



The Code of School Behaviour

Better Behaviour
Better Learning

LAKES CREEK STATE SCHOOL

Bully Prevention Strategy

To be read in conjunction with Responsible Behaviour Plan for students.

Rationale

State Schools in Queensland are committed to providing quality learning opportunities that enable all students to achieve within safe, supportive and disciplined learning environments.

School community beliefs about bullying

"Bullying is the repeated oppression, psychological or physical, of a less powerful person by a more powerful person or group of persons." Ken Rigby 1996

Bullying is an imbalance of power between individuals or groups against weaker, (physically or emotionally) individuals or groups.

The Australian Heinemann's Dictionary defines a bully, "as a person who takes pleasure in hurting or intimidating weaker people."

Bullying occurs when a person/persons want to hurt someone or pressure them. It involves a desire to hurt and a hurtful action.

At Lakes Creek State School it is the right of individuals in the school community: students, teachers, parents and visitors to be free from bullying within our supportive school environment. It is the responsibility of each individual within our school community to abstain from bullying and to actively encourage others to do the same.

The Lakes Creek School Community believes:

- in the development of respect for the safety and well being of all it's members
- in respecting the right of teachers and students to teach and learn to reach their potential
- all members of the school community should feel safe and valued
- in respecting the traditions of the school, state and nation.



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This will be achieved through:

- the provision of quality curriculum programs that respond to the needs of all and fosters full participation
- the promotion and fostering of socially acceptable behaviours that are non-discriminatory, non-violent and equitable
- fostering and developing a sense of pride throughout the entire school community
- the development by students, of the responsibility for their own actions
- continual reflection and self-monitoring.

Each instance of behaviour will be thoroughly investigated and will be Etc.....

The following table classifies the way in which people bully.

	Direct	Indirect
Verbal abuse	Verbal insults Unfair criticism Name calling	Persuading another person to criticise or insult someone Spreading rumours Anonymous phone calls and emails
Gestural abuse	Threatening or obscene gestures	Deliberate turning away or averting one's gaze to ignore someone
Physical means	Striking Throwing things Using a weapon Removing and hiding belongings	Getting another person to assault someone
Relational bullying	Forming groups or coalitions against someone	Persuading people to exclude someone

K. Rigby. Stop the Bullying: A handbook for schools

At Lakes Creek State School we promote a safe and supportive whole school environment where bullying and harassment are not tolerated.



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Educational Programs

It is important that students staff and parents understand what bullying is, how it impacts on people and how bullying is responded to at Lakes Creek State School. At Lakes Creek State School the following educational strategies are used:

- ☺ Ongoing schoolwide focus through assemblies and class visits
- ☺ Class meetings and setting of behaviour expectations
- ☺ Open Nights
- ☺ Brochure to parents
- ☺ Access to Guidance Officer
- ☺ Newsletter
- ☺ Social Skills Program
- ☺ LiNCs
- ☺ Chaplaincy Program
- ☺ Whole school Values
- ☺ Visual cues in the school environment
- ☺ School-wide Bullying Prevention education program

Prevention Programs

Effective social skills and positive relationships act to prevent bullying. At Lakes Creek State School effective social skills and positive relationships are promoted by:

- ☺ Recognition of positive behaviour through *Student of the Week* and *Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards*
- ☺ Value of the Week
- ☺ Year 6/7 Leadership Program and Senior Badge
- ☺ Chaplain's *Social Skills* Group
- ☺ LiNC's
- ☺ Focussed lunchtime activities
- ☺ Stop! Think! Do! Room
- ☺ Flexible classroom arrangements
- ☺ Common school-wide behavioural expectations - visual

At Lakes Creek State School the staff creates a supportive environment where bullying is less likely to occur by modelling positive and respectful behaviour by:

