

DON'T TAKE IT! You have the right to be safe.

DON'T DO IT! Help make our school a safe and caring environment for everyone.

What is Bullying and Harassment?

Bullying is abuse of power, where a person or group use behaviour to hurt, upset, scare or shame another person. Harassment is unwanted and unwelcome behaviour that is usually but not always repeated. If you hurt, upset, scare or shame another person a teacher must respond.

Bullying and harassment can be about discrimination based on a person's gender, sex, cultural and spiritual identity &/or race, age, disability, appearance or financial status. Discrimination in schools is against the law.

Bullying & Harassment happens in different ways:

Physical: hitting, pushing, grabbing, spitting, taking/damaging property, using a weapon.

Sexual: any unwelcome written, verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature.

Verbal & Written: spoken or written insults, threats, unfair criticism, rumour spreading.

Face & Body Signals: looks, stares, facial expressions, hand signs.

Cyber: Sending emails, using Wi-Fi or Bluetooth to forward films or photos of someone without their permission, sending abusive or threatening messages, placing photos and recordings of others on the Internet without permission, using social networking sites to hurt or embarrass others, make derogatory comments, spread rumours and put others down. In some cases this can constitute criminal behaviour, e-crime (electronic crime).

Graffiti: using pictures, tags or words to threaten or insult.

Group: forming groups to leave out, ignore and disrespect.

Indirect: influencing or organising someone else to bully or harass on your behalf.

Bystanders to Bullying & Harassment

A bystander is a witness or close-by person who sees bullying and harassment happening.

Be part of the solution not part of the problem. Don't join in or support violence.

Report any concerns to a trusted adult or peer leader (eg: Big Brother/Big Sister) immediately.

Talk to your friends about taking a stand against all forms of bullying and harassment.

If it happens to you

- Think of ways to stay safe
- Talk to a peer leader or trusted adult as soon as it happens, don't ignore it.
- Don't react, explode or take revenge. Respond respectfully.
- Tell yourself that you never deserve to be bullied or harassed.
- Follow the steps below to make it stop.

Reporting or Dobbing?

- Reporting harassment is about acting responsibly by trying to prevent further harm.
- Dobbing is deliberately trying to set someone up, to get them into trouble.

Steps To Make It Stop

Each bullying and harassment incident is different. Teachers will deal with each incident in different ways depending on how serious it is. All information is treated confidentially. *However all students involved in harassment and/or bullying will be dealt with in line with the DECD Behaviour Management Policy and Suspension, Exclusion and Expulsion Policy. Suspected e-crime or capturing a crime, on a mobile device may result in Police intervention.*

Use the following steps to stop bullying and harassment:

Step 1: If safe, tell the person or group to stop.

If bullying or harassment continues.....

Step 2: Tell a trusted adult or peer support leader (eg: BB/BS) and/or fill in a harassment report form (available from Student Services or Counsellors).

Step 3: Strategies to intervene include counselling and restorative justice conferences/agreements. Parental involvement is essential.

If bullying or harassment continues

Step 4: Revisit Step 2 if it continues or happens again. Never give up! People who continue to bully or harass will face more serious consequences, including suspension.

Please click on the link to access the Department for Education and Child Development's Advice for parents and caregivers on bullying and harassment at school.

http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/speced2/files/links/Bullying_Brochure_DEC_1.pdf