

WHAT DOES THE SCHOOL DO TO REDUCE BULLYING?

We **prevent** bullying by:

- teaching students to be confident and get along with others
- encouraging students to bounce back and be resilient when bad things happen
- teaching that it is OK to be different
We value and learn about different *cultures* and the need for tolerance
- teaching skills in assertion, empathy, listening, relaxation, anger management, conflict resolution and problem solving
- teaching students to recognise bullying and how to be better bystanders
- providing structured playtime activities

We **intervene** in bullying by:

- counselling students who have been bullied
- talking with parents or caregivers about the situation
- giving negotiated consequences such as making things right, restricted play, time out, after school detention and suspension for 5 days
- conducting confidential safety surveys with students to identify bullying
- ensuring that all staff know how to address bullying effectively using the common language of restorative justice

We *follow* up incidents of bullying by:

- monitoring students who bully and students who have been bullied
- reviewing our yard duty procedures and policy to make sure they are effective

Parents or care givers must not discipline other students. Reporting school discipline problems to staff will avoid community confusion and conflict

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

We believe that it is important that grievances are kept confidential

Parents/caregivers/families can address their grievances by:

- arranging a suitable time to speak to the staff member
- arranging a time to speak to the Principal, Deputy Principal, School Counsellor or Aboriginal Education Worker
- contacting the District Director

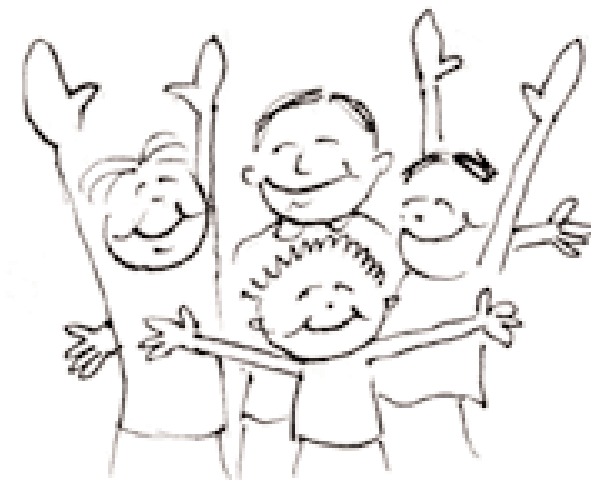
If you believe that our anti bullying policy is not being followed we encourage you to have your grievance addressed in private



**Morphett Vale
Primary School**
Phone 8186 5064

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Parent/Caregivers Information



**AT THIS SCHOOL WE RESPECT
PEOPLE AND PROPERTY.**

**TEACHERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO TEACH.
STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO LEARN
AND THE RESPONSIBILITY TO
LET OTHERS LEARN.**

**STUDENTS AND STAFF HAVE THE RIGHT
TO FEEL SAFE ALL THE TIME.**

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is deliberate and repeated hurtful behaviour that uses unfair power.

It is the opposite of friendly and caring behaviour

It makes people feel unsafe, worthless and alone

Bullying includes racist or sexist harassment or any other form of discriminatory behaviour

Examples of bullying

A student or a group picking on one or two students by:

- repeatedly physically hurting or touching
- calling someone insulting names or teasing
- repeatedly giving mean looks
- following someone around
- continual invasion of personal space
- threatening or scaring someone to do something they don't want to do
- deliberately leaving a person or group, out of games and conversations
- telling others to exclude someone
- spreading embarrassing secrets or rumours, or telling lies about someone
- hiding or damaging someone's property

HOW CAN I TELL IF MY CHILD IS BEING BULLIED?

Children who are being bullied may not tell the school staff about it. They may be afraid that it will only make things worse or they think it is wrong to tell

This is why, as a parent or caregiver, you have an important part to play in helping the school and your child to deal with bullying

Signs that a child is being bullied may be:

- vague headaches or stomach aches
- refusal to go to school
- tearfulness or depression
- asking for extra money or food
- unexplained cuts, bruises or scratches
- damaged clothing or property

What should I do if I suspect my child is being bullied?

You may feel anxious or upset, however it is important that you remain calm

- listen to your child
- find out what happened, when and where, and who was involved including witnesses.
- let your child know that telling you about the bullying is the right thing to do

BULLYING CAN BE STOPPED

TELLING THE SCHOOL

Your child may not want to tell the school about the bullying because they are worried it will make it worse. Your child may have retaliated or be afraid of revenge. However it is important that you let the school know

WE ARE A TELLING SCHOOL

Talking about the problem with your child's teacher or the school counsellor is an important step in solving it

YOUR CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE

We can keep your telling confidential from the bullying person

You need to report bullying to stop it getting worse. Tell the school as soon as possible so we can work together to solve the problem early, while it is fresh in people's memory

Make a time to talk to your child's teacher or the school counsellor

Solving the problem may take time so listen regularly to your child and keep in touch with the school