



LAKE WINDEMERE
B-7 SCHOOL
The nature of learning.

Bullying Policy



Government of South Australia
Department for Education

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Lake Windemere Vision

Lake Windemere B-7 School strives to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all members of our community, promoting a strong sense of belonging. We also endeavour to protect; *the student's right to learn and the teacher's right to teach.*

Definitions

Bullying: A repeated, targeted behaviour that can be physical, verbal or psychological with an intent to cause fear, distress or harm to another and/or take away an individual's power or safety.

Harassment: Behaviour towards a person that causes mental or emotional suffering, which includes unwanted contacts without a reasonable purpose, insults, threats, touching, or offensive language. Harassment may be an ongoing pattern of behaviour, or it may be a single act. It may be directed randomly or towards the same person(s).

Violence: Violence is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against another person(s) that results in psychological harm or injury. Violence may involve provoked or unprovoked acts.

Discrimination: Discrimination occurs when people are treated less favourably than others because of their race, culture or ethnic origin; religion; physical characteristics; gender; sexual orientation; marital, parenting or economic status; age; ability or disability. Discrimination is often ongoing and commonly involves exclusion or rejection.

Rationale

At Lake Windemere everyone has the right to be safe and learn in an environment that is free from bullying and harassment. Bullying can have a significant detrimental impact on a student's mental health and wellbeing, consequently impacting engagement and academic success. It is vital for schools and families to work together to support the social and emotional development of all students which includes preventing and protecting students from bullying and giving them the skills to deal with bullying experiences.

Roles and Responsibilities

Leaders

- Educate the school community about bullying, including the impacts and consequences.
- Speak to the perpetrator, victim and any relevant witnesses, evidence is presented and incident is documented.
- Contact parents/carers of the perpetrator and victim about the incident and subsequent consequences.

- Proportional consequences are implemented, these could range from a letter of regret to a suspension. If bullying is an ongoing issue, the student should be referred to a Behaviour Support Coach.
- Report repetitive or serious incidents to SAPOL.
- Connect students/families to mental health support services if required.

Teachers

- Positive Education and Child Protection Curriculum programs are delivered as part of the classroom curriculum to promote inclusiveness, resilience, conflict resolution and problem solving.
- Students are explicitly taught about safe play and interactions, managing wellbeing and establishing positive relationships in Start Up Week, this is also reviewed throughout the year.
- Students are taught how to identify bullying and respond to it, including reporting to an adult.
- Reinforce the Bullying policy with students at the start of each year and review throughout when relevant.
- Communicate with perpetrator, victim and any relevant witnesses and refer to leadership when necessary.
- Students are involved in restorative conversations and practices when working through reported incidents.
- Ongoing monitoring and check-ins with students who have been impacted by bullying.

Parents/Carers

- Support the school's expectation that safe behaviours will always be demonstrated.
- Report any incidents of bullying to a staff member, do not communicate with the children or families involved.
- Work in collaboration with school staff to support their child if they are experiencing bullying or if their child has perpetrated bullying.

Students.

- Use school appropriate problem solving skills.
- Access support to solve the problem.
- Report incidents of bullying to a trusted adult as soon as possible.
- Show respect and consideration for peers and teachers.