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ROLLINS PRIMARY SCHOOL



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BULLYING POLICY

Definition:

A person is bullied when they are exposed over time to negative actions on the part of one or more persons. These actions may impact on the emotional, social or physical wellbeing of the student/s involved. Bullies are people who deliberately set out to intimidate, exclude, threaten and or hurt others repeatedly. They can operate alone or as a group.

Rationale:

The school will provide a positive culture where bullying is not accepted, and in so doing, all will have the right of respect from others, the right to learn or to teach, and a right to feel safe and secure in the school environment.

Aims:

- A. To reinforce within the school community that no form of bullying is acceptable.
- B. Everyone within the school community to be alert to signs and evidence of bullying and to have a responsibility to report it to staff whether as observer or victim.
- C. To ensure that all reported incidents of bullying are followed up and that support is given to both victim and perpetrator.
- D. To seek parental and peer-group support and co-operation when necessary.

Implementation:

A. Primary Prevention:

1. To provide programs that promote resilience, life skills and protective factors
2. All Levels to monitor any incidents throughout the year and level 4 will conduct a 'Bullying Ballot' once per term.
3. Social Skills programs to develop resilience, conflict resolution, assertiveness and problem solving.
4. Each classroom teacher to clarify at the start of each year the school policy on bullying.
5. Staff and students to promote the philosophy of 'No Put Downs'.
6. Cyber safety is part of the ICT curriculum.
7. The principal will keep a record of any bullying incidents.

B. Early Intervention:

1. Encourage children to report bullying incidents upon themselves or witnessed.
2. Bullying survey at least twice yearly.
3. Classroom teachers will on a regular basis reminding students to report incidents, and that reporting is not 'dobbing'.
4. Parents encouraged to contact school if they become aware of a problem.
5. Students are made aware of safe places for children to access if all other avenues fail eg. Principals office.

C. Intervention:

1. Those involved in bullying incidents may be counselled by staff, including the school chaplain.
2. Once identified; bully, victim and witnesses talked with, and all incidents fully investigated and documented.
3. Both bully and victim offered counselling and support.
4. If bullying is ongoing, parents contacted and consequences implemented consistent with school Student Code of Conduct.
5. Ongoing monitoring of identified bullies.

D. Post Violation:

- Consequences may involve :
 - A. exclusion from class
 - B. exclusion from yard.
 - C. withdrawal of privileges
 - D. on going counselling from appropriate agencies for both victim and bully.
 - E. school suspension

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the Rollins Primary School Policy Review Cycle.

Tabled at School Council meeting 25th March, 2013.

This Policy was ratified by School Council on:

Date: __/__/20__

Signed: _____
(School Principal)

Signed: _____
(School Council President)