

Foundation, Qantas sign partnership



THE Australian Indigenous Education Foundation (AIEF) is

flying high after joining in a new five-year partnership with Qantas.

Qantas is the foundation's airline partner, meaning AIEF staff and students will be able to meet and take part in a range of workshops and career-related activities.

The new agreement was announced at the launch of Qantas' third Reconciliation Action Plan.

Qantas CEO Alan Joyce said the agreement would provide even greater opportunities for Indigenous students to travel across Australia to participate in a number

of AIEF programs.

"Our Reconciliation Action Plan is particularly focused on education as a pathway to employment and we will work with AIEF to provide employment opportunities for the well-educated Indigenous students that graduate from AIEF schools across New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia," he said.

Opportunity

"Qantas employees will be offered the opportunity to join the AIEF Mentor Program and we will also host AIEF students on 'experience visits' to learn more about the wide-range of career opportunities within the aviation industry."

AIEF CEO Andrew

Penfold said the foundation's goal was to support the education of more than 2000 Indigenous children 'to empower them to realise their potential, break the cycle of poverty, take responsibility for their own future, and become leaders and role models to serve their communities and the common good'.

"Delivering a national program in a cost-efficient way is vital to the continued growth and success of AIEF," he said.

"Qantas' support underpins the delivery of our programs as it allows travel for both AIEF staff and students to meet with each other, visit schools and universities and partake in job-readiness workshops and career-related activities."