

## END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

For many of us, 2020 has been both a challenging and enlightening year. The ACT Safe and Inclusive Schools Initiative Team acknowledge the tireless efforts of ACT educators and school staff throughout the year, and the significant disruption to students' lives and learning.

The challenges of this year have also disrupted some of the work we do over the year. Earlier in the year, we saw our IDAHOBIT activities move online. We also worked hard to adapt our TQI-accredited SAIS core training move online, though as anticipated the engagement was low this year. We have fortunately received a lot of interest in training next year, with one date confirmed, and others to follow.

Despite all of this, some amazing things have also happened this year and we want to showcase them in this newsletter.

We wish all of our community the best for a safe, restful and happy holiday season this summer and look forward to working with you again in 2021.

*The SAISACT team, Gabriel, Peter and Tim.*

VISIT **SAISACT.INFO** FOR MORE INFO

## 2021 SAIS CORE TRAINING

Our popular SAIS Core Training is back on offer for 2021 and it is in high demand after things slowed down a little this year. This dynamic training is back and better than ever with new, updated data and fun new interactive activities.

**FIRST PUBLIC TRAINING WILL BE TERM 1, WEEK 3**

**FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2021 – 3:30PM - 6:30PM**  
**HEDLEY BEARE CENTRE FOR LEARNING**  
**FREMANTAL DRIVE, STIRLING DRIVE, ACT**

**TRAINING INQUIRIES & BOOKINGS**  
**SAISACT@SHFPACT.ORG.AU OR CALL 6247 3077**

School-based and whole-of-staff training can be booked in with us at your convenience, completely free of charge so get in touch and book in your school training with us!

We offer a 2-hour condensed training worth 2 TQI points or a more in-depth 3-hour version of the training worth 3 TQI points. Training can be delivered face-to-face or remotely via Zoom so there are plenty of options to work with you, your team or your school.

As always, we can also run specific, targeted training, information sessions or focus groups with you or your school to address specific areas of need, at no cost. These additional trainings however do not come with TQI accreditation; however, it can count towards self-nominated professional learning. Please get in touch if you think we can support you!



## STUDENT GROUP CONNECTIONS

This year SAIS has branched out and begun connecting with student leaders in their schools. In term 4 we had the extreme pleasure of connecting with the newly-founded student SAGA group at Caroline Chisholm Senior Secondary School and joined them for one of their meetings to share ideas on projects and to fill them in on the work we do at SAIS. Don't forget to check out their contribution to our newsletter below!

We would love to connect to more groups and hear about the incredible ideas, projects and work you've been up to. To arrange a visit with a member of our ACT SAIS Team, please email us at [saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au)



## WEAR IT PURPLE FEEDBACK FROM THE SMALL GRANTS 2020 PROGRAM

This year Wear It Purple also turned 10 years old, and we were able to run our Small Grants Program again. The ACT Safe and Inclusive Schools Initiative handed out 8 grants, valued at \$200 each to different schools around the ACT. These grants helped to support schools to run a range of fun and engaging community events for Wear It Purple Day on the 28 August 2020.

We hope to be able to run this program again next year.

2021

# SAIS Core Training

Do you want to learn about how you can contribute to building safer and more inclusive schools for all students?

Come along to this free TQI-accredited training to:

Explore and unpack gender, sex, and sexuality

Understand the school experiences of Australian LGBTIQ+ students

Examine current research on Australian LGBTIQ+ students

Discover how SAIS can help support you and your school

Learn how to build a safe and supportive school

Discuss strategies to select and include appropriate teaching and learning resources in your classroom and school

Network with other educators and school staff

Bookings and Enquiries: [saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au)





## 2020... THE YEAR THAT WAS.

### CALWELL HIGH SCHOOL'S SAGA GROUP WEAR IT PURPLE DAY EVENT.

#### SAGA Shines Again

Calwell High was painted purple with a few splashes of rainbows and unicorns roaming the school on the 28th of August as our community celebrated Wear it Purple Day.

Wear it Purple Day aims to foster supportive, safe, inclusive and empowering environments for young LGBTQI\* people.

SAGA, Calwell High School's Sexuality and Gender Alliance, lead the celebrations. After successfully winning a grant from ACT Safe and Inclusive School Initiative, SAGA students planned a range of activities to promote LGBTQI\* acceptance. Students hosted a purple cupcake stall, painted fingernails purple and gave away friendship bands to promote LGBTQI\* visibility.

A whole school artwork was created made up of rainbow love hearts with affirmations and messages of support for sexuality and gender diverse students, families and staff. This was a hugely successful event and we can't wait to make Wear it Purple Day a bigger event next year. Thanks everyone for your support.



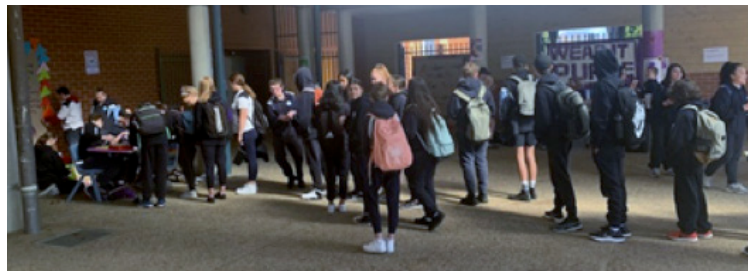
### CAROLINE CHISHOLM SENIOR SCHOOL

#### SAGA Shines Again

In Term 3, the Caroline Chisholm School Senior Campus put together their very own SAGA (Sexuality and Gender Alliance) group led by one of the wonderful year 10 students. This group meets once a week during their lunch break, as a community of young people to connect, share ideas, discuss relevant issues, and collaborate on potential LGBTQIA+ projects and initiatives.

Whilst the group is only very new, so far they have already held a fundraiser for Wear It Purple Day at school, and have welcomed many great representatives from LGBTQIA+ aligned organisations and services in Canberra to visit their group including Safe and Inclusive Schools, YWCA, Marathon Health Equal Ground, Meridian Encampment, and A Gender Agenda.

Looking forward into 2021, the Caroline Chisholm School Senior Campus SAGA Group hopes to work toward further developing their connections with LGBTQIA+ groups in Canberra, fundraising for relevant causes, celebrating LGBTQIA+ events, linking with fellow SAGA Groups in other schools, and engaging their school community in LGBTQIA+ education, awareness, activities, and projects.



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Would you like your school's event or student's work featured in our SAIS Newsletter Next Year?

Please contact us at [saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au) if you have photos of an event your school has run or examples of students' art, short pieces of creative writing or other projects that you and your students wish to have featured.

Please ensure that you have written consent from students prior to submitting their work, and that all student submissions are anonymous.

Contact information:

SAIS Project Officer  
Gabriel Filpi  
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