

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

BORDERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

Our schools are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that fosters respect for others and does not tolerate bullying.

Our definition of Bullying:

“Bullying is when anybody is mean or nasty to you lots of times and it hurts you or makes you feel sad”.

Bullying can take many forms. We consider the following behaviour to be bullying:

Physical:

- Hitting, kicking, punching
- Pushing, shoving, spitting
- Making rude gestures
- Taking or damaging something which belongs to someone else
- Forcing others to hand over food, money or something which belongs to them
- Making someone do something they do not want to.

Verbal:

- Name calling
- Teasing
- Threatening
- Making fun of someone because of their appearance, physical characteristics or cultural background
- Making fun of someone's actions.

Indirect:

- Excluding others from the game or group
- Spreading untrue stories about others.

Strategies we will use to deal with bullying

At Bordertown Primary School, Mundulla Primary School and Bordertown High School we will:

- Openly talk about bullying – what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it
- Teach our children the skills that will build their self-esteem and empower them to take the responsibility for themselves – and give them the opportunity to practise these skills
- Formulate a policy that clearly states what actions we will take to deal with bullying behaviour.

Responsibilities of staff:

- To model appropriate behaviours at all times
- Actively encourage students to report incidences of bullying
- To deal with reported and observed incidences of bullying as set out in this policy
- To report incidences to the principal if this is warranted
- Reinforce positive student anti bullying behaviours.

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Responsibilities of children:

- To help someone who is being bullied
- To not bully others
- To report others who are bullying others at school or on the way to or from school.

Responsibilities of parents:

- To watch for signs that their child may be being bullied
- To speak to someone on staff at the appropriate school if their child is being bullied, or they suspect that this is happening.
- To instruct their children to use the school grievance procedure if they are being bullied
- Be a positive role model for your child.

Reporting of Bullying

Incidences of bullying can be reported to any teacher or the principal by children and their parents. Students can also report bullying at nobully@borderhs.sa.edu.au or via a bullying incident report form available from the Resource Centre, the Counsellor or the Chaplain.

Responding to reported incidences of bullying:

When a bullying incident is reported or observed we will use the following graded sanctions.

Initially using, “No Blame” responses that seek to resolve problems and develop skills and understanding in both the bully and victim. These responses may include:

- Mediation
- Peer support groups
- Shared concern
- Assertiveness training
- Monitoring both the bully and the victim
- Informing parents of both bully and victim of the school’s responses
- Using school level behaviour management responses or Suspension, Exclusion, and Expulsion Guidelines responses when bullying persists.