



# ROWVILLE

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## SECONDARY COLLEGE

### Respectful Relationship - Secondary Schools

#### What is Respectful Relationships?

Respectful Relationships is about tackling family violence through education.

Rosie Batty, CEO of the Luke Batty Foundation “the school community is an essential part of social reform by modelling a culture of respect through the whole school, not just by teaching respect in the classroom”.

Just like other major social and health issues such as smoking and road toll, evidence shows that family violence can be prevented by working across the whole population (in this case, all schools) to address the attitudes, beliefs and knowledge that support violence.

The Victorian Government is heavily investing in resources to deliver the Respectful Relationships and as part of this initiative Victorian schools will be supported to review their practices and policies, and model respectful relationships and gender equality across the whole school community.

A good education is about more than simply getting good marks. It is about becoming a member of society and succeeding in life – knowing how to build respectful relationships is key to achieving this. When young people build positive relationships with their teachers and peers they feel safer and happier at school, are more resilient and have positive social attitudes. Positive relationships increase a young person’s sense of social connectedness and belonging to school and family, and result in better health and academic outcomes.

Further information about Respectful Relationships is available on the Department of Education and Training website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/respectfulrelationships](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/respectfulrelationships)

As was the case in 2016/2017 teachers will also be supported to deliver the initiative with age-appropriate teaching and learning materials to be delivered through the ConnectEd program in term 2 and term 3. These evidence-based materials are designed to enable teachers to develop student’s social and emotional capabilities, build positive, healthy and respectful relationships, make responsible decisions and create positive gender relations. The initiative will also provide resources to best support young people who are affected by family violence.

