



White Ribbon Australia's Breaking the Silence Schools Program

Breaking the Silence is a professional learning initiative for educators and other staff. It provides knowledge, tools and strategies to develop and implement a whole-of-school plan to foster respectful relationships, gender equality and prevent violence, harassment and abuse.

Its aims to:

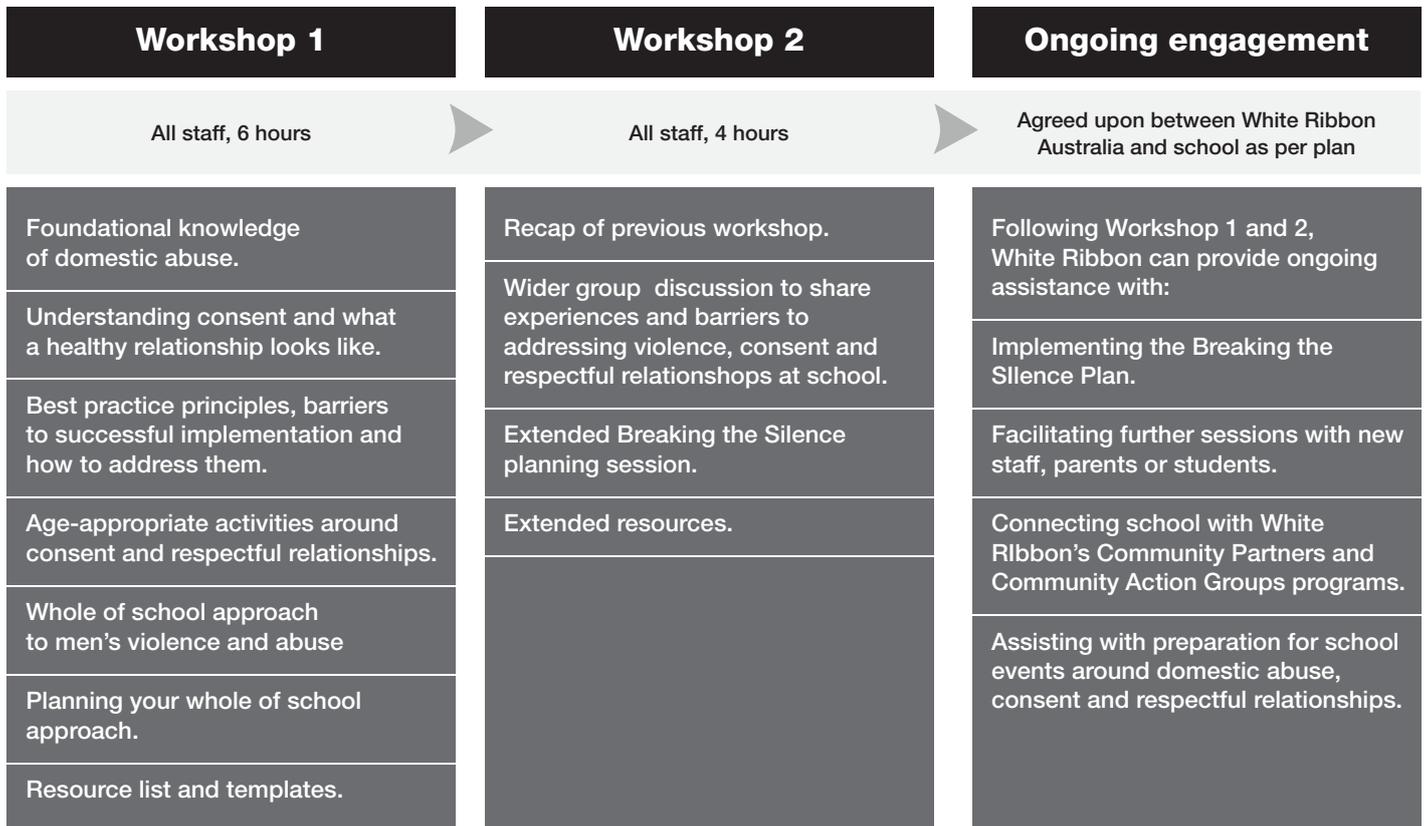
- Undermine attitudes, gender stereotypes and disrespect that are the drivers of men's violence and abuse
- Help students understand consent and the qualities of healthy relationships
- Create generational change through a primary prevention approach
- Broaden understanding of sexism and advance gender equality

The program provides each school with a unique plan, developed together with educators and other staff, that promotes a unified culture of gender equality and respect, and works to support teachers to implement the Department of Education syllabus and wellbeing framework.

The program consists of two key workshops. Schools are awarded the status of a 'White Ribbon School' on completion of Workshop 1, which includes the development of a whole-of-school-community Breaking the Silence plan. Workshop options will be negotiated and planned with each school and can be organised to cater for individual schools' needs.

Overview of Breaking the Silence Schools Program

Schools are as diverse as their communities, and young people's attitudes to gender and relationships are shaped by everything from the local economy to the cultures they come into contact with. What works in a mining town may not work for outer Brisbane. That's why we develop a unique plan with each school based on a deep understanding of its students and community, and what the right approach will be to bring about change.



Breaking the Silence Plan

Workshop 2 takes place approximately six months after workshop one is and is used to discuss how the school's unique Breaking the Silence plan is going and what changes or support it might need.

A school's plan may include seminars for students, sessions with parents or the wider community,

sourcing relevant curriculum or other resources or a range of other activities. White Ribbon Australia will help facilitate connections with resources, organisations and other providers who can assist a school in developing a whole-of-school-community culture of gender equality, respect and the prevention of men's violence.

The cost of \$6000 per school covers two workshops and ongoing support