

Wangi Wangi Public School



THE SCHOOL 1922

WANGI WANGI NEW SOUTH WALES

Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy Statement

Wangi Wangi Public School is an inclusive environment which affirms the diversity and respects the individual differences of all students, employees, parents, caregivers and community members.

Students, employees, parents, caregivers and community members have the right to learn grow and work in an environment free from the fear of bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimisation.

The focus of quality education at Wangi Wangi Public School is for students to learn and grow with confidence and security through quality learning programs developed within a context of student welfare.

(Refer to Student Welfare Policy, Values in NSW Public Schools.)

Definition of BULLYING BEHAVIOUR

Bullying can be defined as intentional, repeated behaviour by an individual or group of individuals that causes distress, hurt or undue pressure and includes cyberbullying.

Bullying involves the abuse of power in relationships. Bullying can involve all forms of harassment (including sex, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender), humiliation, domination, intimidation and victimisation of others.

Conflict or fights between equals or single incidents are not defined as bullying.

Bullying can be:

Verbal- name calling, teasing, abuse, put-downs, sarcasm, insults and threats

Physical: hitting punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting, or any behaviour which results in a physical injury to the victim.

Social: ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures.

Psychological; spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging property or possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones.

(Refer www.bullyingnoway.com.au www.det.nsw.edu.au/antibullying)

Statement of Purpose

The purposes of Wangi Wangi Public School's Anti –Bullying Policy are:

- To strengthen the ethos within the School which respects the rights of the victim and offers support to individuals whose choose bullying behaviour.
- To continue to encourage students to notify others of bullying issues.
- To provide pathways for responding to incidents of bullying.
- To continue to implement Programs within the School Curriculum which support children in the process of reporting, mediating and resolving bullying issues.
- To maintain awareness within the student body and wider community of the School's Policies towards bullying and the specific nature of bullying behaviours.
- To provide students with appropriate avenues for notification of bullying which respect the privacy and confidentiality of the victim
- To maintain awareness within the student body and wider community that reducing incidents of bullying at school is a responsibility shared by staff, students, parents and community volunteers.
- To maintain positive pathways of communication so that Students and Parents are encouraged to offer suggestions to Anti- Bullying Strategies and management procedures in the form of surveys and /or meetings.
- To activate the processes within the Student Welfare and Discipline Policies if bullying persists or a satisfactory resolution is not reached.

STRATEGIES TO PREVENT BULLYING.

The school will provide information to students and parents identifying all forms of bullying behaviours.

The School may choose to communicate this information to parents and care givers via the School Newsletter, during Parent/Teacher Information Sessions or during interviews with individual parents.

The School will communicate to parents and care-givers that they have an important role to play in promoting appropriate behaviours, and supporting consequences for inappropriate behaviours.

Anti-Bullying Policy will be ratified by P and C Association.

Student awareness of bullying issues may be implemented and monitored through:

- Class Programs such as “A Fair Go For All”, Child Protection Curriculum,
- Access to websites; www.bullyingnoway.com.au,
www.det.nsw.edu.au/antibullying , www.kidscape.org.uk/
- “Got It” Program- Hunter New England Health
- The “You Can Do It “ program endeavours to maintain a culture within Wangi Wangi Public School, which encourages children to focus on the 5 keys to success – Organisation- Confidence-Persistence-Getting Along-Resilience.
- Whole School Awareness in the form of Role-Plays in the classroom.
- Restorative Justice Practices implemented during the mediation process between the victim and the bully.
- Implement Peer- Mediation techniques with Peer Support Leaders or Buddies for minor issues or conflicts.
- “Seasons for Growth”. A program for Grief and Loss which consists of eight 45- 60 minute sessions once a week, implemented by trained staff members.
- Offering students a range of pathways for reporting bullying.
- R and R Room (Respect and Responsibility) room operates during lunch each day.
- Students are invited to report issues to teachers in this environment. Class Teacher. Class Meetings. Peer Mediation/Buddy. “Worry Box” where children are invited to submit their concerns in writing if they wish.
- “Tell Them From Me” survey completed by students twice per year.
- Class discussions to raise student awareness of the impact of anaphylaxis and other complex medical conditions.

STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH BULLYING

- Follow departmental procedures and guidelines when dealing with bullying issues.
- Intervention. Staff to record details of incident in R and R Diary in Sentral.
- Offer the victim and perpetrator strategies to resolve the issue.
- Restorative Justice, class meeting, peer mediation.
- Offer the victim opportunities for follow-up meetings to ensure the bullying behaviour has ceased.
- If bullying persists, engage the processes within the School Student Welfare Policy.
- Inform parents/care-givers of victim and perpetrator of the processes activated.
- Access to Departmental Appeal procedures for students, parents, care-givers, if matters remain unresolved.
- Regularly maintain a pro-active approach and re-visit Anti-Bullying programs to heighten awareness of the School Policy for Anti-Bullying.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The Anti –Bullying Plan will be reviewed on a regular basis so that all members of the school community are aware of it and monitoring its effectiveness. The review will provide opportunities for reflection and renewal. It will include the gathering of data relating to patterns and trends for reporting incidents, reoccurring incidents with the same victim and perpetrator, suspension data, age and gender trends.

Associated Documents and Forms

- [*The Student Welfare Policy - \(NSW Dept Education and Training, 1996\)*](#)
- [*Occupational Health and Safety Policy. \(NSW Dept Education and Training, 2004\)*](#)
- [*Protecting and Supporting Children and Young People – Revised Procedures \(NSW Dept Education and Training, 2000\)*](#)
- [*Complaints handling Policy \(NSW Dept Education and Training, 2006\)*](#)
- [*Code of Conduct \(NSW Dept Education and Training, 2004\)*](#)
- [*In School Programs and Suspension Centres 02-92668416*](#)
- [*Behaviour Initiatives 02 – 92445192*](#)
- [*Anti-Racism Policy*](#)