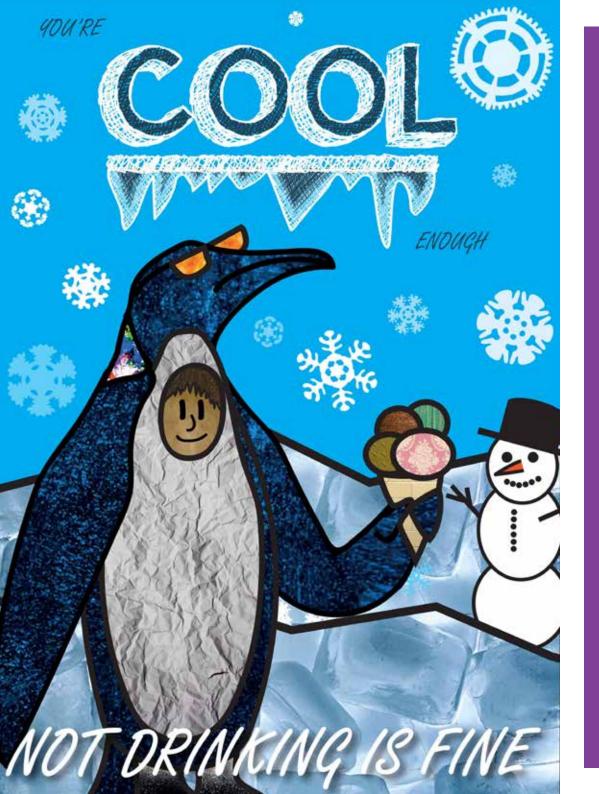
## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ABOUT**







The facts have changed: we now know more about the effects of alcohol than when we were young.

Based on this new information, the Australian guidelines<sup>\*</sup> recommend that <u>no-one under the age of 18</u> <u>should drink alcohol.</u>

Student artwork by James Gray, Heywood & District Secondary College

\* Australian National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Young people are harmed by alcohol. They make up:

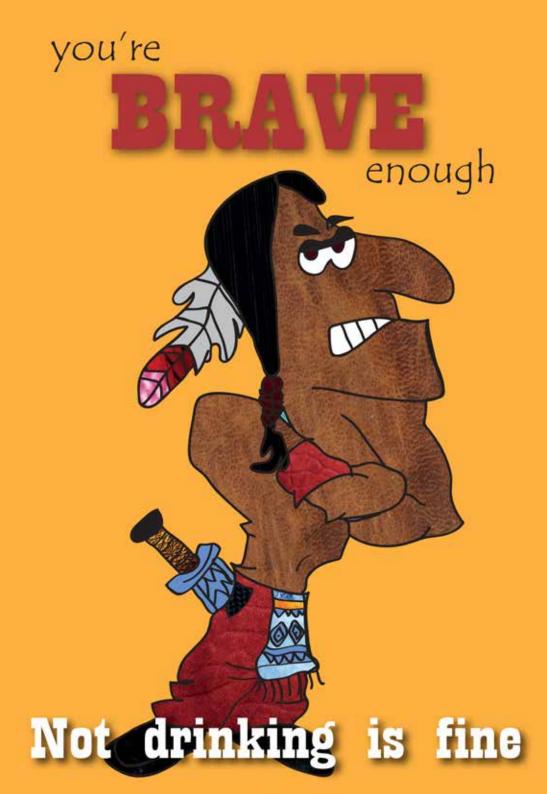
**1 in 3 hospitalisations from** alcohol related injuries

