



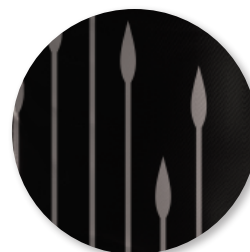
NEWINGTON COLLEGE INDIGENOUS JERSEY

National Reconciliation Week takes place this year between Thursday 27 May and Wednesday 3 June, and as part of Newington’s recognition of our Indigenous community, the College has created an inaugural Indigenous jersey. Tomorrow, the 1sts and 2nds teams from all seven of Newington’s winter team sports – AFL, Rugby, Football, Cross Country, Rifle Shooting, Volleyball and Fencing – will wear this jersey. It will also be worn by the senior teams of Newington’s prep schools, Wyvern and Lindfield.

Late last year, the AFL Support Group initiated discussion about an Indigenous guernsey that could be worn as a symbol of respect when Indigenous teams travel from the Northern Territory to Newington to play matches each year. From that idea, it quickly became clear that there was a much bigger opportunity. A cross section of stakeholders across the school were engaged, including parents, staff and, importantly, all Indigenous students at the College. This group took stewardship of the project and has proudly brought it to life.

The decision was made to work with a local Aboriginal artist, given the urban setting of the College, to ensure the artist’s work was relevant to the College now and in the future. This decision was also made to acknowledge the fact that Aboriginal people are living everywhere today and to recognise that the traditional owners of these lands are the Gadigal people. These are ancient Indigenous hunting grounds, with Stanmore Road originally an ancient walking trail.

Acclaimed local artist ‘Blak Douglas’ (aka Adam Hill) was selected, and students met with him a number of times to provide input into and feedback on the design of the jersey. This jersey reflects Stanmore’s history as a hunting ground and walking path of the Gadigal people. It features simple line graphics which are based on centuries-old rock carvings found in the area, rather than the dotting you might be more used to seeing in Aboriginal artwork. The College hopes this jersey is received as a gesture of recognition and remembrance of those traditional owners and custodians who cared for the country that we now share to live, work and play.



WARI

The spear, often made from grass trees, is an important hunting and fighting tool of Gadigal.



DAMARA

The hands represent connection to the land and to one another. They capture the idea of presence.



GAMURA

The whale is the symbol of dreaming, a hallmark of the Gadigal people and connection to the sea that surrounds Gadigal land.



BUMARANG

The boomerang is synonymous with Indigenous culture and is also used for hunting and fighting.



NGALAYA

This word from the language of the Eora Nation translates to mean ‘ally’ and ‘friend in battle’. It was chosen by the Indigenous students of Newington without any influence from anyone else. We chose this word because we know that everyone who wears the Newington College Indigenous jersey in 2021 and beyond is now an ally, accepting the responsibility to support their Indigenous brothers and sisters.