



New online safety education hub for schools

Dear Principal

My name is Julie Inman Grant, and I am Australia's eSafety Commissioner (we call ourselves 'eSafety').

On behalf of everyone at eSafety, I would like to thank you for your efforts in helping our children and young people stay safer online. We understand online safety can be a significant challenge for schools, especially keeping up with evolving risks, behaviours, technologies and out of school online interactions.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline how eSafety can support your efforts in this area, including the development of an exciting new **eSafety Schools' Hub**.

How eSafety can help

For those of you who may be less familiar with our role, eSafety is Australia's independent regulator for online safety. We started in 2015 as the Children's eSafety Commissioner and are now at the forefront of the fight against online risks and harms faced by adults as well as children.

eSafety coordinates online safety education and prevention efforts across Australia, with the cooperation and support of many stakeholders and partners. Our website ([eSafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au)) provides a wealth of evidence-based resources, professional learning and advice for teachers, school leaders, students and parents/carers on how to be informed and safe online.

Importantly, I want you to know that we have legislated powers to help when members of your school community are experiencing serious online harms, through our four reporting schemes:

- [Cyberbullying](#) – for serious cyberbullying of young people under the age of 18.
- [Image-based abuse](#) – for the sharing, or threat to share, intimate images or videos online.
- [Adult cyber abuse](#) – for certain types of online abuse of adults, including school staff or members of your school community.
- [Illegal and restricted online content](#) – for illegal and restricted content online, such as material that shows or encourages child sexual abuse, terrorism or other extreme violence.

We work with law enforcement and support agencies like Kids Helpline and headspace to provide a coordinated approach to supporting schools and young people who report to us under these schemes.

eSafety Schools' Hub

As part of our commitment to help schools prevent and reduce online harms, I am pleased to share our new [eSafety Schools' Hub](#). The Hub is a gateway to a range of resources to help you develop a whole-school approach to online safety, access professional development, support teaching and learning, respond to online incidents, and more.

It brings together key resources from our website, including our Toolkit for Schools, Best Practice Framework for Online Safety Education, factsheets, posters and flyers, along with new downloadable resources specially created to help you share important online safety messages with your school community.

The Hub has been developed in consultation with members of the National Online Safety Education Council – our forum for regular engagement between eSafety and representatives of Government, Catholic and Independent school sectors across every state and territory.

My ask of you

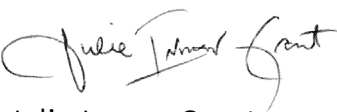
eSafety's mission is to help safeguard Australians at risk from online harms and to promote safer, more positive online experiences. As outlined above, we aim to achieve our mission through a range of preventative and protective services for the Australian community.

We have seen that in many situations, simply knowing where to go for help with serious online harms can be absolutely crucial to the safety and wellbeing of our children and young people.

To this end, I strongly encourage you to use the materials provided in the **eSafety Schools' Hub** to raise awareness of eSafety across your school community, through your newsletter, website and social media, displaying posters around your school, and any other opportunity available. Together, we can help to ensure every student, parent, carer and teacher is aware of how we can prevent and respond to serious online harms.

I trust that the new **eSafety Schools' Hub** is a valuable resource for your school community to continue working towards safer, more positive online experiences.

Yours faithfully



Julie Inman Grant
eSafety Commissioner

