

Problematic Sexual Behaviours

Programs

In Queensland state schools, a range of programs are available that help educate students about sexual development and appropriate sexual behaviours. These include:

- The Australian Curriculum – Health and Physical Education
- The Respectful relationships education program
- The Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum.

In consultation with the school community, principals may choose to develop or adopt these, or other programs to educate students on problematic or harmful sexual behaviours. However, this aspect of the curriculum is not mandatory (with the exception of the Australian Curriculum) and no centralised records are kept on whether schools undertake this or not. The Department actively promotes both the *Respectful relationships education program* and the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum*.

- **Respectful relationships education program**

The *Respectful relationships education program* is a primary prevention program focused on influencing behaviour change to prevent undesirable social consequences such as domestic and family violence. Whilst it doesn't explicitly mention harmful sexual behaviours, it supports students to develop pro-social behaviours that lead to equitable and respectful relationships. Further information about the *Respectful relationships education program* is available at the following link, including a range of resources available for parents.

<http://education.qld.gov.au/parents/information/respectful-relationships/index.html>

- **Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum**

The *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* was developed by the Department of Education and Training, in partnership with the Daniel Morcombe Foundation, to teach children about personal safety and awareness. Classroom lessons are provided for three phases of learning (Prep – Year 2, Year 3 – Year 6, and Year 7 – Year 9) and are aligned with the Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education. Several of the lesson plans include references to sexual behaviour (**Attachment 1**).

Student Protection Procedure and Guidelines

The *Student Protection Guidelines* (**Attachment 2**) and *Student Protection Procedure* (**Attachment 3**) provide detailed advice and guidance to school staff on how to appropriately respond to student protection matters. Part F of the *Student Protection Guidelines* specifically covers student sexual relationships and provides information on the differences between normal sexual behaviours and problem sexual behaviours in young people. Relevant legislation is also included to educate staff on when a sexual relationship is unlawful.

Cybersafety and Reputation Management

Cybersafety awareness is an ongoing focus for the Department and DET's Cybersafety and Reputation Management team deliver presentations to schools and students across Queensland. The focus of these sessions is to support parents in educating their children on the legal and social implications of sharing and/or distributing explicit images of themselves or other young persons. The slides from the presentations and other resources that are made available to students and the school community are included in **Attachment 4**. The Department's Cybersafety and Reputation Management webpage also provides detailed guidelines to assist principals in responding to incidents involving Cyberbullying and Child Exploitation Material (**Attachment 5**).

True Relationships & Reproductive Health (formerly Family Planning Queensland)

True Relationships & Reproductive Health (True) is a non-profit organisation that has worked closely with the Department over a number of years. True has released a 60-minute online training program specifically developed for state school staff which educates them on the sexual behaviours traffic lights framework. The framework assists staff in categorising sexual behaviours as being normal, concerning or harmful, and provides early intervention techniques when concerns are raised. A link to the framework is provided below and is also referenced in the Department's *Student Protection Guidelines*. A range of resources are available on True's website for parents and staff, including the book *Is this normal?* which specifically explores children's sexual behaviours.

<http://www.true.org.au/Resources/shop#!/Traffic-Lights-brochure/p/57318729>

<http://www.true.org.au/Resources/shop#!/Is-this-normal/p/57318418/category=18401035>