# OR RIE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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# MINDARIE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Bullying Policy 2008

### **Parents**

Mindarie Primary School has an active antibullying policy.

The aim of this pamphlet is to outline the school's position on bullying and to provide parents with a simple process to follow if they hear of, or see, an incident involving bullying.

### WHAT IS BULLYING:

Bullying can be defined as:

**'repeated** incidents involving a bigger, stronger or more powerful child on a smaller or weaker child or by a group of children on a single child' (Education Dept of WA).

Forms of Bullying:

**Physical:** Such as hitting or kicking.

**Verbal:** Such as name-calling or spreading rumours.

**Psychological:** Such as exclusion or threatening gestures.

**Power Imbalance:** By a more powerful individual or group against an individual who is unable to effectively resist.

**Cyber:** Bullying which is carried out through an internet service such as email, chat room, discussion group (Myspace) or instant messaging. It can also include bullying through mobile phone technologies such as short messaging service (SMS).

## **MINDARIE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Our community is committed to making a safe school environment by developing authentic relationships between students, parents and staff based on care, mutual respect and open communication.

Bullying, in any form, is not tolerated at our school.

Students at Mindarie have rights as individuals and are to be treated with kindness and respect. They also deserve to be in an environment where they feel safe and be given opportunities to achieve their personal goals.

Students, parents and teachers have the responsibility to respect the rights of others and to help make our school a 'friendly place' by being thoughtful, respectful and courteous to others.

They have a responsibility to:

- be observant to signs of bullying
- report incidents of bullying
- treat reports of bullying seriously and
- follow the correct procedure in attempting to resolve conflict.

To address any bullying at Mindarie Primary School, the Administration and teaching staff follow a "Problem Solving" strategy called "Shared Concern (PIKAS)". The method includes four stages and encourages all students involved to work from a negative situation to a positive solution.

### PROCEDURE FOR REPORTING INCIDENTS

# (A) When you hear of an incident, try to establish:

Where the incident took place –

- a) in the classroom, b) in the playground,
- c) on the way to/from school.

When the incident took place –

a) during class times, b) during morning or lunch break, c) before or after school.

Who was involved -

a) single student, b) group of students - any names where possible.

Why it took place -

- a) money, b) equipment
- c) 'friends', d) power, e) other....

Is this the first time it has taken place?

# Pass on this information to:

The **classroom teacher** if it happened during class time or you're unsure of the time.

The **Administration** if it happened before or after school.

The **playground duty teacher** if it happened during the morning or lunch breaks.

# (B) If you witness an incident:

Before or after school, report it to the administration.

During morning or lunch break, report it to the **teacher on duty.** (Teacher holding a file.)

Reports will be logged on to an incident report form. When the matter has been resolved, an acknowledgement slip will be returned to the person filing the report.

**Any** incident that you think warrants attention can go through the same process.