



PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING RACISM

Information for Families

Racism is not tolerated in Victorian government schools.

Healesville High School is committed to providing a culturally safe, inclusive and respectful environment where all students, families and community members feel valued, supported and safe.

The Department of Education's *Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools Policy* outlines expectations for Victorian government schools to:

- actively prevent racism
- respond appropriately to incidents of racism
- provide culturally safe environments for students and families
- ensure clear reporting pathways are available to the school community. ([Department of Education, Victoria](#))

Further information is available at:

[Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools Policy](#)

What is racism?

Racism can include:

- racist comments, jokes or language
- stereotyping or exclusion
- online racism
- intimidation or harassment
- discrimination based on race, culture, religion, ethnicity, language or appearance.

Racism can negatively impact a student's:

- wellbeing
- sense of belonging
- confidence
- engagement and learning outcomes. ([Department of Education, Victoria](#))

What should families do if racism is experienced or witnessed?

If your child experiences or witnesses racism at school, we encourage families to report the incident as soon as possible.

Students and families can:

- speak with a classroom teacher
- contact a Year Level Manager
- speak with a member of the Wellbeing Team
- contact the Assistant Principal or the Principal
- contact the school office for support.

Healesville High School is committed to:

- taking reports seriously
- responding respectfully and promptly
- supporting students impacted by racism
- implementing appropriate follow-up and wellbeing supports
- maintaining culturally safe and inclusive processes. ([Department of Education, Victoria](#))

Reporting racism

Families can report incidents directly to the school by:

- contacting the school office
- emailing the school
- arranging a meeting with relevant staff.

If families are uncomfortable reporting concerns directly to the school, or are dissatisfied with the school's response, incidents can also be reported through the Department of Education's Report Racism Hotline.

Report Racism Hotline

Phone: 1800 722 476

Email: report.racism@education.vic.gov.au

Further information is available at: [Report Racism or Religious Discrimination in Schools](#)

Interpreter support is also available through the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450. ([Victoria Government](#))

Our commitment

Healesville High School is committed to:

- creating culturally safe learning environments
- promoting inclusion, diversity and belonging
- ensuring all students feel respected, safe and supported.

Everyone in our school community has a role in helping to create a school culture built on Community, Opportunity, Respect and Endeavour.