

THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF STATE SCHOOL ORGANISATIONS The national voice of parents of children in Australia's public schools and their school communities

Bullying No Way – Parents Support National Day of Action

The Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO), national peak voice of parents in government schools, would like to add its support for today's Annual National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence.

This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say **Bullying. No Way!** and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. ACSSO has been a strong supporter of this event since its inception in 2011

ACSSO Board Chair, Kevan Goodworth stated, "Research reveals clearly that one in four students in schools in our nation is bullied."

"Bullying is a very serious and complex issue, which is not restricted to schools – it exists in workplaces, homes and the wider community. Our young people often reflect modelled behaviour."

"With the ever increasing use of online technology we are seeing bullying appear in many different mediums – as adults we must continue to raise our awareness of how to keep our young people safe online"

"As the national peak parent organisation we are proud to be involved in the Bullying No Way website: <u>www.bullyingnoway.gov.au</u>

"Schools should be a safe place for our children," Mr Goodworth continued.

The National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence is endorsed by Australia's Federal, state and territory education ministers, and all jurisdictions are working together to address bullying and violence in schools.

These strategies and programs for students, parents, schools and the wider community are available on the Bullying No Way! website.

Mr Goodworth concludes, "Of paramount importance now is the genuine active engagement of school, parents and community, with this framework, for us to create social change and say NO to bullying in any form."

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