STRATEGIES THAT WILL BE USED TO MANAGE AND REDUCE BULLYING

CLASSROOM EDUCATION

Preventative classroom activities and games about issues related to bullying behaviour using the ‘BUZ’ program. The Learning Support Team who have received extra training in the management of bullying will be able assist. On-going internal staff training.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURES

Clear steps for students to follow if they are involved in a bullying incident. Student counselling and support.

PARENT EDUCATION

Parent workshops on the ‘BUZ’ program and resilience strategies. Information brochures and school initiated meetings with members of the Learning Support Team.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

As parents you are the most influential models for your child.
In order for it to develop past the level of ideas, the program at school requires constant positive reinforcement at home. Familiarise yourself with the program and steps we take and help your child develop the positive attitudes to go with it.

TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST
• In what your child does at school
• In their cultural, social and sporting life

FOSTER A TOLERANT HOME LIFE
• Encourage your child to bring friends home
• Accept and tolerate differences within others
• Work with your child on setting firm but fair boundaries
• Demonstrate care and consideration for others

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD
• Nurture your child’s positive qualities and interests
• Value your child for who they are

DISCUSS BULLYING
• Talk about the school’s expectations
• Advise that retaliation does not solve the problem
• Report all incidences to class teacher and Administration
• Explain what to do if your child is a witness

ATTADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Strive to Achieve"

POLICY ON BULLYING

At Attadale Primary we believe that the environment for students, staff and parents should be safe and free from violence, victimisation, harassment and bullying of any kind.
We aim to uphold a ‘ZERO TOLERANCE’ approach, as bullying infringes on our fundamental rights of safety and fair treatment.
Collaborative support from the whole school community is vital in establishing and maintaining an environment in which everybody feels valued and safe, where differences are genuinely accepted and the esteem of individuals is promoted.
WHAT IS BULLYING?
Bullying is repetitive, unprovoked aggressive behaviour towards another person. It causes hurt, fear or distress and is characterised by an imbalance of power. Bullying come in many forms:

**PHYSICAL:** shoving, punching, hitting, kicking, damaging belongings, pinching.

**VERBAL:** put-downs, teasing, name-calling, racist taunts, mocking

**EXTORTION:** forcing weaker students to hand over food, money etc.

**EXCLUSION:** rumours, gossip, whispers, being ‘left out’, ignoring

**BODY LANGUAGE:** silent stares, dirty looks, nasty faces, rude gestures.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?
- Unwillingness to attend school
- Loss of self-confidence
- Declining academic performance
- Damaged clothing, frequent loss of personal property
- Uncharacteristic mood changes
- Withdrawal from social activities

HOW WE APPROACH BULLYING
Or curriculum learning programs are geared towards developing cooperative and courteous behaviours and resilience skills. With the implementation of the ‘BUZ’ (Build up Zone) program the emphasis is on positive up-building language and behaviours. When bullying occurs we support a three-step response:

- Empower the student
- Support the student
- Be an Advocate for the student

EMPOWERING STUDENTS
Through a variety of approaches we familiarise our students with the ‘Build-Up’ Zone language and skills dealing with bullying and other negative situations. A major focus is on developing resilience skills in all our students.

ACTION PLAN: HOW TO EMPOWER VICTIMS

**If you do not feel safe you can:**

A. Ignore the bullying behaviour and show that it is not upsetting you

**IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES**

B. If you feel comfortable, tell the person how you feel and that you want them to stop immediately

**IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES**

C. Talk to someone you can trust to help you:
- Parents
- Friends
- Teacher
- Pastoral Care Member

**IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES**

D. Talk openly about the unwanted behaviour with your teacher. Share what you have already tried and an action plan will be implemented with the person/s involved. Continue to monitor the situation

**IF BEHAVIOUR CONTINUES**

E. Go to a Deputy Principal or the Principal Talk openly about the problem and allow the school to take action, eg:
- Counselling for the bully
- Family involvement
- Disciplinary action

If your child reports being bullied, treat the concern seriously and talk about it.