

Whalan Public School

Anti-bullying Plan 2020

Bullying behaviour has three key features. It involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship. It is ongoing and repeated, and it involves behaviours that can cause harm. The NSW Department of Education requires all NSW public schools to have an Anti-bullying Plan which details the strategies implemented to reduce student bullying behaviours.

Resources

The NSW anti-bullying website (see: <https://antibullying.nsw.gov.au/>) provides evidence-based resources and information for schools, parents and carers, and students. Schools are encouraged to visit the website to support whole-school prevention, early intervention and response approaches and strategies for student bullying behaviour.

Whalan Public School's commitment

Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. Executive staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

1. School culture and inclusion

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff will actively respond to student bullying behaviour.

Our school engages in the following practices to promote a positive school culture.

1.1. Student assemblies

Student bullying and expectations about student behaviour will be discussed and information presented to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

Dates	Communication topics
Term 1	Behaviour code for students & Student User Contract - Online communication Services Policy
Ongoing	Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
Ongoing	Expectations according to PBL matrix for positive behaviour with Gold Pin & Medal aligned to expectations
Ongoing	Acknowledgment of student positive behaviour
Ongoing	Kindness Ambassadors
Ongoing	Leading self and putting your best foot forward

1.2 Staff communication and professional learning

Staff will be supported with professional learning that provides evidence-based ways to encourage and teach positive social and emotional wellbeing and discourage, prevent, identify, and respond effectively to student bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication topics and Professional learning
Term 1	Teachers are reminded of the expectations and procedures as outlined in the school's PBL practices
Term 1	Student Wellbeing Framework
Ongoing	Teachers encouraged to seek out professional learning opportunities
Ongoing	Social and emotional wellbeing is regularly discussed during stage-based meetings
Ongoing	Learning Support Team meetings
Ongoing	Kid Watch at staff meetings

1.3. New and casual staff

New and casual staff will be informed about our school's approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour in the following ways.

- * information is provided in a handbook to staff when they enter on duty at the school.
- * an executive staff member is assigned as a mentor to new permanent and long-term temporary teachers when they enter on duty at the school
- * the principal speaks to new executive staff when they enter on duty at the school, as part of the induction process
- * PBL signage and lessons on the school's network

2. Partnerships with families and community

Effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

2.1. Website

Our school website has information to support families help their children to regulate their emotions and behaviour and develop socially. Information is provided to assist if children have been involved in bullying behaviour (as the person engaging in bullying behaviour, as the person being bullied or as the person witnessing the bullying behaviour).

The following are published on our school's website. Check the boxes that apply.

- School Anti-bullying Plan NSW Anti-bullying website Behaviour Code for Students

2.2. Communication with parents

Our school will provide information to parents to help promote a positive school culture where bullying is not acceptable and to increase parent's understanding of how our school addresses all forms of bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication methods and topics
Ongoing	School website - Anti-bullying plan and Behaviour code for students
Term 1	Student User Contract - Online communication Services Policy
Ongoing	Anti-bullying messages provided verbally during whole school assemblies and included in messages 'From the Principal's Desk' via the school app
Term 4	PBL expectations and procedures explained at Kindergarten transition

3. Support for wellbeing and positive behaviours

Our school's practices support student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches that align with our school community's needs.

Social and emotional skills related to personal safety, resilience, help-seeking and protective behaviours are explicitly taught across the curriculum in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

Examples of other ways our school will embed student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices include the following.

Positive Behaviour for Learning framework

Whalan PS is a PBL school and uses the framework to promote positive behaviour. Circle time lessons occur weekly which teach students positive behaviours, appropriate choices and social skills. Focus lessons are driven by school data and taught across the whole school. The school promotes the 'Stop Think Do' and 'No Go Tell' strategies and lessons include information about what bullying is, types of bullying, strategies to use, being an upstander not a bystander and being a kind friend.

A cumulative award system promotes and rewards positive behaviour.

The school provides play equipment, quiet spaces and a range of clubs in play times which promote a friendly and harmonious playground.

Kindness Ambassadors are identified by staff and acknowledged.

Buddy Bench operates under shed during play times and teachers promote friendship partnerships.

Student-refereed games occur during play times.

Year 6 room utilised by year 6 students.

Principal has an open-door policy during play times.

Completed by: Helen Polios

Position: Deputy principal

Signature: H. Polios Date: 12.12.20

Principal name: Michelle Gallop

Signature: M Gallop Date: 12.12.20