

CALLINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY ON BULLYING

At Callington Primary School we promote the Golden rule of 'Treat Others as you would like to be treated.'

Our School Community

At Callington Primary all members of the school community are entitled to a safe, secure and caring environment. Each person is recognised as a unique individual bringing special qualities to share, recognising that we all have the right to be respected and the responsibility to respect each other.

We aim to establish a community in which everybody feels valued, respected and safe, and where individual differences are appreciated, understood and accepted. We do not tolerate bullying of any form. All members of our community are committed to ensuring a safe, supportive environment which promotes personal growth and fosters positive self esteem for all. We aim to maintain a setting in which everyone feels valued and respected and where individual differences are appreciated, understood and accepted. Everybody has a right to enjoy their time at school.

Policy Objectives

- To ensure the community works together to understand how to deal with bullying
- To support people who are being bullied and people who are bullying
- To help people to avoid being bullied and/or to deal with bullying

BULLYING IS..

The wilful conscious desire to *repeatedly* hurt, threaten or embarrass someone

TYPES OF BULLYING

- Verbal: Nasty name calling, taunting, teasing and spreading gossip or rumours
- Threats of physical harm and intimidation
- Written: Writing and sending nasty notes
- Extortion: demanding money or favours
- Exclusion: Deliberately leaving someone out of an activity or ignoring and avoiding someone
- Interference with personal property
- Physical Harm: Hitting, punching, kicking and throwing objects
- Racism or racist remarks and actions
- Sexism or sexist remarks and actions

IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED YOU CAN: -

- Tell the person bullying that their actions are unwanted and against school rules.
- Tactically Ignore them. Show them that it does not upset you and spend time with people who make you feel good.
- Go to a safe place or see a teacher
- If it does not stop: DO something; SAY something: It's okay to TELL!

- Do not retaliate by bullying back.

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE BEING BULLIED YOU CAN; -

- Care enough to do something about it whether it affects you personally or not
- Be a friend to the person being bullied
- Don't stand by and watch - get help
- Show that you and your friends disapprove of bullying
- If you know of bullying tell a staff member

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WILL;

- Promote student's sense of concern and responsibility
- Provide positive role models
- Build self-esteem
- Develop skills and strategies to deal with bullying
- Keep the lines of communication open
- Disseminate information
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WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF A STUDENT IS BULLYING?

- The student will be counselled by their classroom teacher and will be given the opportunity to resolve the situation and discuss the issue with the person they bullied
- If they persist with bullying they will be referred to the Principal for counselling and to develop a solution to the problem. Parents will be contacted.
- If the student is found to be bullying again a consequence will be applied. This may include ; Missing out on playtime, parent interview, counselling program, loss of privileges, suspension
- If bullying continues a Behaviour Coach will be contacted to discuss further actions
- Hitting, kicking and fighting

Staff may also:

- Support students to deal with conflict.
- Counsel students who have been bullied.
- Talk with parents and caregivers about the situation.
- Set up processes to monitor the situation.

Bullying and harassment are issues which are treated very seriously.

We deal with unacceptable behaviour and work hard to find solutions to stop the bullying.

WHAT DO WE DO TO REDUCE BULLYING?

Strategies include:

- Using the curriculum to teach about respectful relationships, civics and citizenship.
- Teaching for and about diversity.
- Teaching students about violence prevention, conflict resolution, anger management and problem solving.
- Developing programs to help students participate and have a say in their learning.
- Teaching students about the role of bystanders, the expectations and responsibilities.
- Monitoring situations between students to ensure their safety and wellbeing are maintained.
- Using restorative practices to maintain relationships..

- Fostering positive relationships amongst all members of the school community.
- Working in partnership with outside agencies to provide supplementary programs for targeted students.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BEING BULLIED

- Listen calmly to your child.
- Discourage any planned retaliation, either physical or verbal.
- Encourage positive strategies such as
- Using a strong, confident voice
- Staying away from the place where the bullying is occurring.
- Don't react; just walk away with your head high.
- Don't show that you are scared, even though you might be.
- Tell the bully "Leave me alone" and walk away confidently.
- Let your child know that telling about the bullying or harassment is the right thing to do.
- If necessary, assist your child in discussing the problem with a teacher.

BULLYING BEHAVIOUR

Deliberately and repeatedly name-calling, making sexist or racist remarks, spreading rumours, texting abusive messages, threatening someone or excluding someone from games and groups are all examples of bullying or harassment.

Not all distressing or hurtful behaviour is bullying. For example:

single incident of malicious or aggressive behaviour

Bullying and harassment are repeated actions. A single incident however will be responded to as part of the school's behaviour management processes as unacceptable behaviour.

Cyber-bullying can occur from a single act when the message or picture is sent to more than one person. For example, a bully may only press 'send' once, but the choice to send the message to multiple addresses, makes the action more than a single incident.

dislike

Although social rejection can be hurtful, it is not bullying unless accompanied by repeated and deliberate attempts to distress or hurt.

conflict

Arguments can be distressing but it is not bullying when two people are both upset and neither one is misusing power over the other. Conflict may still give rise to unacceptable behaviour which will be responded to as part of the school's behaviour management processes.

Valuable Resources

www.bullyingnoway.com.au
 DECS Parent Help Line: 1800 222 696
 Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800
 Child and Youth Health Parent Help Line:
 1300 364 100