

# How to report racism and discrimination at your child's school

Your child deserves to be respected, valued and treated equally in school communities.

### Discrimination or abuse based on religion or race is not tolerated

If your child has been the subject of, or has witnessed, religious or racial discrimination or abuse, we encourage their parent or carer to report it to their school.

School staff can ensure appropriate action and support is provided.

You may wish to make a formal complaint about the incident to the school or regional office.

For further information, see: <a href="https://www.education.vic.gov.au">www.education.vic.gov.au</a> (search: feedback about schools).

#### Report an incident on the report racism hotline

#### Report Racism Hotline 1800 722 476

report.racism@education.vic.gov.au

The hotline is available from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you are not comfortable reporting an incident to your child's school, or if you are not happy with the school's response, you can contact the Department's Report Racism Hotline.

The hotline will provide you with a range of services including:

- discussing a complaint and the options available for next steps
- facilitating contact with regional officers and support services.

## Get telephone counselling and support through Parentline

#### Parentline

13 22 89

www.parentline.vic.gov.au

Parentline is available from 8am to midnight, seven days a week including public holidays.

You may also wish to contact Parentline to seek counselling and support from a qualified counsellor who is independent from the Department.

Parentline is a confidential and anonymous counselling telephone service for parents and carers of children from birth to 18 years old.

Counsellors are available to talk about a wide variety of parenting issues, including discrimination or abuse at school.

#### **Useful information**

For further information on reporting religious or racial discrimination and abuse in schools see: <a href="https://www.education.vic.gov.au">www.education.vic.gov.au</a>

(search: Reporting religious or racial discrimination and abuse in schools).

For more information and resources about responding to bullying, including racist bullying, see: <a href="https://www.education.vic.gov.au">www.education.vic.gov.au</a>

(search: Bully Stoppers).

## National Translating and Interpreting Service



Parents or carers requiring translation services can contact the Department or Parentline by calling the National Translating and Interpreting Service on 13 14 50.

