

SCHOOL STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES THAT MEET TRAUMA RECOVERY GOALS



**Foundation
House**

The Victorian Foundation
for Survivors of Torture Inc.

SCHOOL STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES THAT MEET TRAUMA RECOVERY GOALS

EFFECTS OF REFUGEE EXPERIENCES	GOALS TO SUPPORT RECOVERY	SCHOOL STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxiety and fear • Loss of control • Feelings of helplessness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore safety • Enhance control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structured, predictable environments where changes are explained • Teaching classroom school routines • Explaining classroom and school routines • Scaffolded teaching of topics and concepts in all subject areas • Quiet spaces and opportunities to relax, play quiet games, and prayer rooms • Opportunities for play, art and expression of feelings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to attachments • Grief • Depression • Family and community fragmentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore secure attachment and connections to others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching how to seek assistance and support • Collaborative learning opportunities • Transition programs for a range of school entry experiences • Using student buddy systems • Explicit teaching of social skills • Welcoming and engaging families and community

EFFECTS OF REFUGEE EXPERIENCES	GOALS TO SUPPORT RECOVERY	SCHOOL STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of trust • Questioning meaning and identity • Sensitivity to injustice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore trust • Restore meaning and purpose to life • Rebuild identity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of prior learning and current learning needs in learning plans • Programs to meet student needs and address gaps of learning and achievement • Opportunities to experience success with recognition • Appropriate and individually managed pathway support, including links to other services • Opportunities for students to take risks and build trust
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guilt • Shame • Blaming of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore dignity and value • Reduce excessive shame and guilt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holding events that celebrate diversity • Professional development for staff to promote an understanding of refugee experiences and how to use EAL strategies • Modelling respect with correct pronunciation of names • Training teachers to use interpreters • Dealing with discipline one-on-one and with an advocate • Allowing students to discuss work in their first language • Consistency between teachers in teaching expectations and approaches

SIFR.FOUNDATIONHOUSE.ORG.AU



Foundation House

The Victorian Foundation
for Survivors of Torture Inc.

