



Bullying Prevention Policy

Updated 27th June 2023

Review Date June 2026

Endorsed by Governing Council (27th June 2023)

Our Vision

“Curramulka Primary School aims to promote innovative thinking and positive partnerships.”

Our values

RESPECT, RESPONSIBILITY and TRUST.

Our school will provide a safe, inclusive, supportive, and ordered learning environment, free from bullying, harassment and violence. Bullying, including cyber bullying, harassment and violence is not acceptable in this school and any occurrences will be dealt with seriously and expediently. We will work with the school community and other agencies to support our students in being responsible and productive members of our community.

Australian schools are safe, inclusive and connected learning communities that promote positive relationships and wellbeing as a foundation for children and young people to reach their full potential. (Australian Student Wellbeing Framework 2018)

Our Approach to Bullying Prevention

At Curramulka Primary School we will

- Plan, implement and review our bullying prevention strategies with our Governing Council, staff, students, families, and local community to prevent and reduce bullying and to ensure our students' needs are being met.

Staff will

- Create a welcoming and inclusive school.
- Ensure the school values and behaviour expectations are modelled and shared.
- Behavioural expectations in all classrooms are developed with students and reviewed regularly.
- Teach about bullying in all year levels, including how to prevent, identify, respond to and report bullying and cyberbullying. This includes how to be an effective bystander.
- Develop and implement strategies to assist children to develop the following skills - decision making, social, conflict resolution and shared responsibility.

Principal will

- Make sure students and parents feel safe to raise concerns and report bullying and set up safe ways for them to do so.
- Take bullying seriously and respond to reports of bullying or observed bullying behaviours.
- Use fair and consistent responses to bullying or suspected bullying.
- Document all bullying incidents and collate data. Use the data to plan how we will prevent and respond to bullying.
- Check in and support all students while bullying incidents are being resolved.

- Provide targeted social and emotional support for students who need more help after a bullying incident.
- Communicate regularly with families when a bullying incident happens.
- Share information on how to prevent and respond to bullying and cyberbullying with families.
- Make information about the resolution process available to the parties concerned.

Students will

- Communicate with an appropriate adult if bullied or harassed or having witnessed a bullying incident.
- Become an effective bystander so bullying is discouraged through peer influence.
- Model behaviours that are safe, respectful and inclusive, both face-to-face and online.
- Build skills, knowledge and confidence to recognise, respond to and manage bullying.
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Parents/Caregivers will

- Report concerns about bullying to school staff.
- Model and promote safe, respectful and inclusive behaviours.
- Help their children to be safe online at home. This includes checking their children's use of technology and social media.

Our Responses

How bullying is reported

- We will work with students, parents, and carers to resolve bullying issues. If needed, we will get advice, counselling, and support from external services.
- Our responses will restore the safe and positive learning environment.

You can report bullying to:

- Principal and/or Classroom Teacher

You can report bullying incidents by:

- Emailing (dl.0114.info@schools.sa.edu.au), Face-to-face, Over the phone (08 8854 2102) or Scheduling a meeting.

You can provide information by reporting:

- who was involved, including who engaged in the bullying behaviour, who the behaviour was directed at and witnesses.
- when the incident happened.
- where the incident took place, for example social media.
- the behaviour the victim experienced.
- if anyone stopped or tried to stop the behaviour.
- what led up to the incident and what happened after the incident.

How bullying is resolved

Identify if the incident is bullying or harassment as defined in this policy.

If the incident poses an immediate risk to student or staff safety the Behaviour Guide in the Behaviour Policy will be followed.

If there is no immediate risk, staff might use the following strategies with students directly involved:

- restorative practices, including an apology
- parent or carer meeting
- school-based consequences
- refer students to specialist support, if needed. This might be from the Department for Education or external services. Options will be discussed with students and their families.

How bullying is documented

All incidents of bullying and responses will be documented and stored in line with Department for Education records management procedures. A record of an incident might go in a student's file. Incidents can be recorded in our electronic databases. For example, EDSAS.

If a parent is not satisfied with the steps taken by the school, they can refer to Curramulka Primary School's Grievance Policy or DECD Parent Guide to Raising a Concern or Complaint for further information.

Definitions

Bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence may be based on gender, race, sexuality, culture, religion, disability and care status. Bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence for any reason is not acceptable in South Australian public schools. It will be responded to.

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).

Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying. One incident of misbehaviour is not defined as bullying.

Bullying can cause physical and psychological harm.

Physical harm can include injury. It can also include theft or damage to belongings. Psychological harm can include: anxiety, not wanting to go to school, lack of interest in school, isolation and depression. Psychological harm can last some time. It will depend on a student's situation and the support available to them. Support might come from family, school and friends. A fear of being bullied can create psychological harm.

Types of bullying

Physical: hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, pushing or damaging or stealing belongings.

Verbal: verbal abuse, name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, or threats.

Social: social exclusion, lying, spreading rumours, unkind facial expressions or body language, mean and condescending looks, playing jokes to embarrass and humiliate, mimicking and damaging someone's reputation or social relationships.

Cyber: Cyberbullying is online bullying. It uses technology, including social media platforms. Verbal and social bullying can be cyberbullying when they occur online. This type of bullying can include abusive texts and emails, hurtful messages, videos and images, including images that have been changed, sharing personal images and videos without consent, pretending to be someone else online to be hurtful.

Harassment

Harassment is behaviour that targets an individual or group. This can be because of their: identity, race, culture or ethnic origin; religion; physical characteristics; gender; sexual orientation; age or ability. It offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates an unsafe environment. It might be a: pattern of behaviour or a single act. It might be on purpose or unintended.

Discrimination

Discrimination happens when people are treated differently to others. This can be because of their: identity, race, culture or ethnic origin; religion; physical characteristics; gender; sexual orientation; age or ability. Discrimination interferes with people's right to fair treatment and equal opportunities.

Violence

Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power. It can be threatened or actual, against another person. It might result in psychological harm, injury or in some cases death. It might involve provoked or unprovoked acts. It can be one incident, a random act or can happen over time.