

WE NEED TO TALK TO YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT GAMBLING

School Education Program

Gambling is more heavily promoted and accessible than ever before. It's advertised in public places, on TV, radio and online. This concerns Victorians, 73 per cent of whom think adolescents are exposed to too much gambling advertising.

Kids are also exposed to gambling concepts through many online games and apps, which distort the prospect of winning. It can seem like gambling is an easy, fun and normal part of life.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Research shows that young people are participating in gambling and are at risk of harm from gambling.

- Almost one in three (31%) students have gambled at some time in the past.¹
- Of those who have gambled, more than a third (38%) have bet on sport.¹
- An average of 374 gambling ads were broadcast on free-to-air TV in 2016, and children under 12 were among the most exposed.²
- 73% of all students have reported being aware of ads or promotions for gambling on television.¹
- 68% of students who have ever gambled are susceptible, or highly susceptible to gambling in the future.¹

To find out more go to:

lovethesame.vic.gov.au

YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AN EXPERT TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT GAMBLING

It is important for parents to talk about gambling with their kids to make sure they know the facts.

Some questions to consider before starting a conversation:

- Does your teenager talk about odds while watching or talking about sport?
- How many sports betting brands can your teenager name?
- What online games and apps is your teenager playing or using?
- Does your teenager think gambling on sport is safer than other forms of gambling?

You may be surprised to find that your kids are more exposed to gambling than you thought.

Ask your child:

- Do you think gambling on sport is normal?
- Why do you think there is so much sports betting advertising?
- When you play online games, do you come across loot boxes? How do they work, and do you think you will always win?
- Do your school friends talk about the odds or ask you to gamble? Do you think that's a good way to talk about sport, or to spend your pocket money?

Help your children learn to think critically about the risks associated with gambling and make informed decisions.

¹ Freund, M, Noble, N, Hill, D, White, V, Evans, T, Oldmeadow, C & Sanson-Fisher, R 2019, The prevalence and correlates of gambling in secondary school students in Victoria, Australia, 2017, Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation, Melbourne.

² O'Brien, K & Iqbal, M 2019, Extent of, and children and young people's exposure to, gambling advertising in sport and non-sport TV, Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation, Melbourne.