

School Community Safety Order Scheme

Schools are positive places of learning and work where everyone has a right to a safe and healthy environment. Everyone in a school community plays a shared role in being respectful and school staff deserve to work in an environment that is safe and non-threatening

From Term 3, 2022, the School Community Safety Order Scheme (Scheme) will come into effect in all Victorian schools. This Scheme allows principals and other authorised persons to issue ongoing or immediate school community safety orders that place limitations on the way certain parents, carers or other adults who act in a harmful, abusive or threatening way behave towards staff, students or others in the school community. Unacceptable or unreasonable behaviours include, but are not limited to:

- Being violent or threatening violence of any kind, including being physically intimidating, aggressive hand gestures or invading another person's personal space
- Speaking or behaving in a rude, aggressive or threatening way, either in person, via email, social media or over the telephone
- Sending demanding, rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- Discriminatory or derogatory comments
- The use of social media or public forums to make inappropriate or threatening remarks about the school, staff or students.

Click [here](#) for more information about the Scheme, including a [short video](#) that provides an overview of the Scheme. This Scheme provides a range of safeguards for people who may be subject to an order and their child. For example, before issuing an ongoing school community safety order, an authorised person must consider the person's response to the notice to issue an order and how an order may impact their child. Orders can only be issued as a last resort option if it is the least restrictive option to address the behaviour. To read more about the protections built into the Scheme for parents, carers and other adults who may be subject to an order (including information on appeal rights), access the Department's [website](#).