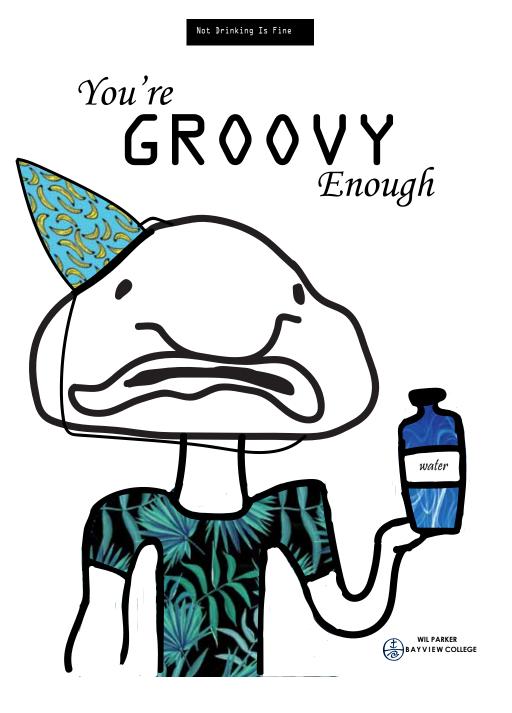
1 in 4 deaths from alcohol related injuries

1 in 2 serious alcohol related road injuries

Student artwork by Tristan Pumpa, Heywood & District Secondary College

Source: NHMRC Guidelines



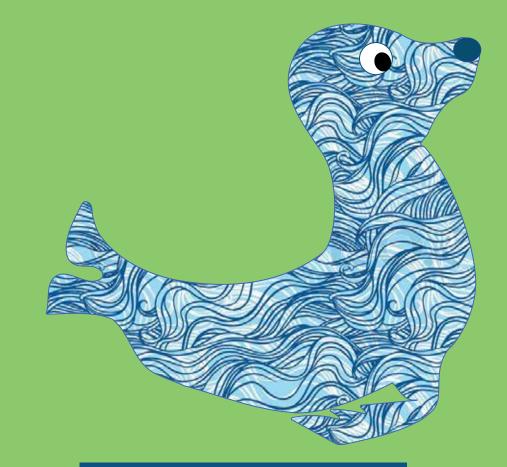


Drinking can damage the developing brain.

This can affect decision making, problem solving and emotions.

Student artwork by Wil Parker, Bayview College When drinking starts during the teenage years, young people are <u>less likely</u> to do well at school, or to finish at all.

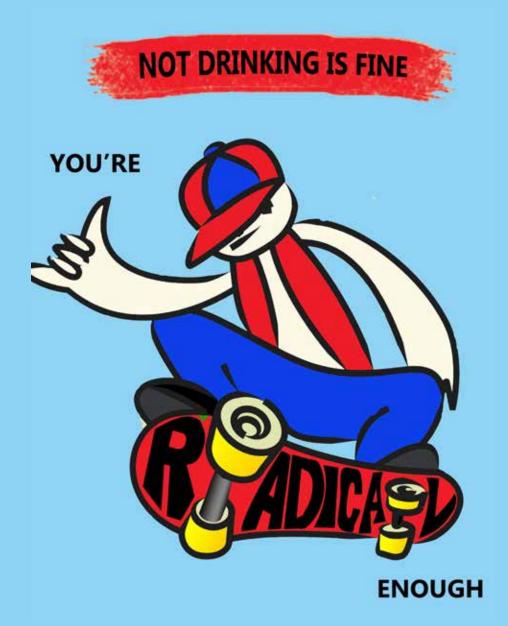
## YOU'RE COOL ENOUGH



## **NOT DRINKING IS FINE**



Student artwork by Joe Mulvey, Bayview College



Drinking is also linked to increased depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, antisocial behaviour and <u>ADHD</u>.

Student artwork by Jack Brough, Portland Secondary College

## Encourage your kids <u>not to drink</u> until they're 18. How?

- Agree on a family rule and consequences about alcohol use
- Don't provide them with alcohol
- Help them work out how to refuse a drink: "No thanks, I'm good" "No thanks, I've got sport tomorrow" "No thanks, my parents would kill me"
- Encourage them to have water or soft drink instead of alcohol
- Encourage them to do fun things that don't involve alcohol
- Maintain a good relationship with them.

Front cover student artwork by Stacey Goldsworthy, Portland Secondary College

This brochure was created as part of Beyond the Bell in Glenelg Shire. We value and appreciate the support of participating schools: Bayview College, Heywood & District Secondary College and Portland Secondary College

