

How can we help?

Parents, caregivers and teachers – indeed, every adult – can set examples for children to follow. From an early age, children learn how to treat others by example. Let's make our examples positive ones.

We can help our children to appreciate differences by:

encouraging children to talk about any problems they may have and being available to share their joys.

encouraging children to have a network of trusted adults they can talk to at anytime.

assuring children that if they are being bullied at school, something can be done to stop the abuse.

talking with children about ways to deal with problems.

seeking to introduce personal safety programs into your school community.

following up other useful programs and resources.



The National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) is an independent Australian charity committed to stopping child abuse.

NAPCAN produces national campaigns and distributes free resources that promote positive and practical actions to stop child abuse. We work with federal, state and non-government organisations to develop child protection legislation, policies and practices that are in the best interests of children.

Visit www.napcan.org.au or phone (02) 9211 0224 to request NAPCAN brochures, more information about how to protect children and your closest NAPCAN contact.

Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

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DDB



Appreciating Differences



Attitudes and Behaviours

An important task for adults is to help children learn about acceptable behaviour and caring attitudes towards others.



We teach these things by our example.



Sometimes, if we have negative views about other people who may be different from us, children pick up these attitudes and may make hurtful remarks or even bully children who are different in some way.



It is good to encourage our children to welcome new children to their school and neighbourhood, no matter who they are or where they are from. It can be fun for children to share what they know about their school, neighbourhood and country with other children, to find out about other countries and customs.



Appreciating Differences

We all need to work for happy, healthy communities.



How do we do this?

★ We need to show understanding, acceptance and respect for the many different groups of people in Australia.



★ Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders, and people from non-English speaking backgrounds, add to our diversity and enrich our nation.



★ Children and adults with a disability can be especially vulnerable to hurtful behaviour. They need encouragement and support so that they can feel accepted by others and participate in activities with them.



★ Refugees who move to Australia from other countries may need help to learn English and to make friends.



★ We are each born with different and special gifts. It is important to accept and encourage each other for who we are. Then we can be more appreciative of differences at home, at school and in our community.



★ Children whose parents are ill or unable to care for themselves often take over the carer's role and can be bullied or teased because of this.

