10 - Return Home

- ☉ Drive to Cairns and fly home



Safety is our number one priority and, as a result, we have devoted an entire section of our website to it, which you can access at <http://www.redearth.edu.au/safety/>

- ☉ We stay in safe, fenced-off areas away from the centres of towns
- ☉ There will be at least two Red Earth team members and teachers with the students at all times who have been briefed on the dangers of the region
- ☉ All Immersion Leaders are professionally trained and certified in Remote First-Aid and 4WD off-road driving
- ☉ A remote first-aid kit, satellite phones and Remote Location Beacons are kept with the group at all times. We also keep a 4WD vehicle near the group at all times
- ☉ Most importantly, the Traditional Owners and Elders will be guiding the project and cultural activities
- ☉ Every morning, a safety briefing will be held to remind people of the dangers of working on the project
- ☉ Other safety equipment will be used as appropriate depending on the project
- ☉ Most communities have medical centres with healthcare professionals on call 24/7 in case of emergencies
- ☉ For life-threatening emergencies, operations are passed on to the Royal Flying Doctor Services which operates in the region



FAQ

How do Elders and Traditional Owners feel about people coming onto their land? Will the group be intruding?

We are an organisation driven by our Indigenous partners in the homelands of remote Australia. Our mission is to give Indigenous people the help they need if they wish to welcome and open the hearts of young Australians to their country, culture, and way of life. We only make our resources available if we're asked to help. Traditional Owners are the ones that decide if and when people should come onto their land, not us.

What is the pre-departure program like?

Red Earth takes its responsibility to ensure that each person attending an immersion gives, grows and leads very seriously. For each group, we design a pre-departure program tailored for the specific region and itinerary. We meet with the group twice in the lead up to departure to ensure everyone feels comfortable with the journey that awaits them.

What amenities are available? Will there be showers and bathrooms?

At every location, we will have access to showers or a swim at least once a day and flushing or drop toilets.

What food will be available?

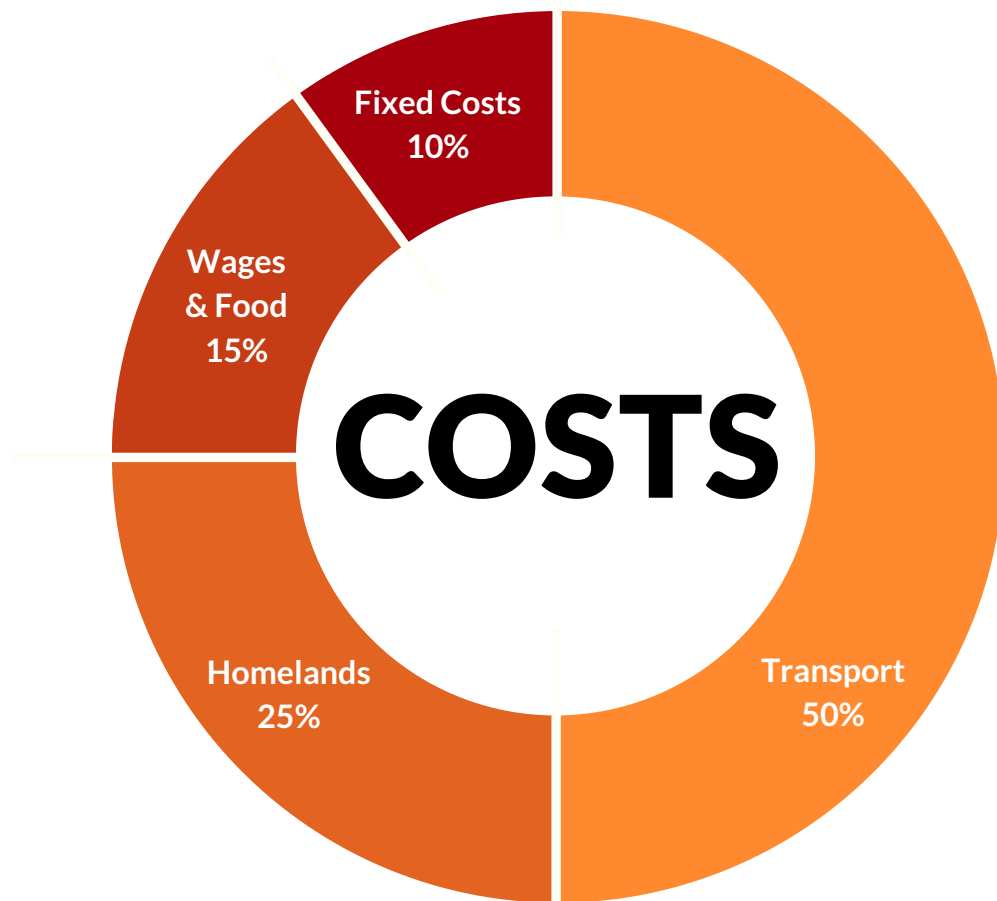
While there will be opportunities for the group to forage bush foods, we bring all the catering with us. We cater for every kind of dietary requirements and encourage students to participate in the preparation of food.

What is the service project?

An important part of Red Earth's mission is to help create sustainable homelands so that Traditional Owners can live on their ancestral land. Elders tell us what their vision is for their homeland and the type of work they would like help with. The group then work with Traditional Owners - not for them - to make this happen.

What else will we do?

When not working on the project, the group will get to experience traditional Aboriginal culture through the stories and Dreaming places of the elders. Elders and Traditional Owners will share their culture with the group by visiting sacred places, telling stories and welcoming them to the country with a traditional ceremony. The group might also read to students at the local primary school and play games with them. There will also be free time to allow everyone to unwind with a football, Frisbee or a book. Every night, leaders will lead the group in a reflection session to build a narrative for the experience and ensure everyone is getting the most out of the trip.



The Immersion fee is \$3,750 per student for 9 nights and 10 days.

- Approximately 50% of this goes directly to **transport**, including flights, four-wheel-drive buses, support vehicles and fuel. The remoteness of our partner communities make these costs a necessity.
- A key aspect of our mission is to provide training and economic opportunity to those who live in remote communities and **Homelands** so that these regions may become sustainable and self-sufficient. We pay Traditional Owners for the use of their land, and invest in infrastructure and sustainability projects.
- We supply three **healthy meals** a day plus snacks, as well as all of the equipment needed to make the immersion comfortable and safe.
- The trip will be lead by 2 qualified Red Earth **staff**, and accompanied by at least 2 school staff.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Dates: Monday 6th July - Wednesday 15th July 2020

Length: 9 nights, 10 days

Fee: \$3,750

Staff: 2 Red Earth staff, 2 Knox staff (minimum)

Information Night: 17:00, Monday 9th March 2020