

WHYALLA TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

At Whyalla Town Primary School we want all students to
feel safe,

Therefore we take bullying seriously.

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

At Whyalla Town Primary School we believe that:

- Bullying is everyone's business
- Bullying is the systematic abuse of power
- Bullying can involve violence

Students, staff and parents at Whyalla Town Primary School have the right to be in an environment free of bullying and (if bullied) to be provided with help and support.

Students, staff and parents at Whyalla Town Primary School have a responsibility to abstain personally from bullying others in any way, and to actively discourage bullying when it occurs.

A definition of bullying

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical or social behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyber-bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies.

Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not regarded as bullying.

Bullying in any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Examples of bullying are but not limited to:

- Physical: pushing, touching, grabbing, looks, stares, facial expressions, gestures, spitting, taking or damaging property.
- Verbal: or written: spoken or written insults, threats, suggestive comments, name-calling, unfair criticism, spreading rumours

- Cyber: Using email, voice and text messaging, social networking sites, photographic and video images
- Graffiti: using pictures tags or words
- Social: forming groups to leave out, ignore and disrespect; influencing, encouraging or organising someone else to be involved in any type of bullying.
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- Damaging, removing or hiding belongings of others
- Excluding or isolating someone on purpose
- Teasing or name calling
- Demands for money or possessions
- Repeatedly kicking or hitting
- Bullying through e-mail, SMS or other forms of digital communication
- Sexual or racial harassment
- Any form of discriminatory behaviour: sexual, racial or disability

What students can do about bullying

Students should follow the school's grievance procedures where possible.

- Report the bullying to a trusted adult as soon as possible.
- Bullying can be reported to the teacher on yard duty or classroom teacher. Students should also tell parents or caregivers.
- Tell the teacher or the trusted adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening.

What we do about incidents of bullying

- We will listen and talk to the person who has been bullied and the person who has bullied others.
- The severity and seriousness of the bullying will be assessed and appropriate action taken. This may include informal talks, counselling, time out, restricted play, and interviews with parents, suspension or exclusion.
- We will seek to help everyone involved to improve their relationships with each other.

It is important to note that the process will change for each situation. Each person is different and each incident of bullying is different.

What we do at Whyalla Town Primary School to reduce bullying

At Whyalla Town Primary School we use **prevention, intervention and post-intervention** strategies.

Prevention strategies include:

- Using the curriculum to teach students about respectful relationships, civics and citizenship.

- Teaching students about protective behaviours, conflict resolution and problem solving
- All students involved in Anti-Bullying workshops at the beginning of each year and a refresher at the beginning of each term.
- Positive psychology strategies implemented in all classes.
- Clear class and yard rules and consequences negotiated with students.
- Implementation Child Protection Curriculum R-7
- Implementation o Programme Achieve R-7
- Promoting Well-being and resilience in Health programme
- Implementation of a range of programmes by external providers e.g Rock and Water.

Intervention strategies include:

- Counselling students who have been involved in bullying (victims and perpetrators)
- Talking with parents or care-givers about the situation
- Putting consequences in place for those who bully others
- Empowering students to be proactive and to act against bullying
- All staff receive training in how to address bullying effectively and respectfully
- All staff are supported to deal with bullying when the need arises
- Plans developed to support students develop skills and strategies to interact positively with others.
- Targeted learning implemented such as (skill streaming) to build student capacity to deal with and understand the impact of bullying.

Post-intervention strategies include:

- Monitoring the situation between the students to ensure their safety and wellbeing are maintained
- Reviewing our yard duty procedures to ensure they are effective
- Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes
- Review learning programmes to gauge effectiveness and transference of learning.
- Regular updates to be presented to Governing Council of the Effectiveness of the programmes implemented.

This policy was ratified by Governing Council on	April 2012
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This policy will be reviewed	May 2015
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