



KIRWAN
STATE HIGH SCHOOL

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KIRWAN STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Policy and Procedure Statement

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY



Kirwan High – a great school...a good place to be!

Anti-Bullying Policy

Kirwan State High School takes bullying very seriously and has a clear policy for dealing with such behaviour however, no matter how good our policies and procedures, curriculum and classroom behaviour strategies, the reality is that bullying and harassment will occur in all our schools and therefore it is important to mobilise all members of the school community in dealing with the issue.

Australian research suggests that up to 50% of all young people subjected to bullying do not report the incidents either for fear of reprisals or because the victims feel they are somehow to blame.

The school understands its duty of care to its students and recognises that they have the right to learn in a safe environment. However, the school can only act if it has information, hence we encourage all members of the school community to report any incidents of bullying.

Our belief: "Bullying – There's No Excuse" underlines our commitment to reducing the prevalence of this behaviour in our community.

If you are being bullied or witness bullying:

- Report the incident immediately to a member of staff. Don't hesitate. Bullies only get stronger when they're allowed to continue their inappropriate behaviour.
- School staff will assist you in completing an incident form.
- The incident will be investigated and consequences and strategies will be put into place.
- Extra support will be offered to students involved, if required.
- Additional programs to support students suffering the effects of bullying are Reach for the Stars and Power Up. Contact the Year Coordinator or Head of Department Student Wellbeing for more information.

If the above procedures do not occur, see your Year Co-ordinator or the HOD Student Wellbeing immediately for further assistance.

For more information or support

Kids help Line www.kidshelp.com.au (1800 551800)

Cyber Bullying www.netalert.net.au (1800 880176)

THE CONTINUUM

This scale illustrates the progression from harmless banter to bullying and criminal behaviours:

Hurtful teasing
 Meanness
 Pushing, shoving
 Malicious gossip
 Sexual harassment
 Racial abuse
 Religious abuse
 Social excluding
 Mobbing
 Hazing
 Extortion
 Bribery
 Phone abuse
 Property damage
 Violence

stop bullies with these 5 steps



- Ignore it
- Move away
- Say politely "Leave me alone"
- Say loudly "Stop annoying me"
- Ask a teacher for help

Remember: Depending on the situation and how it makes you feel you may not be able to start at #1. If it makes you feel uncomfortable **REPORT IT!**

EFFECTS

Bullying injures children physically, emotionally and socially, and erodes self-esteem.

Their injuries can become social, psychological, and criminal, short-term and long-term disorders.

Bullying affects many different people, e.g. family, teachers, peer group and community. Bullies also lose out in a big way.

THE TYPES

TEASING – includes name-calling, insults, demands or threats

EXCLUSION – includes pointing, staring, sniggering, exclusion from peer group

PHYSICAL – includes hair pulling, pinching, knocking, stealing books or possessions

HARASSMENT – includes sexual gestures, unwelcome sexual advances, stalking,

CYBER – includes teasing, spreading of rumours, sending unwanted messages, defamation through the use of an internet service or by mobile phone.