

VICTORIAN SCHOOL PROVIDERS ALLIANCE

The recently formed Victorian School Provider Alliance is a group of eight mental health and wellbeing organisations who collectively support the mental health and wellbeing needs of 300,000 young Victorians each year.

















Why do we exist?

The pandemic has pushed our youth mental health organisations to the limit. Each organisation is struggling to navigate the continued lockdowns and are fighting for survival... But together we are stronger, right? And we won't give up. COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted young people with 74% of youth reporting that their mental health is worse since the outbreak of the pandemic (headspace, 2021). Schools are reporting to our organisations an amplification of existing wellbeing needs and an increase in anxiety amongst student cohorts. The skills that we collectively provide to young Victorians to strengthen their mental health and wellbeing has never been more essential.

We have united to ensure that we can provide essential mental health and wellbeing support to young people right now when they need us most and for the many difficult years to come. To ensure that we can support the schools and the Government to deliver on the many recommendations handed down by the Royal Commission into Mental Health. To ensure that as a collective we can provide a continuity of service to the hundreds of thousands of young Victorians who rely on us each year. To ensure that we can survive this period and continue to serve the community for years to come. We are here to support schools and young people however we can.

We need your support to do this. If you can assist the Alliance please get in touch.

Who are we?

Individually we have been supporting Victorian schools for a collective total of 100 years! We are your trusted school providers that deliver high impact face-to-face and online workshops. Our programs are evidence-based, curriculum aligned and are youth-centred, relevant and credible to young people. That's why we're the student-favourites! We cultivate the mental health, wellbeing and resilience of school students and their educators while addressing the following key areas:

- ✓. Bullying and online safety
- ✓ Mental health and wellbeing
- ✓ Help seeking and resilience
- √. Social connection and belonging
- √ Self esteem and leadership

- √ Empathy and respect
- ✓ Support for young carers
- ✓ Diversity, inclusion and pride
- √ Sex education and body positivity
- ✓ Self awareness and confidence

While we fully support public health orders, we are struggling and gravely concerned for children and young people.

Collectively, we are currently unable to support hundreds of thousands of students and the reality is that organisations like ours – who have supported young people for decades – are at risk of closure following a collective loss of \$2M in revenue from schools since May 2021. If we can't continue to do our vital work, the social cost will be enormous.

How can you access support?

The Alliance members are currently collaborating to bring together our services so that young people, parents and teachers can easily access the resources they need. While we continue to work on this, you can access support at:

PROJECT ROCKIT - <u>www.projectrockit.com.au</u>
The Reach Foundation - <u>www.reach.org.au</u>
batyr - <u>www.batyr.com.au</u>
Elephant Ed - <u>www.elephanted.com.au</u>

The Man Cave - www.themancave.live
Flourish Girl - www.flourishgirl.org
Little Dreamers - www.littledreamers.org.au
Tomorrow Man/Woman - www.tomorrowman.com.au,
www.tomorrowman.com.au,

Access emergency support:

Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 I Online Chat Service

Lifeline: 13 11 14 I Online Chat Service

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467 I Online Chat Service

headspace: 1800 650 890 I Online Chat Service

The eSafety Office: Report online abuse

The Alliance contact: Rosie Thomas OAM | rosie@projectrockit.com.au