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Australian schools take a stand against bullying and violence

More than 930,000 children from over 2060 schools across Australia are today working together with a common goal, to spark a national conversation against bullying and violence.

Chair of the Education Council, the Hon. Peter Chandler MLA, said students were leading the way in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, taking a stand against bullying to make their voices heard.

“Schools are working with their communities and reaching out to the rest of Australia to send a powerful message that bullying and violence are never acceptable, in or outside the classroom,” Minister Chandler said.

“By taking a stand against all forms of bullying and violence, our young people are helping to shape a positive future. They are making the day their own by saying “Bullying. No Way!” – supporting a powerful movement that is supported across all education jurisdictions,” said Mr Chandler.

Children’s eSafety Commissioner Alastair MacGibbon said this year Australian schools were accessing interactive virtual classrooms to support the National Day.

“This is helping students and teachers to discuss cyberbullying, communicating online and ways of being an active bystander when witnessing bullying, online or offline,” Mr MacGibbon said.

“We know technology has increased the complexities for Australian parents when dealing with bullying however they can support their children by remaining engaged and aware and positively addressing any form of bullying,” he said.

“Increasing education and awareness about the potential impacts of bullying, and taking positive action, is a step in the right direction to create behaviour change.”

The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence is supported by all Australian governments through the COAG Education Council and provides an opportunity for schools to educate the community and put their anti-bullying programs in the spotlight.

Visit the website www.bullyingnoway.gov.au for more information and a full list of participating schools.

For media enquiries please contact the Education Council secretariat on 03 9639 0588 or secretariat@ec.edu.au