

A culture that promotes learning

There are **three key components** to our emerging culture: collaboration, positive mindset when we think about our young people, and a strength-based approach where we are proactive in building critical social-emotional skills.

Collaboration: It is okay to have great plans but unless staff, parents, and students are connected and have input into planning not much will change. *The first of our three foundations is collaboration.* All staff have been involved in shaping what our learning environment should look and feel like. Staff listed all those behaviours and attitudes that we don't want to see in our school and ceremonially burned them (that is the image that accompanies this story). We then recorded the positive behaviours that we want to have as the basis of our learning culture.



Likewise teachers asked these same questions of their classes and I have collated student responses. It is no surprise that staff and student responses were very similar.

Positive Mindset: This is summed up by the phrase “Young people have fires within waiting to be lit” as opposed to “Young people have problems (or are the problem) that we need to fix”

Proactively build skills: At Kilcoy we aim to view young people as assets, by their strength and potentialities, and not by their deficits and to proactively build social-emotional skills rather than reactively fix problems. Stay tuned to newsletters to discover how we do this.