## VicSRC Victorian State Election Platform

*Students propose innovative, Australian first Mental Health in Schools Taskforce.*

The taskforce would be the first of its kind in Australia, a student-led group that will provide ongoing, current feedback and advice directly to government on policies and programs that impact their day-to-day life at school.

VicSRC is the only independent, education-based, student-led advocacy organisation in Australia and one of the key voices in the Victorian education sector. Students and staff regularly consult with, and provide advice to, education decision makers in Victoria including the Department of Education and Training (DET) and the Minister for Education.

With a Victorian state election coming up in November, VicSRC is working hard to make sure students are always seen and treated as the key stakeholders in education, no matter who’s elected.

VicSRC is asking for candidates to commit to the following priorities if elected:

1. Establish a student-led Mental Health in Schools Taskforce to provide ongoing advice to government.
2. Empower effective student-teacher relationships by funding all schools in Victoria to access the VicSRC’s student-led Teach the Teacher program.
3. Actively seek guidance, advice and feedback from students in the creation, development, implementation and evaluation of all education policies, programs and initiatives.

Find more information on these priorities on the [VicSRC website](https://vicsrc.org.au/victorian-election-platform).

The following quotes are attributable to VicSRC Student Executive Committee members, who can be made available for interview upon request.

“Talking to students, about their education, should be at the core of every discussion which ultimately affects us, no exceptions. We are the experts in our schools.”

“A successful education system and societies cohesiveness is relying on the engagement, partnering and listening of and with students on all decisions.”

“Students are the ones with lived experiences of the current mental health system. A student-led mental health would allow advocacy in this field, by students, for students.”

For further information or to set up an interview contact Nell on 0488 700 138.