

BULLYING (ANTI) POLICY

Policy Number: B200-18 (R2020)

Anti-bullying Policy

What is Harassment / Bullying?

It is the inappropriate use of power by an individual or group, with intent to injure either physically or emotionally. It is usually deliberate and repetitive. It may be physical or psychological (verbal and non-verbal). Bullying includes pushing, hitting, punching, kicking or any other action causing hurt or injury. Verbal includes insults, taunts, threats and ridicule. Psychological includes intimidation and ostracism. It may include interference with, or damage to personal property.

Loxton North School Position

All students have the right to be free from bullying / harassment. Students have the right to seek assistance as soon as they feel threatened. Bullying / Harassment are regarded as serious and punishable and will be dealt with according to the Behaviour Education Policy.

Loxton North School Process

Students should ask that the behaviour stops. The affected student should approach a staff member for assistance or advice. Reports will be followed up and investigated. If substantiated the matter will be viewed seriously and appropriate actions will be undertaken. Ultimately the bully and victim may undergo counselling or Department guidelines will be followed.

What Parents/Carers Can Do

Parents/Carers have a strong relationship with their child and it is important that you stay calm and work through a process to support your child. We encourage you to work through these steps:

- ***Get the Story.*** Find out what exactly happened, who was involved, when, where and whether there was any provocation.
- ***Support your child.*** Talk through the situation and agree upon what action will be taken. If your child is the bully, separate the behaviour from the person. Let them know that you will support them to work through the situation. If your child is the victim, ask how you may best help them and assure them that they have done the right thing in reporting the bullying incident.
- ***Listen*** to your child's opinions and feelings
- ***Do not attempt to sort out the bullies yourself***
- Make an appointment with the class teacher or Principal. It is important to make an appointment so adequate time for discussion can occur. At the meeting calmly present the concern and explain that you are hoping to work out some solution with their help. Look for ways that all parties can work together on the problem.

School community members will be made aware of the Policy.