

Classes in consent to be mandatory in schools

Zach Hope

Victorian state school students will be given mandatory and specific classes on consent from next month to address deficiencies in education programs amid a storm of criticism that current teaching is failing students.

Acting Premier and Education Minister James Merlino will elevate the teaching of consent from what some high schools deliver as vague concepts, such as recognising personal boundaries, to expressly addressing matters of sexual consent.

The new directive would instead compel schools to teach elements of the government's Respectful Relationships training that address the meaning of free agreement and its application in everyday life. This could include learning about power imbalances. alcohol, age and whether or not a person may even understand what a sexual act is.

It comes smid a national reckoning about the treatment of women, most recently from past and present Wesley College students reporting disturbing testimonies of sexual assault harassment and misogyny.

Police warn on consent

in teen relationships NEWS PAGE 10

What if it was our sons who did it?

JACQUELINE MALEY NEWS PAGE 12

PM all at sea without women's input

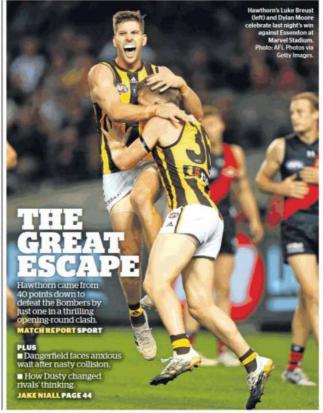
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The Respectful Relationships initiative which is still being rolled out in all government schools, does include consent in its material, but the particulars of what and how it is delivered is a matter for schools and teachers.

An example of substandard sons about consent, experts said, could be a teacher lecturing students about consent laws without deeper context, nuance or how they might apply to their lives.

Under the updated program, the teaching of consent in younger years may begin with mandated conversations about good and bad touching and appropriately asking permission to use a classmate's toy.

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Pesutto ready to make his return to politics

EXCLUSIVE Michael Fowler State political reporter

John Pesutto, the former MP who famously lost the unlosable seat of Hawthorn while on live TV in 2018. is sure of two things: he wants a comeback and he wants a senior role in Victoria's Liberal Party.

He also has a vision. "Yes, I plan to run for preselection later this year." he said, adding the Liberal Party needs to revolutionise.

He wants a more inclusive party that has a presence deep in the suburbs, promoting old Liberal ideals of individual ambition and reward for effort.

"All people, in all parts of Melbourne and Victoria, should be able to look at us and say: I like what they stand for," he said

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Push to get more jabs done by winter

James Massola Aisha Dow

Health authorities are scrambling to vaccinate millions of front-line workers and vulnerable people before winter as the biggest public health campaign in Australian history ramps up and 6.1 million more people become eligible for the jab tomorrow.

The Sunday Age has been told the

Administration is expected to approve the locally made AstraZeneca vaccine - a critical step in unlocking millions of new doses - as soon as tomorrow, These doses will ship out across the country from later this week.

A federal government spokesman said overseas-sourced

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Weather TODAY Shower or two 17-23 TOMORROW Showers 17-24 Page 22

HOME DELIVERY





The home

A renovated two-storey 1990s townhouse in Melbourne's inner north featuring two bedrooms, three living spaces and a front and rear courtyard.

Who lives here Liz Ride, an interior

designer at Studio Tate, with husband Rob Ride, a visual effects artist, and their

children, four-year-old Ravi and Ottoline, who's almost two.

What we did *We converted our single garage into a playroom that also doubles as guest room, reconfigured the kitchen, added a powder room and renovated the bathroom," says Liz. My favourite room "Our main bathroom; its peach and pink

tones are balanced by walnut veneer and green terrazzo," says Liz. "An unusual combination, but it's warm and playful."

The 'hood "We're so close to beautiful bushland by

Future plans "We'll incorporate

the Yarra River, and we have a local wine bar and a fabulous local grocer."

some sort of wild wallpaper in the powder room - once I can finally decide on the right one - and possibly add a wall

light or two." Best advice

"Collect objects and art that make you smile and, very importantly, don't be afraid of colour," says Liz.



New finishes in the upstairs family bathroom include pink wall tiles and brass tapware grounded by walnut veneer, stone benches and a terrazzo floor.



A deck connects the former garage to the front courtyard, and a rockery under the shade of a Gleditsia tree is the perfect creative outdoor play space.



Liz redesigned the home with a warm colour palette and a mix of old and new pieces. The benchtop is from CDK Stone, while the tiles are from Artedomus.



A door painted in Dulux's Balsam Pear leads to the kitchen. The bespoke joinery in walnut veneer was designed by Liz, providing storage for media, books and objects.