

**14 February 2018**

**Schools empowered with new resources to take action on bullying on 16 March**

School communities across Australia will take action and share their commitment to a world where bullying and violence have no place.

The Chair of the Education Council, Minister Susan Close, said schools across the nation are getting ready to say '*Bullying. No Way!*' to mark the eighth National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence in a range of local activities and events.

This year, *Bullying. No Way!* has released *Launchpad* – a resource that supports school staff in teaching and talking about bullying.

"*Launchpad* is a guide to help schools create learning environments that reinforce respect and inclusion, and communicate to everyone that bullying is never okay." Minister Close said.

"Launchpad helps schools lay the foundations for bullying prevention, by connecting them to quality evidence-informed resources to enrich their whole-school approach to bullying."

"The National Day of Action builds on a unified national presence – keeping schools, parents, students and the community working together to address this important issue," Minister Close said.

The eSafety Commissioner, Julie Inman Grant said this year Australian schools are invited to participate in interactive [Virtual Classrooms](#) on the National Day.

"We know cyber-bullying doesn't always stop at the school gate and can follow children into their homes and into their pockets through their devices,"

"It's important we educate and teach young people about using technology, showing respect online and helping develop digital resilience skills in today's online world." Ms Grant said.

The *Bullying. No Way!* website offers schools access to quality resources and materials, including the *Launchpad*, lesson plans, classroom discussion starters and engagement activities.

To find out more and to register your school visit: [www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is supported by: Office of the eSafety Commissioner, Kids Helpline, headspace, Alannah & Madeline Foundation, Facebook, Instagram and Media Heads.

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