



Bullying Prevention

We aim to establish a school community where everybody upholds our school values of respect, kindness and integrity; and where individual differences are appreciated, understood and accepted. Everybody has a right to feel included and safe in our school, free from harassment and bullying.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Access further information about bullying via the DfE website:

<https://www.education.sa.gov.au/parents-and-families/safety-and-wellbeing/bullying-and-cyberbullying/bullying>

FOR ONLINE SAFETY CONCERNS

The eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) is Australia's national independent regulator for online safety. They offer advice, teaching resources and training to help parents, carers, schools and pre-schools.

eSafety can receive complaints about serious cyberbullying and image-based abuse that happens to children and young people. In response to serious reports, eSafety can request that the online site remove the offensive content.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- MCAS Behaviour Code
- DfE Behaviour Support Policy and Behaviour Support Toolkit
- Positive behaviour for learning classroom practices (DfE Practice Guidance)
- Suspension, exclusion and expulsion of students procedure
- MCAS Feedback and Complaints procedures
- Student mobile phone policy



Mount Compass
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OUR COMMITMENT

We commit to prevent and respond to bullying by:

- modelling and promoting positive behaviour that shows respect, values diversity and promotes belonging and wellbeing.
- explicitly teaching respectful behaviours and expectations about bullying
- intervening in incidents of bullying
- working with families, service providers and the community to address bullying
- providing visible and consistent responses to bullying that foster trust and confidence
- repairing and restoring relationships that have been harmed by bullying
- establishing safety and wellbeing as a school priority

Fundamental to addressing bullying is the need for students to have positive trusting relationships, understand their rights and responsibilities, learn and practice positive behaviours, understand the impact of their choices on others and repair harm. Families are key partners in this process.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

National definition of bullying for Australian Schools
Developed by the Safe and Supportive School
Communities Working Group and endorsed
by the Education Council (2018)

HOW TO REPORT

Students or families of students who may be experiencing bullying need to raise concerns with the school as soon as practicably possible.

1

Write down:

- what happened
- when it happened
- where it happened
- who was involved
- who saw it happen.

If a mobile phone or website was used as part of the bullying:

- save messages and the details of the sender
- record information about the websites or social networks used
- screenshot images or text

2

Report the bullying or harassment to the care group teacher. For more serious or repeated incidents contact the school to make a time to meet with your child's sub-school leader.

Students can report in a variety of ways including:

- email
- face-to-face
- send a Daymap message
- write a note
- make a time for a meeting
- talk to a trusted adult and ask them to report

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Staff will gather information about a bullying incident. They might speak about the incident with students, families, other staff, witness or others involved. Additional items may be collected such as documents or screen shots of online content.

WHAT WILL THE OUTCOME BE...

There are a range of ways the school addresses bullying, including:

- restorative conferences, to repair harm and only if both parties are willing
- meeting with the student and their family
- school-based consequences eg
 - loss of privileges
 - yard / play restrictions (safety circle process)
 - focus room / reflection room time
 - community service
 - seating plans
 - learning tasks about the impact of their choices
 - school based wellbeing support
 - extra yard supervision
- suspension and /or exclusion
- ongoing check-ins and monitoring
- documentation via Daymap including follow-up

Staff will check on all students involved in a bullying incident to make sure:

- all children and young people are safe
- relationships are repaired
- appropriate information is shared about actions taken
- the bullying has stopped or additional consequences and strategies will be put in place.