

STUDENT ANTI BULLYING POLICY

DEFINITION:

A person is bullied when they are exposed regularly and over time to negative actions on the part of one or more persons. Bullies are people who deliberately set out to intimidate, exclude, threaten, spread rumours and/or hurt others repeatedly. They can operate alone or as a group.

RATIONALE:

Findon Primary School will provide a positive culture where bullying is not accepted, and in doing so, all will have the right of respect from others, the right to learn or to teach, and a right to feel safe and secure in the school environment.

AIMS:

- To reinforce within the school community that no form of bullying is acceptable
- Everyone within the school community to be alert to signs and evidence of bullying and to have a responsibility to report it to staff whether as an observer (bystander) or victim
- To ensure that all reported incidents of bullying are followed up and that support is given to both victim and perpetrator
- To seek parental and peer group support and cooperation at all times

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Parents, staff, students and the community will be aware of the school's position on bullying
- Findon Primary School will continue to use existing procedures and whole school approaches such as the Classroom Behaviour Process, Time Out Procedure, Restorative Practices and introduce others as seen to be appropriate

Primary Prevention

- To provide a Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum i.e. PATHS, that develops skills in emotional regulation, relationship development and problem solving
- To provide programs that promote positive relationships, resilience, life skills and protective factors such as: Restorative Practices and circle time, Bully Stoppers, KidsMatter promotion, Better Buddies
- Values education for the whole school community
- Communication for parents via the newsletter
- Social skills programs to develop resilience, conflict resolution, assertiveness and problem solving for all students
- Each classroom teacher to clarify at the start of each year the school policy on bullying using the core values through the Quality Beginning School Program
- Staff to model the school values at all times

Early Intervention

- Ensure students have a clear understanding of what constitutes bullying
- Encourage and educate students on the role of a bystander
- Encourage students to report bullying incidents involving themselves or others.
- Regularly remind students to report incidents.
- Encourage parents to contact school if they become aware of a problem
- Parent education through regular newsletter articles, Learning Team information newsletters, guest speaker evenings and the school website

Intervention

- Once identified all incidents are fully investigated and documented, an action plan is adopted

- Both bully and victim are given counselling and support with possible involvement of parents
- If bullying is ongoing, parents will be contacted and consequences implemented consistent with the school's Classroom Management Plan, Outside Code of Conduct and Students Rights and Responsibilities

Post Violation

Consequences may involve:

1. Withdrawal of privileges
2. Exclusion from class
3. Time out
4. Exclusion from yard
5. Ongoing counselling from appropriate agency for both victim and bully
6. School suspension

EVALUATION: This policy shall be reviewed as part of the ongoing policy and process review.

REFERENCES: DET website

APPENDICES:

Classroom Behaviour Process Flow Chart
Timeout Procedure
Outside Code of Conduct
Student Rights and Responsibilities