



End of Term (& year) Newsletter

Kick off your 2019 professional learning with SAIS!

We will be running the TQI accredited SAIS Core Training on Tuesday 29 Jan, 4:00pm – 7:00pm.

We will also be piloting a new extension training workshop on Thursday 31 January, 4:00pm – 7:00pm.

This extension has been developed based on feedback from core training participants and will look further into inclusive practice. It is suitable for anyone who has completed the core training.

To RSVP for either training, email us on saisact@shfpact.org.au.

Term 4 Happenings

SAIS has continued steadily working alongside schools to build and maintain safe, welcoming and inclusive school environments for all students, regardless of their sex, gender, or sexuality.

SAIS Statement: Welcoming Anti-Discrimination Legislative Changes

On Tuesday 27 November, the ACT Legislative Assembly passed changes to the ACT Discrimination Act 1991. SAIS welcomes the changes that limit the use of exemptions for protected attributes in schools and educational institutes, while still allowing schools the right to serve specific religious communities.

We are optimistic that ACT Schools will see the reform as an opportunity to reaffirm school values of inclusion and anti-discrimination, review policy frameworks to ensure inclusive practice is embedded, and have open conversations with students and families about what kind of community they want to be.

To read the full SAIS statement, head to saisact.info and click on 'News'.

ACHPER ACT Professional Learning Seminar

In October, SAIS presented to primary school health and PE teachers at the ACHPER ACT PL learning event. We explored transgender and gender diverse inclusion in primary school physical education. We suggested bringing a 'gendered lens' to this area of work. Some top hints include:

- Reflect on our own and others gendered assumptions and bias
- Encourage critical thinking about gendered stereotypes
- Notice who is participating and in what ways
- Call out teasing and encourage positive behaviours
- Create a culture of shared responsibility



Intersex Day of Solidarity – Term 4 celebration

Thursday 8 November marked Intersex Day of Solidarity. To mark the occasion staff from SAIS attended a networking event held by A Gender Agenda. We learnt about Herculine Barbin, a French intersex person, who published memoirs in the 1800s. Intersex Day of Solidarity is held each year on Herculine's birthday. A big thanks to Cody and the team at AGA for hosting this wonderful event. Did your school host an event to mark this occasion? If so, we'd love to hear about it!

Resource Mail Out

At the start of term 4, every school was sent a SAIS resource kit. The kit included copies of the SAIS posters developed for Wear It Purple Day, balloons, pencils and a USB containing fact sheets about SAIS. If you require further resources, just let us know.

LGBTIQ Workers Meet Up

In late November, SAIS staff attended a meet up of youth and project workers from community organisations who work with young LGBTIQ people in varying capacities. We shared information about each of our programs and our goals for 2019. There are some exciting ideas bubbling away in this group and the workers intend on collaborating more into 2019. We will keep you up to date of any developments from this group.

Reminder of Audit Tool

SAIS has developed a tool for schools to help them assess how well they are doing in creating safe and inclusive environments for sex, gender and sexuality diverse students. The tool is designed to review current practice and prioritise future actions to enhance practice. The tool is currently in trial stage. If you would like to use the tool to see how it works for you, just get in touch via saisact@shfpact.org.au.

Looking Forward

Student Leadership in 2019

With the end of the school year closing in, SAIS has started to look forward to 2019. Engaging with students and developing a student leadership group has been identified as a 2019 priority. If you have any students who would like to be a part of this, we encourage them to get in touch with us.

Save the Date

On 17 May each year, International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia is celebrated. To mark the occasion, SAIS is planning a student symposium. Mark this term 2 date down in your diary and stay tuned for more details.

Two dates to celebrate in term 1 of 2019

1. National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence on Friday 15 March. Talk to your school SASSCO and register your schools involvement on the Bullying No Way website bullyingnoway.gov.au.
2. Transgender Day of Visibility happens in late March. Stay tuned to the website tdov.org to find out more.

**The SAIS team wishes you a happy and safe summer holidays.
We will be enjoying our break from COB December 21 until January 2, 2019.
Please touch base during January to discuss working together in 2019.**