



ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT

GLEN HUNTLY PRIMARY SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT

This statement should be read in conjunction with the:

- Glen Huntly Primary School's 'Bullying Prevention Policy'
- GHPS Strategic Plan 2016-2020
- GHPS Student Engagement Policy
- Department of Education and Training (DET) Guidelines
- GHPS Real Schools and Restorative Practices Action Plan
- eSmart Policy

All in the school community have the right to a safe and caring environment, which promotes learning, personal growth and self-esteem. The School is committed to providing this environment and all school community members have the responsibility to ensure that such an environment is promoted and maintained. Glen Huntly Primary School does not accept Bullying in any form.

"Students must have complete confidence that they are entitled to feel safe and secure. Students must believe that they can influence outcomes by their own actions. The overall and ideal aim of an effective wellbeing program and environment should be that on each day, every student will feel keen, happy and willing to participate in *all* school activities, and that if in their perception their situation is "not right" or uncomfortable, that they can communicate these concerns, and that appropriate and caring action will be consistently provided."

(Dr. Rick Jarman Developmental & Behavioural Paediatrician)

Bullying behaviour is often persistent. It involves an abuse of power. This power has a desire to intimidate and dominate.

Bullying is defined as – aggressive behaviour that has the intent to hurt, threaten or frighten a person targeted as weaker by another person or group of persons. It is defined as bullying when the action is deliberate and repeated.

BULLYING INCLUDES in person or online via a digital platform:

- *name calling*
- *teasing*
- *demands for money or possessions*
- *leaving someone out of activities on purpose*
- *damaging, removing or hiding belongings*
- *put downs*
- *physical violence*
- *persistent actions that are meant to hurt someone*
- *discrimination of any kind is a form of bullying.*

Students should report any form of bullying or harassment to a teacher or parent. This in turn will be reported to the Principal/Assistant Principal if this incident/s has occurred at school. Parents are strongly encouraged to notify their child's teacher or other appropriate staff of any incidents, which could be construed as bullying or harassment.

When investigating bullying incidents, the Principal/Assistant Principal will determine the seriousness of each 'case' and respond accordingly. This will involve providing support to the victims and also employing strategies that endeavour to change the attitude and behaviour of the bullies.

The Student Engagement Policy will be strongly adhered to, utilising a variety of sanctions, with suspension from school as the final action in demonstrating to students and parents that this school will not tolerate bullying. Department of Education and Training guidelines specify detailed formalised consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

Other approaches that may be used include:

- reasoning with bullies in an effort to have them appreciate how the victim feels
- leading the bully to accept responsibility for their role in incident/s
- shared concern
- Real Schools Restorative Practices Action Plan
- time-out strategies - where bullies will be removed from the playground/classroom (this strategy will be used when staff believe that it is in the best interests of the child, their peers and the school)
- use of affective statements
- cyber safety education (as specified by our eSmart policy)
- prevention of bully through implementing the strategies from The Resilience Project

As with all serious behaviour management concerns, parents of both the bully and the victim, will be notified and where appropriate, will be asked to meet with the Principal/Assistant Principal.

This statement was last updated June 2018 and will be updated in accordance with the Bullying Prevention Policy in June 2020.