

ANTI-BULLYING PLAN 2023

Burke Ward 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.

Burke Ward'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
Month/Term	Behaviour code for students
Terms 1-4	Daily Morning Circle - outlines playground and classroom expectations
Terms 1-4	Fortnightly playground expectations displayed on sandwich boards in playground and read out each day during daily announcements. Placed into weekly newsletters.
Term 3	Health Lessons - focus on bullying

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
	EXAMPLE: Teaching and reinforcing respectful relationship
Term 1	Playground and classroom expectations discussed at staff development days
Term 1 Week 6	Staff meeting - high expectations
Term 2 Week 9	Staff meeting - responding to behaviour

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.

As part of the BWPS induction process:

- information is provided in a handout to staff when they enter on duty at the school
- an executive staff member speaks to new and casual staff when they enter on duty at the school
- the principal speaks to new executive staff when they enter on duty at the school, as part of the induction process.
- staff meetings have positive behaviour for learning focus
- the Learning and Support team mentor staff as appropriate

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
	EXAMPLE: Parent meeting i.e P&C, parent/teacher night - Defining student bullying and school supports
Terms 1-4	Executive contact for behaviours of concern
Terms 1-4	Parent/caregiver meetings or contact as required
Terms 1-4	School website, social media and/or newsletter contain articles, including cyber bullying

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.

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations are explicitly taught.

Learning and Support team analyses and responds to data on a fortnightly basis.

Flow chart for bullying behaviour exists and is available for all staff on Sentral. This also includes suggested questions and responses.

Positive behaviours are consistently acknowledged, eg acknowledgment tokens (free & frequents), Positive Postcards, Good News Call, Learning Highlights, Merit and Values awards.

Outside agencies are engaged to work with both students and staff for wellbeing and behaviour.

UDRH practicum students (Occupational Therapy & Social Worker)

Checkins by Learning and Support staff for those students at risk

Life Skills Go checkins

Morning & afternoon circle

Completed by: Learning and Support Team

Position:

Signature:

Date: 14th November, 2023

Principal name: Kate Hogg

Signature:



Date: 14th November, 2023