Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives

When planning a course of study, teachers should identify ways to strengthen students’ appreciation and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives by encouraging engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander:

- frameworks of knowledge and ways of learning
- contributions to Australian society and cultures.
- ways of life and social contexts.

The Indigenous perspectives section of the QCAA website has a collection of resources to help teachers engage with Indigenous histories and peoples — [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/577.html](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/577.html).

The QCAA’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Handbook (available from [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/8848-teaching.html](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/8848-teaching.html)) includes information about:

- establishing a supportive school and classroom environment
- consulting and collaborating with local Indigenous communities
- dealing with sensitive issues
- selecting appropriate resources and texts
- removing barriers to student success and engagement.

Specific advice for Legal Studies

The following organisations provide legal aid in a culturally appropriate way:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation (QEA) for legal services (Brisbane)
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Legal Services (Townsville and Surrounding Districts) Ltd
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (Qld) Ltd [www.atsils.com.au](http://www.atsils.com.au)
- Bidjara and South West Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Legal Services (Charleville)
- Ipswich Regional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation for Legal Service
- Mackay and District Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation for Legal Aid Services
• Njiku Jowan Legal Service Ltd (Cairns)
• South East Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Legal Services (Toowoomba)
• Tharpuntoo Cape York Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (Cairns)
• Wakka Wakka Legal Aboriginal Corporation (Murgon)
• West Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Corporation for Legal Aid
• Women’s Legal Service www.wlsq.org.au.