

## COVID-19 UPDATE

The ACT Safe and Inclusive Schools team would like to acknowledge the ongoing efforts and of ACT educators and school staff in addressing and responding to the rapidly changing needs of schools and students during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

We would like to acknowledge and thank school staff and executive teams for their commitment to student wellbeing and welfare, alongside the risks taken working in face-to-face environments.

Schools have experienced a strong focus both during and outside of the 2021 COVID lockdown and this has been an incredibly trying period for us all. We encourage staff and students alike to take care of themselves and one another as we approach the end of the year.

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

VISIT **SAISACT.INFO** FOR MORE INFO



## INCLUDING INTERSEX

RESPONDING TO ISSUES  
 AFFECTING THE EDUCATIONAL  
 EXPERIENCES OF INTERSEX  
 STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA



## SAIS CORE TRAINING

While COVID-19 had significant impacts on our ability to deliver TQI training in the second half of this year we reached over 100 educators and school staff this period.

**DO YOU WANT TO LEARN ABOUT HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO BUILDING SAFER AND MORE INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS FOR ALL STUDENTS?**

The free SAIS Core Training is TQI-accredited and works to unpack and examine the experiences of Australian LGBTIQ+ students, and how to be more inclusive.

### 2022 TRAINING DATES

- TERM 1 : 29 MARCH 2022
- TERM 2 : 28 JUNE 2022
- TERM 3 : 30 SEPTEMBER 2022
- TERM 4 : 29 NOVEMBER 2022



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

## RESOURCE: INCLUDING INTERSEX

Developed, written, and informed by intersex professionals and intersex lived experience, this resource has been an ongoing passion project between Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT) and A Gender Agenda (AGA) since 2018, bringing an often silent voice to the forefront.

**Including Intersex** is a unique resource for all educators wanting to provide an inclusive and equitable schooling experience to all students. This resource highlights the key issues and barriers facing intersex students in Australia and equips the reader with the tangible actions and resources to begin addressing these.

After identifying that information about the school experiences of intersex people was extremely sparse SHFPACT and AGA drew on their expertise to shape something specifically focussed on schooling. Including Intersex combines multidisciplinary knowledge and lived experience into this easy-to-use resource for all educators and school staff.

It is estimated that intersex people account for up to 1.7% of the global population. Across all school levels and systems, this equates to around 1300 to 1400 intersex students in the ACT school system at any given point in time (roughly 1 student in every 2-3 classrooms). This statistic means that educators have almost certainly encountered intersex students in their school communities, whether they were aware of it or not. It is important for school staff to be aware and inclusive of such diversity, especially given they have ethical and legal obligations to promote positive learning environments and model prosocial values that reflect and respect diversity in our community.

Including Intersex was developed and reviewed by intersex peer workers, and is a collaboration of two ACT community health organisations: A Gender Agenda (AGA) and Sexual Health and Family Planning ACT (SHFPACT).

# Safe & Inclusive SCHOOLS Initiative

# SAIS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

## Writing Themselves In 4

THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF LGBTQA+ YOUNG PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA

Adem O. Hill  
Anthony Lyons  
Jami Jones  
Ivy McGowan  
Marina Carman  
Matthew Parsons  
Jennifer Power  
Adam Bourne



## WHAT HAPPENED IN 2021

### 3 FEBRUARY : WRITING THEMSELVES IN 4 NATIONAL LAUNCH

The Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University, with Rainbow Health Victoria and Rainbow Network held an online launch of the national Writing Themselves in 4 report.



### 17 MAY : IDAHOBIT (INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA, BIPHOBIA, INTERSEXISM, AND TRANSPHOBIA)

This year the international theme of IDAHOBIT was "Together: Resisting, Supporting, Healing!" which recognised the impacts of COVID-19 on LGBTQA+ communities around the world. The day was marked with a flag-raising ceremony outside the ACT Legislative Assembly lead by Chief Minister Andrew Barr, and attended by many members of the community. Greens MLA Johnathan Davis also hosted a reception and panel discussion at the Legislative Assembly to mark the day.

Photo: Kat Reed, Yenn Purkis, Greens MLA Johnathan Davis, Jacquie Reid, and Alistair Ott outside the Legislative Assembly. Photo: ACT Government.

### 1 APRIL : WRITING THEMSELVES IN 4 ACT LAUNCH AND STUDENT FORUM @GUNGHALIN COLLEGE

More than 100 students, educators and representatives from ACT Government and NGO community and health service providers attended a forum and workshop hosted at Gungahlin College to mark the launch of the ACT summary report of Writing Themselves in 4. The Minister for Education, Yvette Berry and the ACT Children and Youth Commissioner, Jodie Griffiths-Cook were also in attendance on the day. Students were provided with the opportunity to network with one another, share ideas and examine the data and findings from the report.

Photo: Gungahlin College students Gemma Steele (Student Board Representative) -RIGHT- and Alex Zatschler (Student Rainbow Team Leader) -LIEFT- were interviewed on ABC Radio about the day and their inclusion work at Gungahlin College.



### 17 AUGUST : WEAR IT PURPLE DAY

In 2021 we were pleased to be able to run our our Wear It Purple Day small grants round. Applications were received and approved for 7 ACT Schools from Primary through to High School and College. Schools were granted funds to run events for Wear It Purple Day, and to purchase inclusive resources for their school libraries such as books that feature LGBTQA+ characters or topics such as diversity, inclusion, and identity. An online networking session for teaching staff was also held on the day.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR SCHOOL'S EVENT OR STUDENT'S WORK FEATURED IN OUR NEWSLETTER.

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

RESOURCES SAISACT.INFO • EMAIL SAISACT@SHFPACT.ORG.AU • CALL 02 6247 3077

ACT SAIS Initiative is supported by funding from the ACT Government. SAIS Project Officer: Gabriel Filpi GFilpi@shfpact.org.au



# SAIS CORE TRAINING

TQI – ACCREDITED

TERM 1

29<sup>th</sup> March



TERM 2

28<sup>th</sup> June



TERM 3

20<sup>th</sup> September



TERM 4

29<sup>th</sup> November



## 2022 DATES

To book training at your school  
or for other enquiries  
contact us at:  
[saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au)



Safe & Inclusive  
**SCHOOLS**  
Initiative



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