



RIVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bullying and Harassment at Riverton Primary School

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Bullying and harassment are deliberate and repeated actions towards others which involve the misuse of power. Bullying and harassment are not acceptable in our schools. The DECD School Discipline Policy states that: *DECD, school communities, services and agencies will work together to create learning communities which are:*

- Safe
- Inclusive
- Conducive to learning
- Free from harassment and bullying

For more information go to the Department for Education and Child Development website: <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/speced2/pages/bullying/>

At Riverton Primary School we believe:

- Effective anti-bullying and harassment policies and strategies contribute to the well-being of students and staff.
- Addressing and reducing bullying in schools requires prevention, intervention and post-intervention strategies.
- Everyone should be treated with respect.
- Everyone has the right to feel safe and be cared for.
- Staff, students, parents and community work together to enable our school to be a safe and caring place where responsible behaviour is seen as success.

Examples of bullying are:

- Being left out of games or conversations often
- Being hit or kicked
- People hurting your feelings
- Name calling

What can you do about bullying?

- If you are being bullied, or know someone who is being bullied, please report it.

Who can you tell?

- Tell your teacher, the principal, another staff member, your parents or a friend.

What do you tell?

- Tell the trusted person where the bullying happened, how often it has happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening.

When should you tell?

- Tell the trusted person as soon as it happens. Do not ignore it. When bullying is ignored, it may get worse.

Prevention strategies include:

- Starting the school year with discussion of Riverton Primary School expectations.
- Using the curriculum to teach all students about respectful relationships, including safe ways of using power.
- Teaching all staff, students and parents about effective and positive ways to reduce bullying/harassment including how to be effective in reducing bullying/harassment as a bystander.
- Collaborating with government and non-government agencies to develop programmes, e.g. violence prevention, conflict resolution.
- Implementing proactive programs with students as required.

Intervention strategies include:

- Using the Method of Shared Concern or No Blame Approach (Restorative Justice).
- Providing counselling/support for students who are being victimised.
- Providing counselling/support for students who engage in bullying/harassing behaviours.
- Putting consequences in place for those who engage in bullying/harassing behaviours.
- Informing and working with parents/caregivers when incidents of bullying/harassment occur.

Post-Intervention strategies include:

- Monitoring the situation between students to ensure that their safety and well-being is maintained.
- Reviewing class behaviour management practices, yard duty practices to make sure they are effective.
- Dealing with hot spots in the yard and school.
- Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes and policies.
- Using Action Research as a monitoring tool.

Responsibilities of the school community in supporting Anti Bullying processes at Riverton Primary School.**Teachers will:-**

- Be familiar with the bullying policies and procedures.
- Implement an intensive social learning program during the first 4 weeks of each year where non acceptance of bullying is to be discussed
- Model pro social and respectful behaviours with students, parents and other staff.
- Develop and maintain good classroom management that reflects Restorative Justice Principles.
- Attend to reported instances of bullying behaviour.
- Treat information regarding bullying with confidentiality.
- Explicitly teach pro social and anti-bullying programs.

Students will:-

- Help in publicising anti bullying policies.
- Make it known that they will help other students.
- Provide staff with information about bullying.
- Help monitor changes in student behaviour.
- Understand their responsibility as a bystander in incidents of bullying.

Students who are bullied will be: -

- Supported and encouraged to speak to a staff member giving details of the incident.
- Encouraged and supported to develop a network of teachers and friends.

Students who are bystanders will:-

- Intervene if they can safely stop the bullying.
- Immediately seek a teacher's help if they are unable to stop the bullying.
- Report all incidents using existing school structures.

Parents will:-

- Watch for signs that the child may be being bullied.
- Listen understandingly to reports of bullying
- Encourage and support the child to make a report to the school.

Policy ratified by staff	22 nd Aug 2018
Endorsed by Governing Council	8 th Aug 2018
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