



# Safe Schools

Department of Education and Training





What is Safe Schools?



**The Safe Schools program supports schools to create safe and inclusive environments for all students, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) students.**



## Safe Schools overview

- Safe Schools is a formal and public commitment that schools make to create a safe and inclusive environment for LGBTI students.
- Since March 2017, the program has been managed and delivered by the Department of Education and Training.
- All Victorian government secondary schools are now 'safe schools'.
- Non-government and primary schools can also access support from the Safe Schools Unit.



# How does the program support schools?

1. **Training** for school staff
2. **Consultation** and advice in relation to the needs of individual students
3. **Support** to review **school policies**
4. **Links** to evidence-based information, resources and local support services





## Schools undertake four steps to become a Safe School

**To implement the Safe Schools program, schools take the following four steps:**

1. Write your **commitment statement** to create safe and inclusive environments for LGBTI students
2. Outline your **action(s)** that will support this commitment
3. Identify the **outcome(s)** your school would like to see
4. Publicly **communicate** your school's commitment to your school community.





# What schools do to create safe and inclusive environments

## Examples of school actions:

1. Challenging discriminatory language and behaviours
2. Reviewing school policies to ensure they are inclusive of LGBTI students (anti-bullying, student engagement, uniform)
3. Organising training for school staff
4. Increasing LGBTI visibility around the school (e.g. posters)
5. Supporting student groups and student – led activities (e.g. events, assemblies etc)
6. Reviewing resources in the school library
7. Improving facilities to increase gender diversity inclusion
8. Conducting staff and student surveys to assess LGBTI inclusion





## Safe Schools Unit

Department of Education and Training

Phone: 9637 3799

[Safe.schools@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Safe.schools@edumail.vic.gov.au)

[cecilio.rachel.e@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:cecilio.rachel.e@edumail.vic.gov.au)

[www.education.vic.gov.au/safeschools](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/safeschools)