PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOURS

Celebrating Success
On Fridays, children who have made positive choices about their behaviour will have an extra 10 minutes for recess from 11.00 to 11.10am.
We will also promote positive behaviours through ‘Celebrating Success’ and ‘Shining Star’ Awards and Morning Tea with the Principals.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

Role of Student
♦ Know the school rules and understand your responsibility in carrying out those rules.
♦ Support each other in making the yard a happy, safe place.
♦ Seek help from either the yard duty teacher, H2H Team or your class teacher if the rules are unclear to you.
♦ Give feedback/suggestions on the policy via the Student Representative Council (SRC) representatives and/or your class teacher.

Role of Teacher on Yard Duty
♦ Be visible.
♦ Model responsible and caring behaviour in the yard and give reasonable and appropriate direction when needed.
♦ Engage in “yard teaching” to endeavour to defuse problems which seem to be brewing.
♦ Be consistent in enforcing school expectations.
♦ Do not ask “why” questions of students.
Restorative Questions are to be used when challenging behaviour; the following questions consistently achieve fair process.
- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?
- If you don’t do this what needs to happen?

Role of the Principals and Deputy Principals
♦ Support teachers on yard duty.
♦ Speak with children who ask for help.
♦ Inform parents or caregivers of incidents involving bullying.
♦ Inform the school community about this policy.
♦ Negotiate appropriate consequences.
♦ Coordinate re-entry/ restorative conferences.
♦ Monitor student records.

Role of Parents
♦ Familiarise yourselves with the Schools’ Behaviour Code and Anti-bullying Policy and support your children and school staff in implementing them.
♦ Discuss any problems arising directly with the child’s class teacher or with senior staff.
♦ Be part of any review of our Anti-bullying Policy.

MCDONALD PARK R-7 SCHOOLS ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
**SCHOOL VALUE STATEMENT**

McDonald Park Schools is committed to giving every student the opportunity to achieve their full potential. We will achieve this in a caring, safe and effective environment that embraces our core value: RESPECT

RESPECT for ourselves
RESPECT for others
RESPECT for the environment.

Therefore we take bullying seriously. This policy defines bullying and outlines the actions we take to eliminate it.

Definition of bullying:

Bullying is an intentional act by an individual or group, which repeatedly threatens the safety of others by undermining their well being.

Bullying is a physical, verbal, non-verbal, sexual, racial or emotional act to cause physical or psychological harm.

Bullying may occur face to face, electronically (cyber bullying) or as a bystander.

Definition of harassment:

Harassment – any behaviours that are uninvited, unwelcome and unwanted that cause another person to feel hurt or uncomfortable.

STRATEGIES WE USE TO DEAL WITH BULLYING BEHAVIOUR

Rights and responsibilities statement

All children have the right to:

♦ a safe and orderly learning environment
♦ develop self-discipline and grow in self-esteem, leading to a respect for the rights and feelings of others and responsibility for their own actions.

Since rules are closely related to rights, our classroom and school principles are based on MARBLES:

Manners
Attitude
Respect
Body Language
Effort
Smile

These principles also underpin the work we do with ‘Program Achieve’ and the five ‘Keys to Success’:

♦ Getting along
♦ Confidence
♦ Persistence
♦ Organization
♦ Resilience

By using MARBLES’ actions and language we show that we are proud of ourselves and that we care for all people and their property so we:

♦ Are cooperative, caring, kind and friendly towards others
♦ Encourage others by giving compliments
♦ Share equipment and the environment
♦ Take turns and try to solve problems cooperatively
♦ Respect others and their belongings and our school environment.

Things we can do to reduce bullying:

Prevention Strategies include:

♦ Using the curriculum to teach students about respectful relationships and diversity e.g. Program Achieve.
♦ Teaching students about violence prevention, conflict resolution and problem solving e.g. Program Achieve, Rugrats, Bounce Back, Coolness Under Pressure and Protective Behaviours, Setting Up For Success.
♦ Providing opportunity for students to have a say in their learning e.g. Class Meetings, SRC
♦ Providing fluoro vests to make staff more visible in the yard.

Intervention strategies include:

♦ Counselling students who have been bullied or who have bullied.
♦ Talking with parents or caregivers about the situation.
♦ Putting consequences in place for those who bully others.
♦ Teaching students strategies to counter bullying incidents.
♦ Ensuring that staff know how to deal with bullying effectively and respectfully using restorative processes.
♦ Peer Mediation Program – Happy to Help (H2H) Team.

Post-intervention strategies include:

♦ Monitoring the situation between the students to ensure that their safety and wellbeing are maintained.
♦ Keeping parents and caregivers informed.

♦ Reviewing our behaviour procedures to make sure they are effective.
♦ Dealing with hotspots in the school.
♦ Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes and policies.
♦ Using Restorative Agreements and/or Work Out Area to rebuild relationships.

REPORTING AND DEALING WITH BULLYING

What can you do about bullying?

If you are being bullied or know someone who is being bullied, report it to a trusted adult e.g. your teacher, the school counsellor, a principal, your parents or caregivers.

How to report

Tell the trusted adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening.

When to report

Report the bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens. Do not ignore it. When bullying is ignored it may get worse.

What we will do about incidents of bullying.

♦ Listen and talk to the person who has been bullied and the person who has bullied others.
♦ Put negotiated consequences in place for the person who has been bullying others. These may include time out, suspension or exclusion.
♦ Invite the students involved to the ‘Work Out Area’ to problem solve the situation.
♦ Hold a Restorative Conference to help everyone involved to improve their relationships with each other.

It is important to note that these steps may change. At McDonald Park Schools we do not use a ‘one size fits all’ approach. This is because each person is different and each incident of bullying is different.

EVALUATING THE POLICY

The Student Wellbeing Committee will use tools from the NSSF to monitor the effectiveness of our anti bullying policy e.g. ‘Bullying Audit’.

The policy will be reviewed annually.