

PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING RACISM IN SCHOOLS POLICY COMMUNICATION



Racism is not tolerated at Frankston Heights Primary School

Frankston Heights Primary School is committed to providing a culturally safe, welcoming and inclusive environment where racism, religious intolerance and racial or religious vilification are not tolerated.

We value and celebrate the diversity of cultures, identities, backgrounds, beliefs and experiences within our school community. Every student has the right to feel safe, respected, included and supported to learn and participate fully in school life.

Preventing and responding to racism is the responsibility of everyone in our school community. We work in partnership with students, staff, families, carers and communities to promote cultural safety, inclusion and respect.

How Frankston Heights Primary School prevents racism

Frankston Heights Primary School implements the Department of Education's [Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools Policy](#).

We work to prevent racism and promote cultural safety by:

- providing learning opportunities that develop students' understanding of cultural diversity, inclusion, racism and its impacts
- promoting respect for First Nations cultures, histories, identities and experiences
- creating learning environments where students' cultures, identities and beliefs are respected and valued
- supporting staff to build their cultural understanding and capability
- identifying and addressing practices, behaviours or biases that may contribute to racism or exclusion
- providing clear, safe and accessible pathways for students, families and carers to report racism or religious intolerance.

What to do if your child experiences or witnesses racism

If your child experiences or witnesses racism, religious intolerance or racial or religious vilification at school, please report it to us. You can speak with your child's teacher or a member of the Principal Class team. Reports will be taken seriously and responded to promptly, safely and appropriately.

Report Racism Hotline

If you are not comfortable reporting racism to the school, or you are not satisfied with the school's response, you report racism to:

- the Department of Education's Report Racism hotline via email report.racism@education.vic.gov.au or phone 1800 722 476 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)

- [Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc.](#) (VAEAI) via email vaedai@vaedai.org.au or phone 03 9481 0800 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)
- Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission (VEOHRC) [online](#), via email complaints@veohrc.vic.gov.au or phone 1300 292 153 (Monday to Friday 10am to 2pm).

Additional support

Following an incident of racism or religious intolerance, students and families may also access community-based support, including:

- [Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc. \(VAEAI\)](#) – for First Nations students and families
- [Jewish Community Council of Victoria](#) – for Jewish students and families
- [Islamic Council of Victoria](#) – for Muslim students and families.

How Frankston Heights Primary School responds to racism

When a report of racism or religious intolerance is made, Frankston Heights Primary School will:

- take the report seriously and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of affected students
- listen to the student and/or family and provide appropriate support
- respond promptly and take appropriate action to address the incident
- communicate with affected students and families about the school's response, while respecting privacy and confidentiality
- use appropriate educative and restorative approaches where appropriate
- review incidents and school practices to identify opportunities to strengthen our approach and prevent similar incidents from occurring.

In accordance with Department of Education requirements, incidents of racism, religious intolerance and racial or religious vilification are managed and reported through the Department's established incident reporting processes.

More information and support

For further information about preventing and addressing racism in Victorian government schools, visit the Department of Education's [Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools Policy](#).

For information about reporting racism or religious discrimination, including information available in community languages, visit the Victorian Government's [Report racism or religious discrimination in schools](#).

If you require an interpreter to contact the school, information is available through the Department of Education's [Guide for Families: How to use an interpreter to contact your school](#).