

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

As bullying has such adverse consequences on students' learning and self-esteem, the procedures below have been established to eliminate bullying from our school.

For this purpose bullying has been defined as any verbal, physical or emotional behaviour which a student(s) may use toward another person and:

- is in the form of (a) put down(s) or is offensive or humiliating or intimidating in the view of the student to whom the behaviour is directed.
- is unsolicited, unwelcome or repeated
- is used to emotionally or physically hurt, coerce, threaten or exclude the student to whom the behaviour is directed.
- creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment for one or more students.

Bullying occurs when any one of the above situations occurs. Where more than one of the above happens then it merely indicates the extent or degree of the bullying.

When bullying occurs students are expected to do something about it. Staff are expected to assist students with this.

ACTIONS THAT A STUDENT IS ENCOURAGED TO TAKE

- e.g.1. Speak with the bully directly. Use statements like -
I don't like it when you ...
I want you to stop and I want you to stop now ...
I feel bullied when you ...
2. Speak with a friend to support you while you do 1. above
If the result is unsatisfactory
 3. Speak with a staff member to either intervene or to support you while you do 1 above. If you are still concerned about the situation, you may need to speak to another adult e.g. another teacher, SSO, leadership.
A student must be supported in doing something about the bullying until the bullying stops.
"Go and play somewhere else", "Ignore it"; are actually ineffective when dealing with bullying, compared to resolving the issue at a deeper level.

When it has been established that bullying has occurred then the following will occur for the student who has been bullied.

PROCEDURES:

1. BULLYING OCCURRING IN CLASS TIME

Appropriate action will be taken by the teacher, involving counselling with all students involved. Consequences may be given according to the Student Behaviour Policy.

2. BULLYING OCCURRING AT PLAYTIME

Pink Time Out Slip will be issued.

SUPPORT STRATEGIES

1. Leadership will monitor Behaviour Management Incident Records, including Bullying, regularly and inform teachers.

2. It is important that every student and every family understands the consequences for bullying. Parents will be informed of our Anti-bullying Policy and Student Behaviour Policy.
3. Class teachers will explicitly teach an anti-bullying program each year as part of the Child Protection Curriculum, or on its own.
4. The Peer Mediation program will train a group of years 5-7 students to enable them to act as student mediators to help resolve minor issues in the yard that do not require teacher intervention.
5. Students will be surveyed or interviewed each year to monitor bullying in the school, so that appropriate actions can be taken.