

Ellalong Public School

Anti-bullying Plan 2023

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.

Ellalong Public Schools'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 1,2,3,4	Behaviour expectations reviewed and explained in whole school Peer Support/ BounceBack! lessons
Term 1	Harmony Day
Term 2	Appropriate Online Behaviour/ Cyberbullying (Stage 3). Police Visit/talk
Term 3	Participation in National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. What is bullying?- posters

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	School Behaviour Code/ Expectations
Term 1	BounceBack! -refresher/ structure and peer support structure (done every term)
Term 1	Cyberbullying
Term 3	Cyberbullying National Day Against Bullying –lessons /presentations

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 will be informed of Ellalong Public School's approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour when it does occur by-

- an executive staff member will induct to new and casual staff when they enter on duty at the school and provide school support strategies and key staff contacts
- the principal will oversee the induction of any new staff
- information will be provided in the casual information booklet that new casual staff receive when induction takes place
- posters on What is Bullying? are displayed in each room and new staff will be directed to these

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 topics
Term 1	Parent /teacher information sessions- define what bullying is and school strategies
Term 1	P&C Facebook and newsletter- Cyberbullying
Term 3	P&C Facebook and newsletter- National Day Against Bullying and Violence

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.

Ellalong Public School has a whole school approach to our students wellbeing and positive behaviour. At Ellalong Public School we will participate in the National Day Against Bullying and Violence and undertake lessons and activities to increase students' knowledge and understanding of what bullying is.

We have weekly Peer Support lessons that cover various areas of student wellbeing. We also have weekly BounceBack! lessons in each class and these lessons follow the Bounceback! scope and sequence so all classes are undertaking the same topic at their level. We also have the Bounceback! Acronym displayed in all classrooms, library and on a wall in the playground. We follow the PBL principles and these are embedded into our whole school reward systems.

We will engage with the Police Community Liaison Officer and arrange them to come and speak with the students in Stage 3 about Cyberbullying and safe online behaviour.

The school will respond swiftly and seriously to negative behaviours to maintain a supportive learning environment.

Completed by: Alison Hall

Position: Assistant Principal

Signature: _____

Date: May 2023

Principal name: Paul Gaden

Signature: _____

Date: May 2023