

BRUCE McLAREN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

PROCEDURES: BULLYING

RATIONALE

As part of the overall Safe School Policy, Bruce McLaren Intermediate School actively seeks to provide an environment that is safe from all forms of intimidation

PURPOSES

To provide a comprehensive universally understood definition of bullying behaviour and to outline strategies for all members of the school to combat social, emotional, physical and all forms of intimidation.

DEFINITION

The following definition of Bullying Behaviour has been adopted:

- It is deliberate, hurtful behaviour
- It is repeated often over a period of time
- It is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves

There are three main types of bullying:

- Physical - hitting, kicking, taking belongings
- Verbal - name calling, insulting, racist remarks
- Indirect - spreading nasty stories, excluding from groups/games

PROCEDURES/GUIDELINES

1. All members of the school have a responsibility to recognise bullying and to take action when they are aware of it happening.
2. Children will be made aware of the school's policy on bullying at the beginning of each year. This will be supported by school-wide messages on the issues.
3. All staff should treat any reports of bullying seriously and take action. A staff meeting will be held annually to discuss the issues and review the strategies and remedial approaches.
4. Staff should listen to student(s) and make such enquiries as may be necessary to clarify exactly what has been happening.
5. Students should be assured that they have acted correctly in reporting the bullying.
6. Staff members should inform the Deputy Principals of any incidents that comes to their notice.
7. Emphasis must be on changing the behaviour of the bullying student(s) while providing support for the student(s) who has/have been harassed and bullied.

8. Staff members should give the victim(s) advice on how to deal with any repeat incidents of bullying or intimidation.
9. Follow up should be discussed with the students and checks should be made to ensure the incidents of bullying have ceased.
10. Parents of all students involved should be contacted.

CONCLUSION

By following the procedures outlined above, the school environment should be well on the way to being made safe from all forms of intimidation for the whole of the student body.