

Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools

In line with Child Safe Standard 1 and 5, all Victorian government schools must actively prevent and respond to racism, and report incidents to the department.

This policy covers 3 key actions:

- preventing racism: schools must maintain culturally safe and inclusive environments.
- responding to racism: schools must have clear, timely, safe and inclusive processes to respond to incidents of racism.
- reporting racism: schools must report incidents of racism in eduSafe Plus, as per the Managing and Reporting School Incidents (Including Emergencies) policy.

For more information link or QR code:

<https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/preventing-addressing-racism-schools/policy>



More information and support

Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. (VAEAI) represents the Koorie Community in relation to education policy development and strategic programming at the local, state and national levels. **You can contact our Community Engagement Team**

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Reporting Racism

In Schools

VAEAI

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vaeai@vaeai.org.au

www.vaeai.org.au

How to Report Racism

1

Report to your school.

Report incidents to your school if your child:

- has been the target of racial discrimination or abuse.
- has seen others experience racism or religious discrimination.

Your school is obligated to take appropriate action and provide support.

2

Contact the Report Racism Hotline

Report the incident to the Report Racism hotline if you are:

- not comfortable reporting to the school.
- not happy with the school's response.

The **Report Racism hotline** is available 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) on **1800 722 476**.

In an **emergency**, contact Victoria Police on **000**.

If your concern is **non-urgent** but you would like to contact the police, call **131 444**.

3

Contact the Report Racism Hotline

Write to the department's Report racism line via email at **report.racism@education.vic.gov.au**

Contact Counselling and Support through Parentline

Contact Parentline to get support from a qualified counsellor. Parentline is available 8am to midnight, 7 days a week (including public holidays) on **13 22 89**.

Parent Complaints

Parent complaints are best managed at the local school level.

When a parent is not satisfied with the outcome achieved with the school, they may contact the regional office. Parents have an additional opportunity for resolution by contacting the Department's central office, if they remain unsatisfied with the outcome or resolution achieved at the regional office.

Schools must develop their own local complaints policy. The **Minimum Standards for School Registration** require all schools to have evidence of their local policy and procedures in relation to complaints.

Bullying Student Engagement

Schools must address bullying as part of their Student Engagement Policy (or have a separate standalone Bullying Prevention Policy) and implement strategies to prevent bullying as part of their duty of care. Contact your school for more information.