Wirrabara Primary School



ANTI BULLYING POLICY

At Wirrabara Primary School we want all students to feel safe.

Therefore we take bullying seriously. This policy explains what bullying is, how it can be reported and what we will do to stop it happening.

At Wirrabara Primary School, we believe that:

- Bullying is the systematic abuse of power
- Bullying is not simply about difference. It may occur because of people's inability to accept and value difference
- Bullying includes racist or sexual harassment or any other form of discriminatory behaviour
- Bullying is everyone's business
- Bullying can involve violence

A definition of bullying

- It is deliberate.
- It is the power of one individual or group of individuals over another.
- It can be physical, verbal and/or psychological.
- It can be words or actions, which are repeated over time.

Examples of bullying are:

- Having your lunch taken away often
- Being left out of games or conversations often
- Being repeatedly hit or kicked or pushed
- Being bullied by SMS on mobile phones or through the Internet
- Someone telling lies about you
- Being touched in an annoying way

There are many ways you can be harassed or teased. Your feelings tell you when what someone is doing to you is wrong.

Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the RIGHT to:

- Respect, courtesy and honesty
- Learn in a purposeful and supportive environment
- Work and play in a safe, secure, friendly and clean environment

Students have the RESPONSIBILITY to:

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- Be respectful, courteous and honest
- Behave in a way that is not disruptive to the learning of others
- Help keep the school environment neat, tidy and secure
- Be punctual, polite and friendly
- Work and play safely with others

Staff have the RIGHT to:

- Respect, courtesy and honesty
- Teach in a safe, secure, friendly and clean environment
- Co-operation and support from parents

Staff have the RESPONSIBILITY to:

- Model respectful, courteous and honest behaviour
- Help to keep the school environment neat, tidy and secure
- Establish positive relationships with students
- Involve parents in their child's education

Principals have the RIGHT to:

- Respect, courtesy and honesty
- Work in a safe, secure, friendly and clean environment
- Co-operation and support from parents

Principals have the RESPONSIBILITY to:

- Clearly identify and co-ordinate behaviour management within the school
- Ensure that the policy is reviewed and maintained
- Ensure that processes and procedures are clear and explicit
- Support staff in implementing the behaviour management policy
- Facilitate parental involvement

Parents have the RIGHT to:

- Be informed of course and curriculum material, behaviour management, procedures and decisions affecting the health and wellbeing of their child
- Be informed of their child's progress
- Be heard in an appropriate forum on matters relating to the rights of their child to an appropriate education

Parents have the RESPONSIBILITY to:

- Ensure that their child attends school
- Ensure that the physical and emotional condition of their child is at an optimum for effective learning
- Ensure that their child is provided with appropriate materials to make effective use of the learning environment
- Support the school in providing a meaningful and adequate education for their children

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What can you do about bullying?

If you are being bullied or you know someone who is being bullied, please report it.

Who to report it to

- Tell your teacher, the school counsellor or the Principal.
- Tell your parents or caregivers too.

How to report

 Tell the trusted adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening.

When to report

- Report bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens.
- Do not ignore it.
- When bullying is ignored, it may get worse.

What we do about incidents of bullying

If an incident of bullying happens at Wirrabara Primary School we use preventative, intervention and post-intervention strategies.

Prevention strategies include:

- Using the curriculum to teach students about respectful relationships, civics and citizenship
- Developing programs to help students participate and have a say in their learning
- Teaching students about violence prevention, conflict resolution, anger management and problem-solving
- Teaching for and about diversity
- Providing professional learning for staff in collaboration with local agencies

Intervention strategies include:

- Counselling students who have been bullied
- Talking with parents or caregivers about the situation
- Putting consequences in place for those who bully others, such as time out, suspension or exclusion
- Teaching students to be better bystanders
- Ensuring that all staff know how to address bullying effectively and respectfully

<u>Post-intervention strategies</u> include:

- Monitoring the situation between the students to ensure that their safety and wellbeing are maintained
- Talking with parents or caregivers about strategies
- Reviewing our yard duty procedures to make sure they are effective

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- Dealing with hotspots in the yard and classroom
- Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes and policies

What the bully can do to change

- Listen to other people and share
- Ask people to play nicely
- Try to act calmly when they don't get what they want; we can work something out
- Believe in own self worth
- Win friends by being themselves
- Call people names that they like
- Accept NO as an answer

If we all work together we will always be keeping our school a happy and safe place for everyone.

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