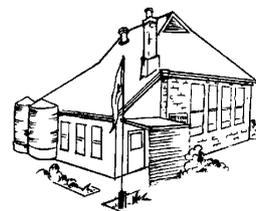


Mount Torrens Primary School



Anti Bullying Policy

Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure that Mount Torrens Primary School is a safe environment, free from bullying, for all members of the school community.

National Definitions

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.

Harassment

Harassment is behaviour that targets an individual or group due to their identity, race, culture or ethnic origin; religion; physical characteristics; gender; sexual orientation; marital, parenting or economic status; age; and/or ability or disability, and that offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates a hostile environment. Harassment may be an ongoing pattern of behaviour, or it may be a single act.

Objectives of the policy

- To reduce the incidence of bullying.
- To counter the view that bullying is an inevitable part of school life.
- To create a supportive climate and break down the secrecy surrounding bullying.
- To provide staff, students and parents with options to respond to bullying.

Responsibilities

Students

If a student feels they are being bullied or has witnessed bullying behaviour they should:

- Tell the person that they are being a bully and to stop the behaviour.
- Support the person who is being bullied and request help from a teacher at the time of the incident.
- Report behaviour to class teacher or a teacher of the student's choice.
- Talk to their parents about it
- Refrain from bullying others.
- Choose to talk to a trusted older student.

If the bullying continues

- Keep on telling until the bullying stops.

Teachers

If a student reports a bullying incident or a teacher witnesses incidents of bullying, they should:

- Listen and provide support to the target of the bullying by acknowledging the nature and seriousness of bullying behaviour.
- Find out the background and attempt to resolve the incident.
- Write up details in the student's diary if appropriate.
- Refer the incident to the Principal if necessary.
- Offer the student target the option of follow up care.

Principal

- Provide support to targets of bullying.
- Record and monitor incidents of bullying behaviour.
- Put in place anti-bullying procedures and consequences as appropriate
- Contact parent /s of the students involved
- Encourage target student to report similar behaviour if repeated.
- Keep class teacher involved.

School

- Dissemination of Policy and Procedures as requested
- Inclusion in Curriculum

Parents and Caregivers

- Encourage students to discuss the effects and consequences of bullying.
- Encourage students to report any incidents of bullying.
- Work with the school to enact procedures put in place to counter bullying.
- Contact the school if you are aware that any child is being bullied or suspect that it is happening.

Restorative Justice *recognises that bullying is a violation of people and relationships and aims to identify obligations and promote restoration and healing.*

It is a way of responding to conflict which -

- supports those affected
- allows for understanding of the wrong-doing
- gives ownership of the problems created
- gives people the chance to fix things with support
- respects people and leaves their dignity intact.

Teachers need to do the background research into the incident/s and the offender needs to accept responsibility for the behaviour before a successful restorative conference can be held. A conference is set up by Teacher / Facilitator between the target and the offender.

The aim of the conference is -

- to allow the target to express his/her feelings so that the impact of the behaviour is felt and understood by the offender.
- to allow the person accused of bullying to acknowledge the behaviour, accept responsibility and agree to change it.

A resolution which has outcomes that satisfy all involved is the aim.

- Each incident of bullying is different, therefore each incident will be treated accordingly with logical consequences

BULLYING REPORT FORM

Details of Person Taking Report

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

Date of Report: ___/___/___ Time: _____ am/pm

Details of Person(s) Reporting:

Name _____

Class: _____

Others: Name (s) _____

Class Group (s): _____

Witness(es)/ Bystanders Name(s) (if any): _____

Brief Details:

[pto if needed]

Person Reporting Bullying : Statement:

Person (People) Accused of Bullying : Statement:

Witness's Statement:

Have any of these people been named in a previous report? Yes/No (Circle)
Provide brief details.

Action taken by teacher(s) :

BULLYING REFLECTION SHEET

Name: _____ Class: _____

What I did

How my behaviour affected another person

How could I make better choices next time?

**I understand that my choice of behaviour has been bullying.
My behaviour may lead to my parents being contacted and ultimately suspension.**

I understand that my behaviour will be monitored for the next two (2) weeks

by: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____