

What can parents and caregivers do;

- Look for signs of distress in children, e.g. an unwillingness to come to school, a pattern of illness.
- Be proactive and encourage your child to report the incident to their homegroup teacher or sub-school coordinator.
- Report the issue to the homegroup or sub-school coordinator as soon as possible.
- Build your child's confidence by recognising and confirming their positive qualities.
- Discuss the problem with your child, modelling a calm, supportive behaviour
- Deal directly with the school and **not** with the other student or parent.
- Discourage any planned retaliation, either physical or verbal, by discussing positive strategies your child can use.
- Unless we are informed of a bullying harassment issue we can not help your child. Please let us know about the issues.

Helpful phone numbers:

Kids Help Line 1800551800
Net Alert 1800880176

Helpful websites:

www.bullyingnoway.com.au
www.kidshelpline.com.au
www.bullying.com.au

Why do we need a 'policy' on harassment?

Serious forms of harassment are against state law and DECD policies.

Booleroo Centre District School staff and parents believe that students should not have their education and development hindered by any form of harassment.

Everyone has the right to be treated as a worthwhile, important individual. We all have the right to come to school and enjoy a happy and secure school day.

Conclusion

Keep this pamphlet somewhere safe where you can refer to it at a later date. One will be pinned up in each of your homegroup rooms.

Even if you are not being harassed, if you are aware of other students who have problems of this nature, **do something about it!**

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



Student Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy

Booleroo Centre District School is a positive and inclusive learning environment where each student has the right to feel safe, supported and respected at school.

This policy will be covered as part of the homegroup programme across the whole school.

AS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY WE DO NOT ACCEPT BULLYING and HARASSMENT.

All students are taught strategies to respond to bullying, and are also taught how to take positive steps to stop bullying of others if they witness it.

At Booleroo Centre District School we:

- **RESPECT** and care for ourselves and others
- Are **TOLERANT** and caring with each other
- Believe **PRIDE** in our school is essential
- Value **DIVERSITY** of opinions but ensure equality of opportunity
- Encourage **PARTICIPATION** of everyone in the whole school community to prevent bullying

Bullying and Types of Harassment

- ☹ **Physical**
 - Fighting, pushing, shoving, gestures, invasion of personal space.
- ☹ **Verbal**
 - Name calling, offensive language, slander, discrimination by gender, race or creed.
- ☹ **Visual**
 - Offensive material and notes, graffiti, damage to your personal possessions.
- ☹ **Psychological**
 - Bullying, threats of reprisal, belittling comments, domination by one or more persons.
- ☹ **Cyber**
 - Using the Internet or mobile phones/devices to spread rumours, photos or unwanted information about others.
- ☹ **Racial**
 - Can include name-calling, belittling jokes and remarks about a person's body, cultural and family background, and graffiti on personal property and physical attacks.
- ☹ **Victimisation**
 - Stand-over tactics, bullying, damage to your property, or hiding it.
- ☹ **Sexual**
 - Deliberately touching or brushing against you in a sexual manner.
 - Sexually oriented jokes, drawings and literature.
 - Calling you rude names or making comments about your morals.
 - Invitations of a sexual nature, when you have said "NO".
 - Commenting on the size and shape of your body.
 - Asking questions about your private life, spreading rumours about your sex life.

What students can do

If you are being bullied you can stand up to the bully by trying some of the following:

- Don't react to the behaviour, report it.
- Don't let the bully know that they are upsetting you.
- Politely and firmly ask them to stop.
- Walk away.
- Give them a warning, e.g. "I don't like what you are doing to me".
- Report it to a teacher.
- Stand up for yourself in a positive way.
- Try to talk to the person.
- Get a friend to help.
- You may need to persist to help stop the bullying behaviour.

All students are taught strategies to respond to bullying, and are also taught how to take positive steps to stop bullying of others if they witness it.

And

If the bullying does not stop you should report it to your homegroup teacher or subject teacher.

Incidents will be taken seriously and followed through promptly. Bullying may be reported by students, teachers or SSO's, or parents.

Even if you are not being harassed, if you are aware of other students who have problems of this nature, **do something about it!**

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

Bystander Behaviour

If you see someone bullying someone else, we expect you to try some of the following:

- Tell the person to STOP bullying.
- Be a friend to the person being bullied.
- Encourage and help the person to tell a staff member about what is going on.
- Leave the area to ask a teacher for support.
- Get help for the person being bullied.

If you bully you can expect staff will take every report seriously and act upon it by:

- Listening to both sides.
- Use a 'no blame' approach.
- Supporting students by following up incidents.

Incidents will be followed up as soon as possible.

If you are found to be bullying, the following consequences will occur:

Step One: (subject teacher, homegroup teacher, and sub-school Senior Leader). A meeting will be held with the victim and perpetrator and restorative practices will apply. Parents will be informed.

Continued offending will lead to: -

Step Two: The perpetrator will be given an opportunity to develop skills to manage their bullying behaviour. Parent meeting requested. Extreme bullying and violence will be dealt with via the Behaviour Management Policy.

.... and may lead to: -

Step Three: (Coordinator, Senior Leader, and Principal). One day internal suspension. Parents of perpetrator notified. **Continued offending will lead to external suspension or exclusion.**