

ANTI-BULLYING PLAN 2024

Bellbird Public School

Bullying behaviour has three key features. It involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship. It is ongoing and repeated, and it involves behaviours that can cause harm. The NSW Department of Education requires all NSW public schools to have an Anti-bullying Plan which details the strategies implemented to reduce student bullying behaviours.

Resources

The NSW anti-bullying website (see: <https://antibullying.nsw.gov.au/>) provides evidence-based resources and information for schools, parents and carers, and students. Schools are encouraged to visit the website to support whole-school prevention, early intervention and response approaches and strategies for student bullying behaviour.

Bellbird Public School's commitment

Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. Executive staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

1 School culture and inclusion

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff will actively respond to student bullying behaviour.

Our school engages in the following practices to promote a positive school culture.

1.1 Student assemblies

Student bullying and expectations about student behaviour will be discussed and information presented to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

| Dates | Communication topics |
|---------|--|
| Term 1 | Schoolwide Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Values, NSW Education Behaviour code for students, Harmony Week |
| Term 3 | National Day of Action Against Bullying (NDA) Assembly |
| Ongoing | PBL, Second Step (Social Emotional Learning) focuses shared at fortnightly assemblies |
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1.2 Staff communication and professional learning

Staff will be supported with professional learning that provides evidence-based ways to encourage and teach positive social and emotional wellbeing and discourage, prevent, identify, and respond effectively to student bullying behaviour.

| Dates | Communication topics and Professional learning |
|--------|---|
| Term 1 | Professional learning to support Zones of Regulation, Second Step and PBL, which focus on positive relationships and kindness |
| Term 3 | Professional Learning focusing on Bullying Prevention to co-incide with NDA. |
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1.3 New and casual staff

New and casual staff will be informed about our school's approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour in the following ways.

New and casual staff complete an induction which includes introduction to the school's Positive Behaviour Policy and Social Emotional Learning programs as well as the school's Anti-Bullying Policy and reporting procedures.

2 Partnerships with families and community

Effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

2.1 Website

Our school website has information to support families help their children to regulate their emotions and behaviour and develop socially. Information is provided to assist if children have been involved in bullying behaviour (as the person engaging in bullying behaviour, as the person being bullied or as the person witnessing the bullying behaviour).

The following are published on our school's website. Check the boxes that apply.

School Anti-bullying Plan

NSW Anti-bullying website

Behaviour Code for Students

2.2 Communication with parents

Our school will provide information to parents to help promote a positive school culture where bullying is not acceptable and to increase parent's understanding of how our school addresses all forms of bullying behaviour.

| Dates | Communication methods and topic |
|---------|--|
| Term 1 | Student Behaviour Policy and school policies shared through School Newsletter |
| Ongoing | Newsletter communication outlining ways to support their child if bullying occur, with links to Bullying NoWay |
| Ongoing | Invitations shared with parents to join webinars hosted by Office of Children's Guardian on Cybersafety |
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3 Support for wellbeing and positive behaviours

Our school's practices support student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches that align with our school community's needs.

Social and emotional skills related to personal safety, resilience, help-seeking and protective behaviours are explicitly taught across the curriculum in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

Examples of other ways our school will embed student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices include the following.

Second Step- Social Emotional Learning Program is embedded in school practice, with explicit lessons taught in all classrooms weekly on a rotation, with additional focuses each term on Kindness.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is taught with weekly focuses that promote and reward positive behaviours (Safe, Respectful, Learners).

Smiling Minds is taught in every classroom to teach students skills to cope when things are not going right, with short sharp sessions provided at key points throughout the day to allow students to reset following lunch and recess breaks.

School involvement in "The Anxiety Project" to support teachers and parents to identify and support anxious behaviours.

Student lessons are also taught K-6 to give students skills to cope when feeling anxious.

Completed by: Scott Anderson

Position: Principal

Signature:  01-03-2024