

# Encouraging Your Primary School to Create a LOUD fence

## A Guide for Families and Loved Ones



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### What is a LOUD Fence?



A display of **brightly coloured** ribbons attached to a fence, tree, gate or similar structure, to demonstrate a shared commitment to the safety and wellbeing of children and families. It also acknowledges and stands in solidarity with victim-survivors of abuse, violence, and harm.

At a Primary School, it is a **powerful statement of child safety** and a way to stand in solidarity with the community.

***The ribbons remind big people to listen to little people.***

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### 1. Start the conversation

Approach your child's primary school and ask if they would consider creating a LOUD fence. You could start by saying:

- "We'd love to see ribbons tied here as a way of showing families and children that safety is a priority."
- "The ribbons help children know their voices matter and they will be listened to."
- "We'd like to acknowledge the past harm at our school and let survivors know we support and care for them."

A respectful, face-to-face conversation is the best way to introduce the idea

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### 2. Share why it matters

Explain how a LOUD fence benefits everyone:

- **For children:** It gives them a *visible* voice and shows they are safe, heard, and valued.
- **For families:** It builds trust that the service is working in partnership with them.
- **For staff:** It's a reminder that child safety procedures are in place and being taken seriously.
- **For victim-survivors:** It shows that past harms are acknowledged, they are safe, they are supported and the school community cares.
- **For the community:** It shows the service is standing with survivors, families, and children.

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### 3. Suggest practical steps

If your primary school is open to the idea, you might suggest:

- Holding a small ribbon-tying event where the school community can be involved.
- Inviting victim-survivors to contribute messages of hope.
- Placing information in the school newsletter or on noticeboards.

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### 4. Support children's voices

Encourage your primary school to remind children that:

- Every Ribbon Has a Voice – Just Listen.
- Their voices matter and adults are here to listen.
- Tying a ribbon is a way of showing their feelings in a safe and supportive way.

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### 5. Offer your support

Let the principal know you are willing to help:

- Provide ribbons or help with setting up the space.
- Volunteer to explain the meaning of the ribbons at a parent meeting or in a newsletter.
- Share with other families why the ribbons matter.

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### Final thoughts

This is a small action with a big message. A LOUD fence says:

- *We listen to children.*
- *We stand with families.*
- *We are committed to child safety.*

Every Ribbon Has a Voice – Just Listen.



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### Explaining the Ribbons to Children

Keep it simple and empowering:

**“The ribbons remind big people to listen to little people.”**

[Having conversations with children and young people | National Office for Child Safety.](#)

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## Need Help or Guidance?

Email: [admin@loudfence.org.au](mailto:admin@loudfence.org.au)

Website: [www.loudfence.org.au](http://www.loudfence.org.au)

## Supports available

If you or someone in your community is affected by the content of this guide, please contact:

- **Sexual Assault Crisis Line (SACL):** 1800 806 292
- **1800 RESPECT:** 1800 737 732
- **Lifeline:** 13 11 14
- **Blue Knot Foundation:** 1300 657 380
- **Parentline:** 13 22 89
- **13 Yarn:** 13 92 76
- **Survivors and Mates Support Network (SAMSN):** 1800 472 676