



St Joseph's, Jerilderie

Bullying Policy

Vision

St Joseph's Primary School Jerilderie is a welcoming community underpinned by Gospel values which promotes - Learning for Life, Learning from Life, Learning as Life.

This Policy was adapted from the CSO Anti Bullying Policy and should also be read in conjunction with the schools Welfare Policy

Purpose

This document describes the policy and requirements for effectively dealing with bullying behavior. Partnership with parents/carers, students and the wider community is central to the success of this process.

Policy Statement

Students and staff have the right to expect that they will spend the school day free from the fear of bullying, harassment and intimidation. Bullying is taken seriously and is not acceptable in any form.

“Bullying is usually a repeated intimidation over time of a physical, verbal or psychological nature of a less powerful person by a more powerful person or group of persons.”(Farrington, 1993)

There are seven elements to bullying:

1. A desire to inflict harm
2. The desire is expressed as a physical or verbal action.
3. The action is hurtful and plays upon student (victim) vulnerability.
4. There is power inequality
5. The actions are without justification, although the bully may try to present an argument.
6. The actions of the bullying behaviour is repeated.
7. There is evident enjoyment felt by the bully.

Bullying behaviour can be:

- **verbal** e.g. name calling, teasing, abuse, put downs, sarcasm, insults, threats, discriminatory remarks,
- **physical** e.g. hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- **social** e.g. ignoring, excluding, ostracizing, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- **psychological** e.g. spreading rumours, “dirty looks”, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones.

Bullying:

- devalues, isolates and frightens
- affects an individual’s ability to achieve
- has long-term effects on those engaging in bullying behaviour, those who are the subjects of bullying behaviour and the onlookers or bystanders.

Procedures

Bullying, in its various forms is never acceptable behaviour at St Joseph’s Primary School. All incidences of bullying must;

- Be recorded by the teacher in charge and reported to the Principal.
- Children need to be taught about bullying and strategies, which encourage reporting and build resilience for the victims.
- Teachers need to be vigilant in their care of students in this area
- Parents of victims need to be supported and
- Parents of bullies need to be informed of their child’s unacceptable behaviour as soon as practicable and together with the Principal should work towards solving this problem.
- Teachers, students, parents, caregivers and members of the wider school community have a responsibility to work together to address bullying.

Any inappropriate behaviour prevents or limits teaching and learning in schools and interferes with the wellbeing of students is not accepted.