

Strategies the school uses to reduce bullying

- ⇒ Positive role modeling by staff and student leaders
- ⇒ Encourage students to be accepting and tolerant of differences – study different cultures, countries and beliefs
- ⇒ Encourage students to take responsibility for their actions and make strong choices
- ⇒ Focus on Pirie Partnership and School Qualities and embed them in our learning programs
- ⇒ First 10 Day Learning Program
- ⇒ Teach the Child Protection Curriculum
- ⇒ We are a Kids Matter school – focused on teaching quality Social and Emotional curriculum across R-7
- ⇒ Implementation of Play is the Way across the whole school
- ⇒ Social Skills Programs at class and individual level
- ⇒ Regular Bully Audits of student safety and well-being at school
- ⇒ Counsellor & CPS available for students to talk to
- ⇒ Provision of quality supervision in the yard by staff and SSO's
- ⇒ Provision of sports equipment and structured lunchtime activities providing for a range of interests

Useful Websites

- ⇒ <http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/>
- ⇒ <http://www.decd.sa.gov.au>
- ⇒ <http://www.bullying.com.au/school-bullying/>
- ⇒ <http://www.childsafetyaustralia.com.au>
- ⇒ <http://au.reachout.com>
- ⇒ <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au>

If you have any concerns about your child or would like more information or support please contact your child's class teacher or alternatively the following people at school:

School Counsellor

Deputy Principal

Principal

Risdon Park Primary School

Kingston Road

Port Pirie

SA 5540



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Quote



Quality Education which
Empowers Community
Minded Learners

Risdon Park Primary School



**Bullying & Harassment
Information**

Phone: 86322226

RESPECT ~ CONFIDENCE ~ RESPONSIBILITY ~ PERSISTENCE

What is Bullying & Harassment?

Bullying is any continuous, planned behavior aimed at upsetting someone. It can be physical, verbal, emotional or cyber-bullying.

Physical Bullying includes:

- ⇒ Hitting, pushing, touching, grabbing, fighting
- ⇒ Looks, stares, facial expressions, gestures
- ⇒ Spitting or throwing things at people
- ⇒ Taking or damaging property

Verbal or Written Bullying includes:

- ⇒ Name calling, spoken or written insults, threats, swearing or abusive language
- ⇒ Put downs, suggestive comments, spreading rumours, unfair criticism

Emotional Bullying includes:

- ⇒ Peer pressure (influencing, encouraging or organizing someone else to be involved in any type of bullying or harassment).
- ⇒ Excluding or intimidating people
- ⇒ Body language
- ⇒ Playing nasty jokes
- ⇒ Letters or notes

Cyber Bullying includes:

- ⇒ Hurtful and disrespectful communication via email, voice and text messaging, social networking sites, photographic and video images

Harassment is unwanted behavior, which interferes with a person's right to feel safe, secure and comfortable. It can be racial, sexual or based on appearance or ability.

How to recognise if your child is being bullied

A child may show signs of being bullied through certain behaviours. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and investigate if their child:

- ⇒ Becomes anxious, withdrawn or lacking in confidence
- ⇒ Is unwilling/avoiding going to school
- ⇒ Does not want to use their normal method of getting to school (bus, walking)
- ⇒ Learning and behaviour in class begins to drop
- ⇒ Cries themselves to sleep
- ⇒ Has nightmares
- ⇒ Attempts to run away
- ⇒ Is bullying other children or siblings
- ⇒ Becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- ⇒ Has possessions go missing
- ⇒ Asks for or steals money
- ⇒ Has unexplained cuts or bruises

What to do if your child is being bullied

- ⇒ **Write down** the information of the bullying incident including when, where, what happened, who was involved (including bystanders) and any action your child may have taken to stop it.
- ⇒ **Arrange a meeting** for you and your child with their classroom teacher, School Counsellor, Deputy Principal or Principal
- ⇒ **Work with your child and the school** on a plan to keep your child safe, including strategies to avoid being bullied and responses to future bullying
- ⇒ **Restrict and monitor** your child's use of social media

At RPPS we are committed to providing a safe, inclusive, supportive and ordered environment free from bullying, harassment and violence. Bullying, including cyber bullying, harassment and violence is not acceptable in our school and will be dealt with seriously and appropriately.

Our school will work with the school community and other services and agencies to support our students in being responsible and productive members of our community.

School Actions on Bullying & Harassment Incidents

- ⇒ Students who bully or harass will be removed from the area (classroom, yard) for a period of time.
- ⇒ Depending on the severity, the student could spend time in the Reflection Room, Buddy Class, or in Time Out with leadership reflecting on their behaviour. Reflection on their behavior could include:
 - * Restorative practices with all students involved
 - * Counselling to work on relevant social skills/behavior concerns
 - * Parent/caregiver meeting to discuss behaviour and develop strategies
- ⇒ Parents are informed by class teacher and/or leadership of their child's behaviour and the relevant consequences/strategies being implemented
- ⇒ Regular and severe incidences will result in take homes or suspensions. Parents/caregivers will be required to attend a review meeting with their child before student returns to school.