



STUDENT WELFARE:
BULLYING POLICY

Ratified by School Council: August 2015

Review date: July 2018

1. CONTEXT

A key priority for Selby Primary School is to ensure a positive culture where all members of the school community have the right to learn or teach, and to feel safe, secure and confident both in the school environment and in virtual online environments.

The school embraces new and emerging technology (ICT) as essential to preparing students for the world around them and will continue to make opportunities to engage with technology available to students while teaching safe and responsible behaviours in partnership with parents and guardians.

Incorporation of the school's values of *respect*, *high expectations*, *resilience* and *confidence* into our teaching and learning philosophies supports children to take responsibility for individual actions, support their peers and build their inner strength to negotiate the various environments in which they interact. If and when bullying occurs it is treated as a temporary behaviour rather than an identity or label for the children involved. At Selby Primary School each individual is valued, nurtured and encouraged to reach their full potential.

2. OBJECTIVES

- To ensure all members of the school community are aware of the standard of behaviour expected both in person, online and in other virtual environments.
- To outline strategies used to prevent the occurrence of bullying in the school community.
- To outline the consequences the school may use should bullying behaviours take place.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

Awareness

- Students, parents, teachers and the community are made aware of the school's position on bullying and cyberbullying.
- Safe and responsible behaviour is explicitly taught at Selby Primary School and parents/carers are requested to reinforce this behaviour at home. Parents are kept informed about programs used at school via the newsletter and website.
- Everyone within the school community is alert to signs and evidence of bullying and has the responsibility to report it to staff.

Prevention

- The school actively minimises the likelihood of bullying by building and integrating a culture of respect, belonging and inclusiveness into the school community. Resources from the You Can Do It and Bounce Back programs are utilised to support the implementation of this approach as do other school programs such as Social Service.
- Staff and students promote the philosophy of 'No Put Downs'.
- Each classroom teacher clarifies the school behaviour expectations at the start of each term.
- The student code of conduct is reviewed in each class at the commencement of each calendar year and students take a copy home to discuss with their family. (Appendix 1).
- The school participates in the eSmart program which both teaches students how to use ICT with confidence and safety and teaches responsibility for individual actions in virtual environments.
- Students complete eSmart activities at the commencement of each term as part of Magnificent Mondays, in addition to other times when the need arises.

Reporting and action

- The school will ensure that all reported incidents of bullying are followed up.
- Support and counselling will be provided where appropriate.
- The school will seek parental and peer group support and co-operation at all times.
- If bullying is ongoing, parents will be contacted and consequences implemented. Counselling and/or support from an appropriate agency may be deemed necessary.
- Consequences may involve
 - o exclusion from class
 - o exclusion from the yard
 - o withdrawal of privileges
 - o school suspension
- Where formal procedures are required, DET guidelines will be followed.

4. APPENDICES

Student Code of Conduct

5. RELATED POLICIES

Student engagement and welfare policy

Student participation and leadership policy

Personal electronic device policy

ICT Policy

6. REFERENCES

Bounce Back - <http://www.bounceback.com.au>

Bully Stoppers - <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/default.aspx>

Enhancing Online Safety for Children - <https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

You Can Do It - <http://www.youcandoiteducation.com.au/AboutYouCanDoIt>

7. GLOSSARY/ACRONYMS –

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological aggressive behaviour by a person or group directed towards a less powerful person or group that is intended to cause harm, distress or fear.

Bullying includes cyberbullying. Signs and evidence of bullying include:

- *verbal or written abuse* - such as targeted name-calling or jokes, or displaying offensive posters
- *violence* - including threats of violence
- *sexual harassment* - unwelcome or unreciprocated conduct of a sexual nature, which could reasonably be expected to cause offence, humiliation or intimidation
- *homophobia* and other hostile behaviour towards students relating to gender and sexuality
- *discrimination including racial discrimination* - treating people differently because of their identity
- *cyberbullying* - either online or via mobile phone.

Cyberbullying is when someone is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed, or otherwise targeted by another child, pre-teen or teen using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies or mobile phones.

Cybersafety refers to the safe and appropriate use of the internet and ICT equipment/devices.

DET – Department of Education and Training

ICT equipment/devices in this document include, but are not limited to, computers, laptops, storage devices, cameras, mobile phones, video and audio players, equipment capable of accessing social networking or social media sites and any other technologies as they come into use.

VQRA – Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority Framework

8. EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed three yearly or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Selby Primary School



Student code of conduct

Name:

Grade:

At Selby Primary School we work to create a safe, positive and caring environment. Through the Code of Conduct we aim to foster high standards of behaviour based on co-operation, shared responsibility, self-discipline and tolerance.

We know that students thrive in an environment where they are happy, feel accepted as individuals and can readily recognise the level of care and acceptance they receive from their peers and teachers.

RESPECT:

- Listen carefully
- Speak politely and treat others as you would like to be treated
- Look after personal, school and other people's property
- Care for the environment
- Follow teacher's instructions
- Understand and follow school rules
- Treat others the way you would like to be treated

HIGH EXPECTATIONS:

- Participate in class and school activities
- Strive for your personal best
- Work as well as you can and allow others to do the same
- Be prepared to accept responsibility
- Make sensible choices

RESILIENCE:

- Bounce back from setbacks
- Keep things in proportion
- Learn from your mistakes
- Accept and acknowledge consequences of actions

CONFIDENCE:

- Being willing to have a go
- Participating in class and school activities
- Being a positive role model
- Be a co-operative team member
- Demonstrate a sense of fair play
- Foster an attitude of mutual respect, co-operation and trust between teachers, other students and the school community

Playground Rules

1. Respect other people and their games.
2. Be kind, play fairly.
3. Balls are the only things to be thrown.
4. No rubbish to be taken outside.
5. Stay within the school boundaries.
6. Leave sticks and stones **alone**.

Wet day behaviour expectations

- Sit down at desks or on the floor
- Stay in the classroom, not in the corridors
- Find something quiet to do
- Don't annoy other people or interfere with what they are doing
- Listen to the teacher and do what they ask
- Be respectful of others in the room
- Follow classroom rules when eating – put rubbish in bin

Pack up anything you use before leaving

Student Pledge

As a student at Selby Primary
I am honest and considerate,
I will respect other people and their property,
I am responsible for my own actions,
I take pride in my work
and will allow my teacher to teach
and my classmates to learn.

I have read and understand the Student Code of Conduct booklet and will try my best to honour these rules and values.

I understand that by doing this we can all have the opportunity to learn, play safely together, help one another and make our school a safe and happy place to be.

Signed by student:

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I have read, understand and have discussed the rules and values with my child and will support the school in their implementation.

Signed by parent:

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