

# FERNCOURT PUBLIC SCHOOL

## Anti-bullying Policy



Students have the right to spend their day free from the fear of bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimisation. At Ferncourt Public School we take bullying seriously. It is not accepted in any form.

### Rational

The Ferncourt community is committed to ensuring a safe, caring environment in which students maintain respectful and positive relationships. We believe that every student has the right to feel free from fear of bullying, intimidation and victimisation. Ferncourt Public School does not tolerate bullying in any form.

### What is bullying?

Bullying can be defined as intentional, repeated behaviour by an individual or group of individuals that causes distress, hurt or undue pressure on another. It involves abuse of power.

### What does bullying look like?

- **Verbal** eg name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, insults, threats
- **Physical** eg Hitting, punching, kicking, pushing, tripping
- **Social** eg Ignoring, excluding, making inappropriate gestures, sending inappropriate texts or emails
- **Psychological** eg Spreading rumours, hiding or damaging possessions, dirty looks.

### Responsibilities

Students, staff and parents have a responsibility to:

- Promote positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity within the whole school community
- Actively work together to resolve incidents of bullying behaviour when they occur.
- Not be a bystander in situations where bullying is occurring but tell an adult and seek help.

### Strategies to prevent bullying:

- Positive Behaviour for Learning program (PBL)
- Anti-bullying class programs
- Buddy programs
- Values and Bounce Back program
- KidsMatter Framework
- Brave Hearts Foundation membership

PBL is the overarching framework that guides our programs teaching the skills and understandings that will lead to the elimination of bullying. Integrated across the curriculum, the anti-bullying, values and bounce back programs ensure that there is an ongoing focus of teaching and learning on the strategies that will help eliminate bullying.