



*"Your story and insights have inspired us all greatly and your courage is admirable. There is no doubt that (your presentation) will stay with us and resonate with those who have heard you."* A school student's response to a Face to Face Program presenter



Refugee Council  
of Australia

To book a presentation follow the link: <http://www.refugeecouncil.org.au/our-work/schools-program/>

Email: [facetoface@refugeecouncil.org.au](mailto:facetoface@refugeecouncil.org.au)

Phone: Face to Face Project Officer (02) 92119333

## Links to the Victorian Curriculum

Examples of links to the Victorian Curriculum ([victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://victoriancurriculum.vcaa.vic.edu.au)):

### English

**Level 8:** Explore the ways that ideas and viewpoints in literary texts drawn from different historical, social and cultural contexts may reflect or challenge the values of individuals and groups.

**Level 9:** Listen to spoken texts constructed for different purposes and analyse how language features in these texts position listeners to respond in particular ways, and consider the interaction skills used to present and discuss ideas, or to influence and engage audiences through persuasive language, varied voice tone, pitch and pace.

### The Arts- Drama

**Levels 7-8:** Combine the elements of drama in devised and scripted drama to explore and develop issues, ideas and themes.

### Geography

**Levels 7-8:** Factors that influence the decisions people make about where to live and their perceptions of the liveability of places.

**Levels 9-10:** Perceptions people have of place, and how this influences their connections to different places.

### History

**Levels 9-10:** Effects of significant post-World War II world events and developments on one major global influence (for example, migration experiences) that shaped change in Australian society.

### Intercultural Capability

**Levels 5-6:** Explain how intercultural experiences can influence beliefs and behaviours, including developing a critical perspective on and respect for their own and others cultures.

### Ethical Capability

**Levels 7-8:** Explore the contested meaning of concepts including freedom, justice, and rights and responsibilities, and the extent they are and should be valued by different individuals and groups.

### Personal and Social Capability

**Levels 5-6:** Define and recognise examples of stereotypes, discrimination and prejudice and discuss how they impact on the individual.

**Levels 9-10:** Acknowledge the importance of empathy and the acceptance of diversity for a cohesive community and reflect on the effectiveness of strategies for being respectful of diversity and human rights.

### Civics and Citizenship

**Levels 7-8:** Explain how groups express their identities, including religious and cultural identity, and how this expression can influence their perceptions of others and others' perception of them.

### VCE Legal Studies, Unit 2

**Area of study 4-** A question of rights: investigate "an instance where an individual or group has suffered an abuse of their rights and sought redress through the court system." (Legal Studies VCE Study Design [2011-2017], p. 19)

# understanding refugees

Learn what it means to be a  
refugee from people sharing  
first-hand experience



Presentations for secondary and primary schools  
and community groups in Victoria



Refugee Council  
of Australia

# face-to-face: bringing refugee stories to the classroom

The Face to Face program is co-presented by a speaker from a refugee background and a representative of the Refugee Council of Australia.

Presentations are linked to the Victorian curriculum (see details overleaf).

Presentations are tailored for primary and secondary students, teachers, professional development, settlement service providers and interested groups. It aims to:

- build social cohesion, address negative perceptions about refugees;
- increase awareness and understanding of the difficulties and challenges faced by refugees and their contribution to Australia.

The presentation covers:

- who refugees are and where they come from
- facts about refugees worldwide and in Australia
- the conditions refugees face overseas
- Australia's refugee policies

People from a refugee background share personal stories of their journey to safety and give students the opportunity to learn face-to-face about refugees, their experiences and their contributions to Australia.

Incursions are customised to meet the needs of the group. They can be delivered as a one-hour interactive presentation or a two-hour workshop incorporating small group activities. Both presentations and workshops are brought to life with visual support material.

The presentation package includes a comprehensive Resource Guide for teachers containing links to lesson plans, follow-up activities and further reading, as well as information on how to support and advocate for people from refugee backgrounds.



## What students say about Face to Face

*"I learned that refugees aren't just faceless masses like the media portrays them. They are individuals and have stories."* High school student

*"Through your words, we were able to understand the inequality in our world, though many of us could never comprehend the hardships faced by so many. It made us realise and appreciate how fortunate we are, and put more emphasis on the need for us to accept everyone, from all communities, especially those who are facing the most prejudice. A first-hand account was really effective to make a huge impact on our understanding of a refugee's experience, and was so rich with emotion. You helped us remember how much the little things count, and the effect we can have."* Year 10 student

*Your session was the highlight of the semester."* Final year student, Sydney University

*"I think that the Refugee Council has put together a wonderful incursion, which allowed me to appreciate things that we take for granted more. The refugee's life story is very traumatising, and I wish him well with his future endeavours."* Year 8 student

*"You helped us remember how much the little things count, and the effect we can have."* Year 10 student

## Costs of the program

The Refugee Council of Australia is an independent charitable organisation which relies on public donations to survive. Each refugee speaker is paid a speaker's fee in recognition of her or his expertise and to cover income lost in making time available to speak.

## Standard rates for school presentations

\$600 (+ GST) for a single presentation, \$800 (+ GST) for two presentations on the same day, \$1000 (+ GST) for three presentations. If any school is able to donate funds beyond the standard rate, the funds will be invested by RCOA in the recruitment and training of additional speakers.

## Concession rates

As we do not want cost to be a barrier to students hearing from refugee speakers, we offer the following concession rates (subsidised by public donations) to schools or groups with more limited resources:

\$300 (+ GST) for a single presentation, \$400 (+ GST) for two presentations on the same day, \$500 (+ GST) for three presentations. One option to reduce costs further is for nearby schools to combine for a group booking on the same day.

Separate rates apply for professional development

All rates are negotiable.

## Contact us

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*"The delivery of facts and clarification of terms and the story the refugee told of his struggles and triumphs was very powerful."* A teacher's view of the program