

A HAPPY SCHOOL

Schools should be a safe and pleasant place for all members of the school community – including students, staff, parents/caregivers and visitors.

Bullying is not acceptable at Moorook Primary School.

It can be a criminal offence if there is physical violence or threats and anyone over the age of 10 may be dealt with by the law.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Cyberbullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies such as internet and mobile phones.

Conflicts or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long standing effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Examples of Bullying includes:

- * *physical violence (eg pushing, punching, hitting, tripping)*
- * *leaving someone out of activities on purpose*
- * *spreading rumours and name calling*
- * *damaging, removing or hiding belongings*
- * *racist or sexual remarks and put downs*
- * *forcing someone to do something they don't want to do*
- * *humiliating or ridiculing another*
- * *invasion of personal space.*

Students, Teachers, School Support Officers, other staff, parent/caregivers & visitors all have the right to feel safe at our school. Therefore the above actions are not acceptable at Moorook Primary School by either students, parents or staff.

SIGNS OF BULLYING

- * Unwillingness to attend school
- * A pattern of vague headaches and stomach aches
- * Personal items and equipment have gone missing
- * Damaged clothing and bruising
- * Expresses threats to hurt self or others
- * Asking for extra pocket money or food
- * “Hiding” information on mobile phones or from social network sites
- * Sudden mood swings and outburst of temper
- * Uses put-down language when speaking about others
- * Oversensitive—feels everyone is ‘picking on them’

SIGNS THAT YOUR CHILD MAY BE BULLYING OTHERS

- * Aggressive behaviour—both inside & outside the home
- * Difficult to manage
- * Oversensitive—feels everyone is out to get them
- * Unhappiness
- * Loses temper frequently
- * Quietness or depression
- * School work is suffering
- * Disturbing stories about the child—from other students, their friends or other adults

Moorook Primary School has a clear and explicit “**Student Code Of Conduct**”. We provide an opportunity for parents and students to acknowledge the school’s **Student Code Of Conduct** at the beginning of each school year.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO TAKE?

Step 1: SELF MANAGEMENT

- * Ignore it, walk away, laugh it off

OR

- * Speak to the person who is harassing: Tell them how you feel, tell them you don’t like what they are doing and you want it to stop, tell them they are breaking school rules

If this doesn't work.... Persist

Step 2: TAKE A FRIEND

- * Ask a friend or older brother or sister to go with you to tell them to stop

If this doesn't work.... Persist

Step 3: SEEK ADULT HELP

- * Tell them you will tell the teacher
- * Talk it over with you class teacher or the teacher on duty and decide with them what you will do
- * If teachers need to take further action, they will do so

If this doesn't work.... Persist

Step 4: SEEK FURTHER ADULT HELP

- * Talk it over with any of the staff
- * Talk it over with the principal
- * Talk it over with a parent or adult you can trust

If the harassment continues despite your efforts, don’t give up. Teachers are there to help you do something about it. You are in control of what happens.

If we all work together, we will have a better, happier school.

PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND POST INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

Moorook Primary School's Prevention strategies include:

- * Using the curriculum to teach students about respectful relationships, civics and citizenship; eg. At Moorook we teach a range of different programmes including: The Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum, Lions Quest: Skills For Growing & Working It Out: Tools For Everyday Peacemakers and Friendly Families, Friendly Classrooms programmes, The Smiling Mind & Positive Psychology.
- * Developing programs which encourage students to participate and have a voice in their learning eg. TFEL methodologies (Teaching For Effective Learning Framework).
- * Teaching students about violence prevention, conflict resolution, anger management and problem solving techniques.
- * Developing policies which promote student safety.
- * Teaching for and about diversity.
- * Providing professional learning for staff in collaboration with local agencies. eg Responding to abuse and neglect: Education and care (RAN-EC) training.

Moorook Primary School's Intervention strategies:

- * Supporting students who have been bullied (We have a PSW on site on Thursdays).
- * Talking with parents or caregivers about the situation.
- * Putting consequences in place for those who bully others.
- * Teaching students to be better bystanders.
- * Ensuring that all staff know how to address bullying effectively and respectfully. At Moorook we promote **Restorative Justice** processes.

Moorook Primary School's Post-intervention strategies:

- * Monitoring the situation between the students to ensure that their safety and wellbeing are maintained. At MPS we carry out a Student **Wellbeing Survey** with students at least once a term to gauge how things are going at the school.
- * Talking with parents or caregivers about strategies
- * Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes and policies.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Parents will be provided with information about school policies via the school's website, newsletter and at information evenings.

Staff will undertake the school induction process and within the first five years of entering DECD schools will undertake the "**Your Classroom: Safe, Orderly and Productive**". They may also undertake **Non-violent interventions**. Both courses are run by the Regional Office Agencies.

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.decd.sa.gov.au/parentcomplaint

www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

www.decd.sa.gov.au/learnerwellbeing



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*Our Anti-Bullying Policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.
The next review date is March 2018*

MOOROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying Policy



Great place to GROW