

Antisemitism Education Taskforce

Terms of Reference

Addressing antisemitism in the education sector is a priority for the Australian Government. There is no place in Australia for antisemitism, religious hatred or discrimination of any kind. Everyone should be able to enjoy their life in the Australian community, without prejudice or discrimination.

The Australian Government is committed to helping the Australian education system prevent, tackle and properly respond to antisemitism.

Scope

The scope of work covers early childhood education, schools, universities and higher education providers.

The Taskforce will drive the implementation of measures announced as part of the Australian Government's response to the Special Envoy's Plan to Combat Antisemitism to:

- conduct a focused review of elements of the Early Years Learning Framework and the Australian Curriculum to identify opportunities to strengthen its capacity to support:
 - a rejection of all forms of antisemitic thought and antisemitic actions,
 - a deep understanding of Jewish Australians' history and culture, and
 - a mature understanding and expression of Australian values
- provide teachers and schools a new hub with access to free high-quality resources and guidance to strengthen social cohesion in schools, and combat antisemitism through new online resources, and expand the Special Envoy's United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization teacher training into schools across Australia
- support delivery of the Special Envoy's first University Report Card assessing how Australian universities are responding to antisemitism on campus by measuring institutions against their adoption of an appropriate definition of antisemitism, their delivery of training to staff, the accessibility and fairness of complaints processes and governance responses to activities that may incite discrimination
- support TEQSA to implement strengthened powers and penalties to ensure it is able to step in and act when it is justified in the public interest, and stronger Commonwealth higher education regulation that ensure institutions demonstrate a commitment to addressing racism, and ensure TEQSA can monitor compliance

The Taskforce will also provide advice on any further measures required to tackle, respond and prevent antisemitism.

Membership

The Taskforce will be chaired by David Gonski AC.

Representation on the taskforce will include:

- Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism
- Australian Government Department of Education
- State and Territory Departments of Education
- Independent Schools Australia
- National Catholic Education Commission
- Australian Council of Jewish Schools
- Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority
- Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership
- The Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority
- The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency
- Universities Australia
- The interim Australian Tertiary Education Commission

The Taskforce will be supported by a secretariat in the Australian Government Department of Education.

Consultation

The Taskforce will, as appropriate, consult with the Australian Jewish community; the Special Envoy's Education Roundtable; young people, students and their parents and carers; early education providers; educators, teachers and school leaders; the National Principal Reference Group; student, education and industrial unions; and universities and higher education providers.

Timing

The Taskforce will present early findings and directions to the Education Ministers Meeting in February 2026.