

# DANCE, DON'T FIGHT

## *THE YARD*

ANTI-BULLYING SCHOOL INCURSION PROGRAM  
BY SHAUN PARKER & COMPANY



“Not only are the dancers spectacular, but the concept and rendering of intention stunning, clever and richly provocative. A wonderful short and relevant piece to study with juniors for appreciation and to inspire narrative-based composition for all stages. *The Yard* picks up and navigates so many key social issues expertly, for students of all ages. It also interweaves such special stories and is testament to the rigorous development workshop origin.” - Amanda Barwick, Scots College, Sydney.

[www.shaunparkercompany.com](http://www.shaunparkercompany.com)

# THE YARD Anti-bullying School Incursion Program

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*The Yard* is an award-winning anti-bullying program by internationally acclaimed Australian contemporary dance outfit Shaun Parker & Company about bullying, social exclusion, peer pressure and emotional resilience.

Most suitable for K-6 and Years 7 & 8, the one-hour program features a 20 minute performance of exhilarating dance piece *The Yard* followed by a 40 minute Q&A which unpacks the themes: ultimately finding unity in the diversities of culture, gender and ethnicity that exist in our schools and society. Most impressive of all, the dancers share their own experiences of bullying and how they overcame it to pursue their passion for dance.

Our objective is to empower children to deal with bullying and to inspire and motivate them in their future careers and life choices. After seeing *The Yard*:

- 95% of students said they would NOT bully again.
- 85% of students said they felt more resilient against the effects of bullying
- 88% of students said they learnt some ways to help a bullying victim (>1,500 students surveyed in 2017-2018)

## LINKS TO THE CURRICULUM

**DANCE:** Develop knowledge and understanding, skills, values and attitudes in Performing, Composing and Appreciating by engaging with the elements of dance (action dynamics, time, space, relationships and structure).

**MUSIC:** Develop knowledge, skills and understanding of performing, listening and discussing the music of others.

**PDHPE:** Develop a sense of who they are as boys or girls through the social and cultural messages they receive. Their everyday interactions with the attitudes and practices of their friends, their family, their school, the media and the wider society help to shape girls' and boys' understandings and expectations about how they should behave.

**HSIE:** Develop knowledge, understanding and attitudes about people and their social and physical environments.

Check out *The Yard* online: <https://youtu.be/-WkPLsNYp4A>

*The Yard* is a low-tech production which can be performed indoors or outdoors in school halls, basketball courts or on concrete playgrounds. All equipment is supplied.

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