

# Unwanted sexual behaviour and sexual harassment fact sheet for students

## Unwanted sexual behaviour and sexual harassment

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Unwanted sexual behaviour or sexual harassment by another student is never ok. There are things you might want to do if another student has behaved this way towards you or someone else.

But first, let's look at:

- what sexual behaviour is
- what unwanted sexual behaviour is
- what sexual harassment is.

## Sexual behaviour

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Sexual behaviour includes:

- kissing
- hugging
- sexual talk
- sexting
- touching
- fondling
- oral sex
- penetration of the vagina or anus with a penis, finger or other object.

## Unwanted sexual behaviour

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Sometimes, unwanted sexual behaviour is called 'harmful sexual behaviour'.

Sexual behaviour is unwanted and can be harmful if you did not consent to it.

## Consent

Sexual consent is a voluntary agreement



# Fact sheet for students

## What you can do about unwanted sexual behaviour and sexual harassment

There are different things you can do if you feel that another student has done something sexual to you without your consent or has sexually harassed you.

You might want to:

- talk to and get support from a friend
- tell your parent or carer
- report it to someone at your school. This might be a teacher, school leader, wellbeing leader, pastoral care worker, year level co-ordinator or someone else
- tell another adult who you trust – for example a relative or family friend
- get support from a health professional or counsellor
- get information and advice from a legal professional
- report a crime to police.

## What schools do about unwanted sexual behaviour and sexual harassment

When you tell someone at your school about unwanted sexual behaviour or sexual harassment, certain things will happen.

This includes:

- you will be listened to, taken seriously and supported
- the Principal will be told – it's their job to make sure everyone in the school is safe
- sexual abuse will be reported to the Child Abuse Report Line (Department for Child Protection) – it's their job to help children and young people to be safe from abuse
- behaviour that might be against the law will be reported to police – it's their job to investigate crimes and help the community to be safe

- your parent or carer will be told – unless the police or the Department for Child Protection have told the school not to contact your parent or carer
- plans will be made to support all students involved and keep everyone safe.

## What may happen to the student who did the unwanted or harmful sexual behaviour

Sometimes the school might suspend or exclude the student who did the unwanted or harmful sexual behaviour. This is not to punish them. It gives the school time to put a plan in place to keep everyone safe. If police are investigating a crime, the school might **not** be able to suspend or exclude the student who did the behaviour. This is because when a student is suspended or excluded, they have the right to know why and respond to the concerns about their behaviour. This could get in the way of the police investigation. If this happens, your school will talk to you and your parent or carer about how they will support you to be and feel safe.

Sometimes the best way to support you to be safe is for the student who did the harm to be in a different class, have different breaktimes or for them to do their learning somewhere else. If the police are investigating a crime, the school might **not** be able to do these things as it could get in the way of the police investigation. If this happens, your school will talk to you and your parent or carer about how they will support you to be and feel safe.

# Fact sheet for students

## Where you can get help outside of school

### Health professionals and counselling

You can get health services and counselling in person, online and over the phone from different places.

#### eHeadspace

[eHeadspace](#) provide free counselling and support for young people aged 12 and over, and their families and friends. You can contact them via webchat, email or on 1800 650 890, 7 days a week, 9am to 1am.

#### Kidshelpline

[Kidshelpline](#) is a free counselling service for children and young people aged 5 years and over. You can contact them via webchat, email or on 1800 551 800, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### Lifeline

[Lifeline](#) provides free counselling 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 131 114. Online chat is available 7pm to 4am.

#### 1800RESPECT

[1800RESPECT](#) provides free counselling, information and support for people who have experienced sexual assault or domestic and family violence. You can call them on 1800 737 732, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### Relationships Australia

[Relationships Australia](#) provides counselling for children and young people who have experienced sexual abuse - phone 1800 408 408.

#### SHINE SA

[SHINE SA](#) provides sexual health services and counselling, phone 8300 5300. You can also talk confidentially to a SHINE SA nurse for free on their sexual health line Monday to Friday 9.00am to 12.30pm, phone 1300 883 793.

#### Uniting Communities

[Uniting Communities](#) provide counselling for children and young people who have experienced sexual abuse or sexual assault, phone 1800 615 677.

#### Yarrow Place

[Yarrow Place](#) rape and sexual assault service provides services for people aged 16 years and over. This includes a 24-hour crisis response for recent rape or sexual assault and counselling support. Phone 1800 817 421, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

#### Legal help

You can get free legal advice and help with legal questions.

#### Legal Services Commission South Australia

[Legal Services Commission SA](#) provide free legal advice on their legal help line, phone 1300 366 424 and through their webchat. Both are available 9am to 4.30pm weekdays (except public holidays). You can make an appointment to meet with a legal adviser at one of their offices.

#### Youth Law Australia

[Youth Law Australia](#) is a legal service that helps children and young people with legal problems. You can get free, confidential legal information and help on their website or by emailing [advice@yla.org.au](mailto:advice@yla.org.au). You can also call them on 1800 950 570 9am to 5pm weekdays (except public holidays).



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### Contact

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