



OUR VISION

Our vision is that every child will live in a safe and supportive environment.

OUR HISTORY

The Alannah & Madeline Foundation was set up in memory of Alannah and Madeline Mikac, aged six and three who were tragically killed with their mother and 32 others at Port Arthur, Tasmania on 28 April 1996.

Our programs are in one third of all Australian schools and more than half of all Australian public libraries, and we support 10,000 children in refuges or foster homes across Australia every year. We have helped almost 2 million children and their families nationwide since we began in 1997.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

The Foundation relies on donations and the broader community to support our work.

For more information or to make a donation, please visit amf.org.au or call 03 9697 0666.

Creating friendly and caring primary school communities where bullying is reduced.

Bullying is a serious issue in Australia, with around one student in every five bullied. Experiencing bullying can have a devastating effect on a child and can impact self-esteem, behaviour, and the ability to concentrate and perform at school. Children who portray bullying behaviours are more likely to commit anti-social behaviour and criminal acts.

Better Buddies, an initiative of the Alannah & Madeline Foundation, pairs students entering their first year of primary school with an older buddy to help them feel safe, valued and connected to their new school community, while older students feel valued and respected.

When students have the skills and understanding of how to engage in positive, respectful and inclusive relationships, then negative and violent behaviour – such as bullying – can be reduced.

The Better Buddies Framework introduces or enhances buddy systems in primary schools and encourages other cross-age relationships throughout the school community. It also encourages everyone to incorporate the Better Buddies values of caring, friendliness, respect, valuing difference, including others and responsibility. The evidence-based Framework complements existing school welfare programs, is easy to implement and links to national curriculum initiatives.

An independent, national survey on Better Buddies found children, teachers and school communities benefit immensely from the Framework.

- **95% of principals said Better Buddies has helped create a friendly and caring school community**
- **97% of teachers said Better Buddies has assisted students in their transition to school**

Schools can apply for a sponsored position or purchase the Better Buddies Framework.

For more information, visit betterbuddies.org.au or call **1300 720 747**.