

The Parkway, Victor Harbor
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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

***'Pursuing and Promoting Success:' Core Values
Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Trust and Safety***

Anti-bullying Policy

At Victor Harbor R-7 School we want all students to feel safe

We take bullying seriously. This Policy explains what bullying is, how you can report it and what we will do to stop it happening.

At Victor Harbor R-7 School we believe that:

- Bullying is the systematic abuse of power
- Bullying is not simply about difference. It may occur because of people's inability to accept and value difference
- Bullying includes racist or sexual harassment or any other form of discriminatory behaviour
- Bullying is everyone's business
- Bullying can involve violence

Bullying is when someone or when a student (or a group of students) keeps picking on another student again and again to upset or hurt them. They might hurt them physically, try to socially isolate them or say many mean or humiliating things to them.

Although it is neither respectful or acceptable, if someone behaves in a mean or aggressive way on one occasion, it isn't bullying. A fight or disagreement between students of equal power or status isn't bullying

A bystander is someone who sees or knows about child maltreatment, aggression, harassment, violence or bullying. If a bystander takes no action or remains and watches this occur they are part of the problem and can be seen as a participant in the bullying, harassment etc. Supportive bystander behaviours are actions and/or words that are intended to support someone who is being attacked, abused or bullied. The actions of a supportive bystander can stop or diminish a specific bullying incident or help another student recover from it.

*If you would like further information about bullying
or if you would like to know anything else about our school,
please contact us: Phone 8552 1166*

*Policy review date:
June 2014*

A definition of bullying

Bullying is deliberate, hurtful gestures, words or actions which are repeated over time

Examples of bullying are:

- Having your lunch money repeatedly taken away
- Being repeatedly left out of conversation or games
- Being repeatedly hit or kicked
- Having derogatory comments/photos/images transmitted by SMS on mobile phones or through the internet
- Being repeatedly harassed about race, sexuality, disability, physical features, status etc
- Being part of the harassing/bullying by being a bystander

What can you do about bullying?

If you are being bullied or know someone who is being bullied please report it.

Who to report it to

Tell your teacher, a member of the school's leadership or a professional counsellor in an outside agency. Tell your parents or caregivers too.



How to report

Tell the trusted adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening

When to report

Report the bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens. Do not ignore it. When bullying is ignored it may get worse.

What we do about Incidents of bullying

- We listen and talk to the person who has been bullied and to the person who has bullied others



- We use a process such as the 'Method of shared concern' to help everyone involved improve their relationships with each other



- We put negotiated consequences in place for the person who has been bullying others. These may include time out, suspension or exclusion
- All critical incidents are recorded and reported to the Regional Director and if the incident is deemed an assault by the Principal, SAPOL are also contacted
- All incidents of violence are recorded on the school's Bullying Record template and are forwarded to the Child Care Unit
- Parents/Caregivers of both the bully and the victim are informed

It is important to note that these steps may change. At Victor Harbor R-7 School we do not use a 'one size fits all' approach. This is because each person is different and each incident of bullying is different.



What we do at Victor Harbor-7 School to reduce bullying

If an incident of bullying happens we use **prevention, intervention** and **post-intervention** strategies.

Prevention strategies include:

- Including Values Education in the curriculum
- Using the curriculum to teach the students about respectful relationships, respectful language, enacting the school's values, civics and citizenship
- Developing programs to help students participate and have a say in their learning
- Teaching students about violence prevention, conflict resolution, managing anger and problem-solving
- Developing policies that promote student safety
- Teaching for and about diversity
- Providing learning for staff in collaboration with local agencies

Intervention strategies include:

- Counseling students who have been bullied
- Talking with parents or caregivers about the situation
- Putting consequences in place for those who bully others
- Teaching students to be better bystanders
- Ensuring all staff know how to address bullying both effectively and respectfully

Post-intervention strategies include:

- Monitoring the situation between the students to ensure that their safety and well-being are maintained
- Talking with parents or caregivers about strategies
- Periodically reviewing yard duty procedures to ensure they are effective
- Dealing with hotspots in the yard
- Reviewing and evaluating behaviour codes and policies

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Victor Harbor R-7 Bullying Record

Student/s being bullied			
Name of person providing the report	Name		Role in school
	Date, time and location	Date	Time
			Location
Incident details			
Students involved			
Witnesses (if any)			
Communication with parents or caregivers			
Other action taken			