

Anti-Racism Policy

Information for parents and carers

Racism impacts on student wellbeing, participation at school and learning outcomes. Racism and racist behaviour are not tolerated in NSW public schools.

What is the policy about?

The [Anti-Racism Policy](#) promotes respect and harmony in the school environment. It aims to ensure that educational opportunities are fair for all students regardless of their culture, language or religious background. The policy:

- recognises the impact of racism on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
- ensures that schools hold high expectations of all students and that no one group of students is stopped from reaching their full potential because of their cultural, religious or linguistic background
- requires all members of the school community to think about their own behaviour and make sure their actions don't result in other people experiencing racism
- requires all staff to complete training so they understand their responsibilities in preventing racism
- requires each school to have a trained Anti-Racism Contact Officer.

What is an Anti-Racism Contact Officer?

An Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) is a teacher nominated by the principal who assists in leading anti-racism education in the school. The ARCO assists the principal by providing:

- support to build staff understanding of the impact of racism on student learning and wellbeing
- advice to students and staff on how to respond when they see or hear incidents of racism
- advice on what strategies the school can implement to address racism.

The ARCO is trained to provide advice to parents and carers, and teachers and students about the procedure for resolving reports about racism. If requested, the ARCO can also act as a [support person or advocate](#) during the process.

What should I do if my child is experiencing racism at school?

If your child is experiencing racism at school, you should encourage them to report it to a teacher or the school's Anti-Racism Contact Officer, or you may report it on your child's behalf.



How do I make a report about racism at school?

Any member of the school community, including parents and carers and staff and students, can make a [report](#) about racism. Reports of racism can be made to principals, Anti-Racism Contact Officers or any member of staff. Reports can be made in person, by email or phone, and also online by using the department's [feedback and complaint form](#).

What about racism online?

School-related racism that occurs online, such as students directing racism towards individual students or cultural groups, should be reported to the school as above. For advice about how to stay safe online, see [Online safety](#) on the eSafety Commissioner website.

Where can I get more information?

For more information see [Anti-racism education](#).

Interpreter assistance

If you need an interpreter to help speak to the school or to make an appointment with a staff member please ring the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language.

Tell the operator the school's phone number and the operator will ring the school and get an interpreter on the line to help you with your conversation.

If you need an interpreter during meetings with school staff, ask the school to organise one. The school will arrange an onsite, online or telephone interpreter, depending on availability. You will not be charged for interpreting services.