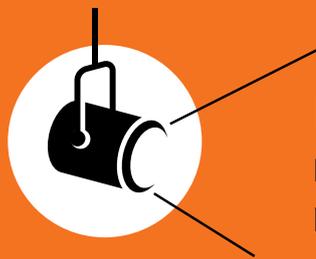


# National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence



**NDA Spotlight School**  
Putting the spotlight on bullying prevention approaches that work

Queensland

## Student-led approach: Burnside State High School

Burnside State High School in Nambour takes a multi-faceted and student-led approach to preventing bullying and promoting safe and respectful interactions between students.

The school has taken part in the National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (NDA) every year, since its inception in 2011.

“We have been involved since the NDA started. Our Student Representative Council emphasises keeping our campus safe and inclusive,” says Principal Kerri Dunn.

The school also has a bullying section in its Responsible Behaviour Plan which includes:

- definitions of bullying
- curriculum links to aspects of bullying
- a staff intervention and support flow chart for responding to bullying
- a tiered Behaviour Management Plan.

Burnside State High School sets aside time to focus on bullying prevention with a range of NDA activities led by the Student Representative Council (SRC) each year.

The SRC encourages all students at Burnside State High School to sign a pledge to never participate in bullying, accept bullying or turn their backs on bullying.



School leaders emphasise a safe and inclusive campus.

Every NDA, Year 12 leaders and younger students use water balloons filled with food colouring in an activity producing a visual of lasting stains bullying can leave.

Other NDA activities have included taking part in The One Million Stars to End Violence Project in 2017.

### Key facts

**Type of school**  
Independent Public School

**Where**  
Nambour, Queensland

**Student population**  
800 students in Years 7 to 12



“At Burnside the National Day of Action highlights the importance we, as a school community, place on the right for all students to come to school, be safe and able to learn in every classroom, every day.”

*School captain Tom Cross*

**BULLYING. NO WAY!**

[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)

In 2018, students donated funds from a non-uniform day to Dolly's Dream Foundation, which was established to raise funds for those affected by bullying and cyberbullying.

There are also dedicated school parades where teachers talk to students about the NDA. The school displays their customised NDA posters around school grounds and on its Facebook page. Teachers are encouraged to use the Bullying. No Way! classroom resources during the NDA week.

The wider school community gets involved with the P&C funding materials to support NDA celebrations.

Principal Kerri Dunn says this whole-school approach to creating a positive school culture delivers real results.

"We have a school-wide Positive Behaviour for Learning team collating data on bullying referrals and disciplinary absences, which shows a decrease due to our strategies over the years."

"We are proud of the fact that incidents of violence are negligible. A proactive approach to behaviour management sets a positive tone across the school.

"The major focus of Burnside State High School is relationships. People work hard at getting on together," Kerri says.

## Q & A with school leaders

### Why is your school participating in the NDA?

"We have been involved since the initiative started — our Student Representative Council places an emphasis on keeping our campus safe and inclusive." Principal.

### What do the students get out of it?

"The National Day of Action highlights the importance we, as a school community, place on the right for all students to come to school, be safe and be able to learn in every classroom, every day." School Captain.

### What are the best aspects of the NDA?

"Burnside State High School is known for having an anti-bullying culture and for this reason, is a school of choice where the priority is on learning." Principal.

## Positive impacts from NDA involvement



Bullying prevention is important to student leaders at Burnside State High School.

"Our student leadership team is vocal about action against bullying in the lead up to NDA."

2018 Burnside State High School Captain, Tom Cross, says participation in the NDA is about protecting the rights of all students to learn in a safe environment.

"The National Day of Action highlights the importance we, as a school community, place on the right of all students to come to school, be safe and able to learn in every classroom, every day," Tom says.

Kerri says the effects of the NDA and other positive behaviour initiatives at Burnside State High School are recognised and appreciated by the school's wider community.

"A P&C member commented that Burnside State High School is known for having an anti-bullying culture and for this reason, is a school of choice where the priority is on learning."

The NDA is delivered by Bullying. No Way!  
[www.bullyingnoway.gov.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au)