

**Our families come in**

**different shapes and sizes**

**some families are big**

**some families are small**

**some live in one home**

**some live across different homes**

**some families have pets**

**All our families belong here.**

School communities that promote inclusion and respect for diverse families create a sense of belonging for children. When children are accepted for who they are, have their identity valued and their diverse families acknowledged, their sense of belonging increases. When children feel like they belong, their learning improves and they are happier.\*

Some ideas for creating positive and inclusive environments include putting up posters like this one, reading books on family and gender diversity, reviewing language used in policies and communication to families, and teaching respectful relationships.

\* Adapted from Component 1, "A positive school community" *KidsMatter Primary* initiative to improve primary school students' mental health and wellbeing (2010) and Equity and Diversity practice principles in the *Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework* (2016). Rainbow Families Victoria supports and advocates for LGBTIQ parents, carers and their children. Find out more at [rainbowfamilies.org.au](http://rainbowfamilies.org.au).



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