

Holy Saviour School
ANTI BULLYING

BANKSTOWN REGION

School Liaison Police

Phone: 9783 2199

2014 Contact Name: Constable Rosa Fali

The role of the School Liaison Police (SLP) is to 'Increase the positive relationships and remove barriers between the school community and police'. This is achieved through the implementation of programs and strategies to reduce the incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour amongst youth by developing programs and activities that involve students understanding the law, police role and their responsibilities to the community.

ANTI BULLYING STATEMENT

Definition

Bullying is a pattern of behaviour by one person towards another which is designed to hurt, injure, embarrass, upset or discomfort that person. It can be:

- Physical aggression
- The use of put-down comments or insults
- Name calling
- Damage to the person's property
- Deliberate exclusion from activities
- The setting-up of humiliating experiences
- Threatening or obscene gestures
- Threats to involve others in the conflict

School Commitment

- All teachers are firmly committed to putting an end to acts of bullying
- Victims of bullying will be supported. No-one deserves to be bullied even if their behaviour is irritating or annoying

STRATEGIES TO DEAL WITH BULLYING

- Withdraw the aggressive child from the situation
- Children write down what is happening as well as an apology
- Select a time when/place where the children involved are able to discuss their feelings related to the situation
- Allow children to have a say in the positive resolution of the situation
- It may be advantageous in certain circumstances to involve a staff member who was not involved in the initial conflict
- Inform the appropriate people if the matter needs to be dealt with further (Principal or Parents)
- Give assistance to the victim of this situation in any appropriate manner deemed necessary at the time

For further information, refer to the Anti- Bullying school policy

ANTI BULLYING POLICY

Beliefs

Every person has a right to be treated as an individual and with dignity

Every person has a right to be able to feel safe

Every person has a right to be able to learn, free from anxiety.

Anti Bullying

All children and young people have the right to an education that is free from discrimination, harassment and bullying. Students who are the targets of persistent bullying can suffer long-term psychological, social and developmental damage that can continue into their adult years.

Violence, bullying and harassment affect everyone, not just those directly involved. It also affects those who witness the violence and aggression that is often associated with bullying and the distress and powerlessness of the victim or victims. Bullying behaviours can have a profound long term effect on the culture of the school.

What is Bullying and Harassment?

Bullying is when someone uses his/her power to hurt or scare others. It can be done individually or by a group. It can be carried out physically, emotionally or verbally.

Examples of bullying and harassment:

- hitting or being violent
- threatening or frightening others
- pushing and spitting on others
- interfering with another's property, by hiding, damaging or destroying it
- using offensive names, teasing others or their families
- using put-downs, belittling others' abilities and achievements
- writing mean or spiteful notes or graffiti about others
- making degrading comments about others
- making suggestive comments or other forms of sexual abuse
- ridiculing another's body appearance
- using nicknames or making silly noises

We, at Holy Saviour School believe:

- Students are all entitled to receive their education free from humiliation, oppression and abuse.
- Disclosure of bullying does not make it worse; failure to disclose it ensures it will continue.

We, at Holy Saviour School recommend:

- Students, parents and teachers to report all incidents of bullying.

We, at Holy Saviour will:

- Support the victims of bullying, especially by endeavouring to have the bullying stop
- Endeavour to have bullies stop their activities by using the school pastoral care workers and discipline procedures.
-

Record Keeping

Documentation gathered in response to specific instances of bullying should indicate the following:

- what was allegedly said and done to the complainant
- the date, time and the place when the incident(s) occurred
- any witnesses to the incident
- the reaction (if any) of the complainant (victim)
- whether the complainant had experienced that treatment before (if yes, a staff member should establish if it was from the same student or students)
- notification of the incident to the parents of those students involved in the incident
- follow-up action, in conjunction with the relevant staff member and student.

Follow-up action will ensure:

- resolution of the problem in an polite and unbiased manner
- advice to the complainants that they may take the matter further if they are not satisfied with the way that the school handled their complaint
- monitoring of the situation
- appropriate feedback to parents of students involved.

Persistent incidents of bullying that interfere with the safety and well-being of other students need to be reviewed in the context of the student management policy, and appropriate action taken.

Where the bullying behaviour has involved a crime, such as common assault, school-based actions will include a report to the Department of Community Services (DOCS). Further referral to other agencies may also be made and the advice of the police may be sought.

Procedural fairness always applies in dealing with any incidents of bullying. Appropriate and timely support, management and resolution of reported incidents of bullying will be offered to all persons involved in these incidents.

Definition

Physical: hitting, pushing, tripping, kicking, spitting on others.

Verbal: teasing, using offensive names, yelling or screaming abuse, constant criticism of a person, inappropriate comments about a person's appearance.

Non-verbal: writing offensive notes, in any medium, graffiti about others, rude gestures.

Psychological: spreading rumours, hiding or damaging possessions, inappropriate use of information technologies, such as using email, websites or text messaging to hurt others, using the internet or mobile phones to spread rumours or misinformation; unauthorised use of camera phones to cause harm to others.

Social-Emotional: deliberately excluding others from a group, refusing to sit next to someone, overtly encouraging other people to actively ignore or avoid person.

Extortion: threatening to take someone's possession, food or money.

Property: stealing, hiding, damaging or destroying property.