

STRATEGIES THAT WILL BE USED TO MANAGE AND REDUCE BULLYING

❖ **PEER MEDIATION**

Programs have been implemented to skill many senior students in dealing with minor playground disputes.

❖ **CLASSROOM EDUCATION**

Preventative classroom activities and games about issues related to bullying behaviour. Development of a Pastoral Care Team who have received extra training in the management of bullying. On-going internal staff training

❖ **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES**

Clear steps for students to follow if they are involved in a bullying incident. Student counselling and support.

❖ **PARENT EDUCATION**

Resources, information packages and school initiated meetings with members of the pastoral care team.

❖ **MONITORING AND REVIEW**

This policy will be monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

As parents you are the most influential models for your child.

TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST

- In what your child does at school
- In their cultural, social and sporting life

FOSTER A TOLERANT HOME LIFE

- Encourage your child to bring friends home
- Accept and tolerate differences within others
- Set firm but fair boundaries with your child's input
- Demonstrate care and consideration for others

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD

- Nurture your child's positive qualities and interests
- Value your child as they are

DISCUSS BULLYING

- Talk about the school's expectations
- Advise that retaliation does not solve the problem
- Report all incidences to class teacher and Administration
- Explain what to do if your child is a witness

WINTHROP PRIMARY SCHOOL

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POLICY ON BULLYING

At Winthrop Primary we believe that the environment for students, staff and parents should be safe and free from violence, victimisation, harassment and bullying of any kind.

We aim to uphold a 'ZERO TOLERANCE' approach, as bullying infringes on our fundamental rights of safety and fair treatment.

Collaborative support from the whole school community is vital in establishing and maintaining an environment in which everybody feels valued and safe, where differences are genuinely accepted and the esteem of individuals is promoted.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is *repetitive*, unprovoked aggressive behaviour towards another person. It causes hurt, fear or distress and is characterised by an imbalance of power.

Bullying come in many forms:

PHYSICAL: shoving, punching, hitting, kicking, damaging belongings, pinching.

VERBAL: put-downs, teasing, name-calling, racist taunts, mocking

EXTORTION: forcing weaker students to hand over food, money etc.

EXCLUSION: rumours, gossip, whispers, being 'left out', ignoring

BODY LANGUAGE: silent stares, dirty looks, nasty faces, rude gestures.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

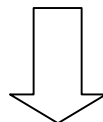
- Unwillingness to attend school
- Loss of self-confidence
- Declining academic performance
- Damaged clothing, frequent loss of personal property
- Uncharacteristic mood changes
- Withdrawal from social activities

ACTION PLAN: HOW TO EMPOWER VICTIMS

If you do not feel safe you can:

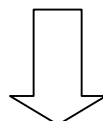
A. Ignore the bullying behaviour and show that it is not upsetting you

IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES



B. If you feel comfortable, tell the person how you feel and that you want them to stop immediately

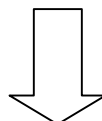
IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES



C. Talk to someone you can trust to help you:

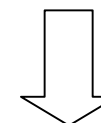
- Parents
- Friends
- Teacher
- Pastoral Care Member
- Peer mediator

IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES



D. Talk openly about the unwanted behaviour with Pastoral Care Team. Share what you have already tried and an action plan will be implemented with the person/s involved. Continue to monitor the situation

IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES



E. Go to a Deputy Principal or the Principal
Talk openly about the problem and allow the school to take action, eg:

- Counselling for the bully
- Family involvement
- Disciplinary action

If your child reports being bullied, treat the concern seriously and talk about it.