

## Acting and responding to reported incidences of bullying:

When a bullying incident is reported or observed we will use the following graded sanctions.

Initially we will use RESTORATIVE PRACTICE that seeks to resolve problems and develop skills and understanding in both the bully and victim. Further responses may include:

- ◆ Mediation
- ◆ Peer support groups
- ◆ Focused lessons
- ◆ Monitoring through the bullying audit results
- ◆ Assertiveness training
- ◆ Individual meetings / conferences with both the bully and the victim to gain information
- ◆ Monitoring both the bully and the victim
- ◆ Informing parents of both bully and victim of the school's responses
- ◆ Using school level behaviour management responses or Suspension, Exclusion, and Expulsion Guidelines responses when bullying persists.

## Parent Support: How can I tell if my child is being bullied?

Children who are being bullied or harassed may not talk about it with their teachers or with the school's counsellor. They may be afraid that this will only make things worse or they may feel that it is wrong to tell tales. This is why, as a parent or caregiver, you have an important part to play in helping the school, and your child, deal with bullying. Some signs that a child is being bullied may be:

- ◆ Unexplained cuts, bruises or scratches
- ◆ Damaged or ripped clothing
- ◆ Vague headaches or stomach aches
- ◆ Refusal to go to school
- ◆ Asking for extra pocket money or food
- ◆ Tearfulness or depression

## School Review

Each year we will:

- ◆ Remind students and teachers of our policy
- ◆ Implement DECD Child Protection Policy
- ◆ Include a copy of the policy in the newsletter for parents
- ◆ Implement the Child Protection Curriculum.
- ◆ Revise the classroom activities in anti-bullying.



*Noarlunga Downs P-7*  
*Ph: 83844395*

## NOARLUNGA DOWNS P-7 SCHOOL



## Anti-bullying Policy 2012



**Our school is committed to providing a safe and caring environment that fosters respect for others and does not tolerate bullying.**

As a member of the school community we all have the right and responsibility to help each other:

- Feel safe, be safe and to be treated with respect
- Feel included
- Be valued for yourself
- Be free from harassment
- Know who to go to for help
- Be listened to and be heard
- Know that steps will be taken to resolve issues
- Be provided information and advice about bullying and how to manage it

## Our definitions of Bullying:

"Bullying is when anybody is mean or nasty to you lots of times and it hurts you or makes you feel sad", a student.

"Bullying and harassment are deliberate and repeated actions towards others which involve the misuse of power." (DECD)

Bullying can take many forms. We consider the following **repeated behaviour** to be bullying:

### Physical:

- ◆ Hitting, kicking, punching, biting, pinching
- ◆ Pushing, shoving, spitting, tripping
- ◆ Physical contact with the intent to harm
- ◆ Making rude gestures
- ◆ Taking or damaging something which belongs to someone else
- ◆ Forcing others to hand over food, money or something which belongs to them
- ◆ Making someone do something they do not want to do.
- ◆ Vandalism
- ◆ Sexual gestures

### Verbal:

- ◆ Name calling
- ◆ Teasing
- ◆ Threatening
- ◆ Impersonating
- ◆ Put downs
- ◆ Swearing
- ◆ Making fun of someone because of their appearance, physical characteristics or cultural background
- ◆ Making fun of someone's actions.
- ◆ Excluding others from the game or group
- ◆ Spreading untrue stories about others.
- ◆ Manipulating friendships
- ◆ Written notes with nasty connotations
- ◆ Intimidation
- ◆ Peer pressure
- ◆ Negative body language
- ◆ Setting some one up for ridicule
- ◆ Reciprocal bullying and retaliation.
- ◆

## Strategies we will use to deal with bullying

### At Noarlunga Downs we will

- ◆ Openly talk about bullying – what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it
- ◆ Teach our children the skills that build their self-esteem and empower them to take responsibility for themselves through RESTORATIVE PRACTICE – and give them the opportunity to practise these skills
- ◆ Conduct a bully audit that identifies repeat offenders



### Responsibilities of staff:

- ◆ **Implement DECD Child Protection Policy**
- ◆ Model appropriate behaviours at all times
- ◆ Listen to children when they are disclosing a bullying situation
- ◆ Actively teach skills and strategies to deal with bullying situations
- ◆ Actively encourage students to report incidences of bullying
- ◆ Deal with reported and observed incidences of bullying using RESTORATIVE PRACTICES.

- ◆ Report incidences to the principal and counsellor.
- ◆ Reinforce positive student anti bullying behaviours.

### Responsibilities of children:

- ◆ Help someone who is being bullied by being a positive bystander. Helpful bystanders can assist by:
  - telling the bully to stop
  - being a friend to the person being bullied
  - walking away so the bully does not have an audience
  - telling an adult
  - getting help.
- ◆ Not bully others
- ◆ Report students who are bullying others at school or on the way to or from school.

### Responsibilities of parents:

- ◆ Watch for signs that their child may be being bullied
- ◆ Speak to someone on staff if their child is being bullied, or they suspect that this is happening.
- ◆ Instruct children to use the school anti-bullying policy if they are being bullied
- ◆ Be a positive role model for their child.

### Reporting of Bullying

Children and their parents can report incidences of bullying to any teacher, school counsellor, senior leader or the principal. All bullying incidences that are dealt with will be recorded.