



Building Bridges in Schools Program Facilitator Eligibility Criteria

Small Group Facilitators in the Building bridges in Schools Program need to be:

- Young people, between 20-35 years of age (approx.), who can easily build a rapport with students aged between 14-16 years old;
- Interested, open and non-prejudicial to a wide range of religious convictions, experiences and practice, across all the religious traditions;
- Committed to the aims and values of the Building Bridges program, namely, to help students build bridges of mutual understanding, trust and respect across their religious, cultural, and socio-economic differences, through honest, respectful dialogue and informal activities;
- Protective of the safe environment of the program by preventing all imposition of any belief, practice, sectarian interest or agenda onto any others;
- Aware of the key practices and beliefs of the five main religious traditions in Australia: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam;
- Capable of helping teenagers explore and elaborate on their experiences of life and faith, wherever possible;
- Intent on keeping the focus of the group's sharing on the students' personal experiences and not their own views, including deflecting questions from themselves;
- Competent to manage a small group, including:
 - Giving each student sufficient opportunity to share their experiences,
 - Ensuring the group environment is safe and respectful;
 - Some experience and knowledge of handling rowdy or overly talkative students, or quieter less expressive students; and
 - Tackling inappropriate behaviour as necessary.
- Not a teacher of any of the students in their small group;
- Committed to participating in all five sessions at the different schools;
- Willing to maintain confidentiality of what is shared by students within their small group;
- Willing to dress modestly, in neat, casual, non-promotional clothes, at all sessions.
- Trained in small group facilitation through one of the official BBIS training sessions;
- Accepted by the director of the Building Bridges in Schools Program, after signing the Terms of Agreement/Understanding document for all facilitators in the program.

Building Bridges in Schools Program

c/- WellSpring Centre PO Box 300 Ashburton VIC 3147 Australia
W: www.buildingbridges.org.au E: info@buildingbridges.org.au