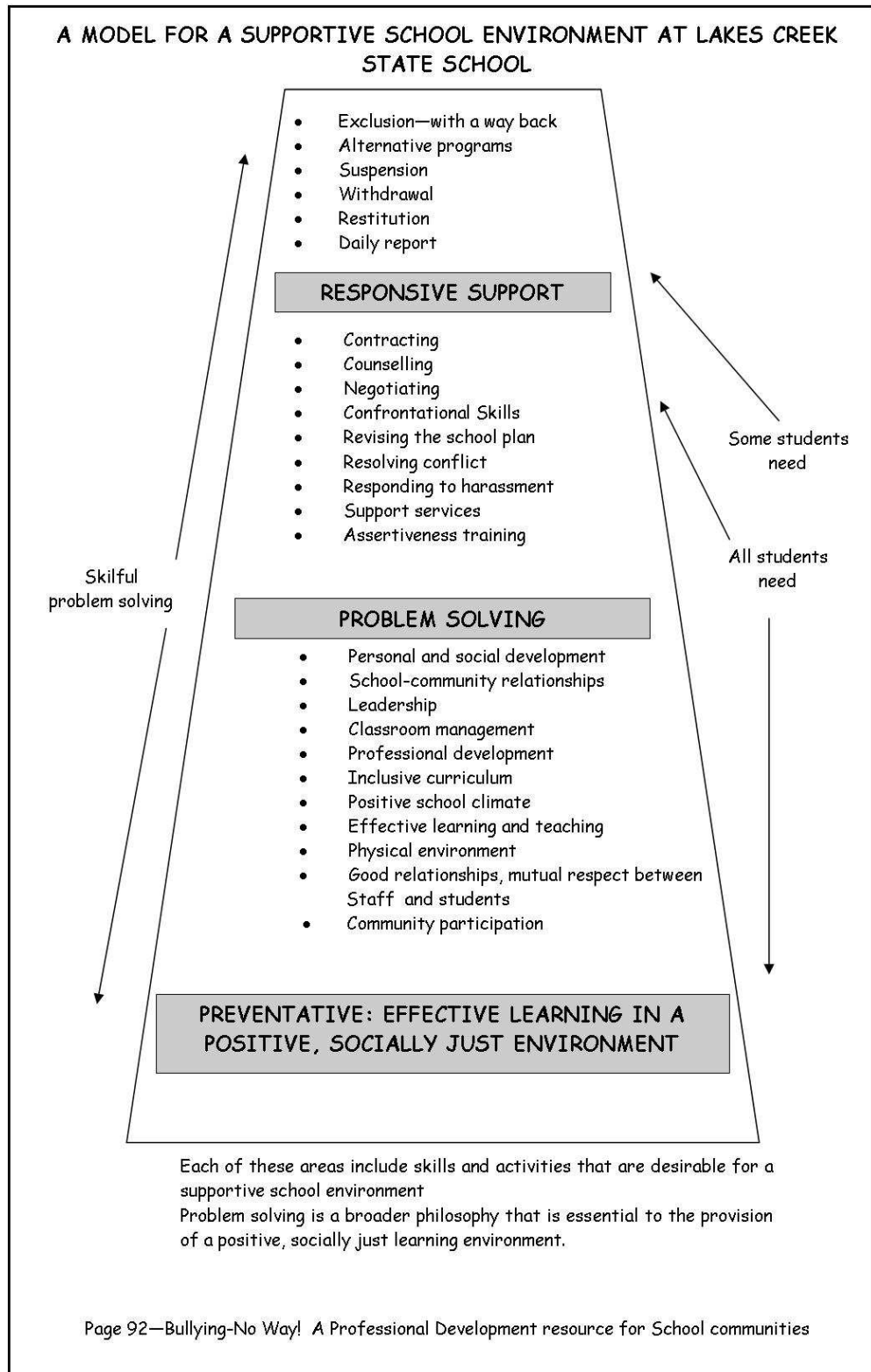
- developing and maintaining good classroom management;
- providing engaging and challenging classroom curriculum
- minimising situations where students are unsupervised;
- overtly discouraging bullying;
- recognising and celebrating diversity and promoting justice and equality



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- ensuring student voices are heard
- supporting and advising students on how to deal with certain situations and
- continuing to educate students and parents about bullying and how to best deal with certain situations.



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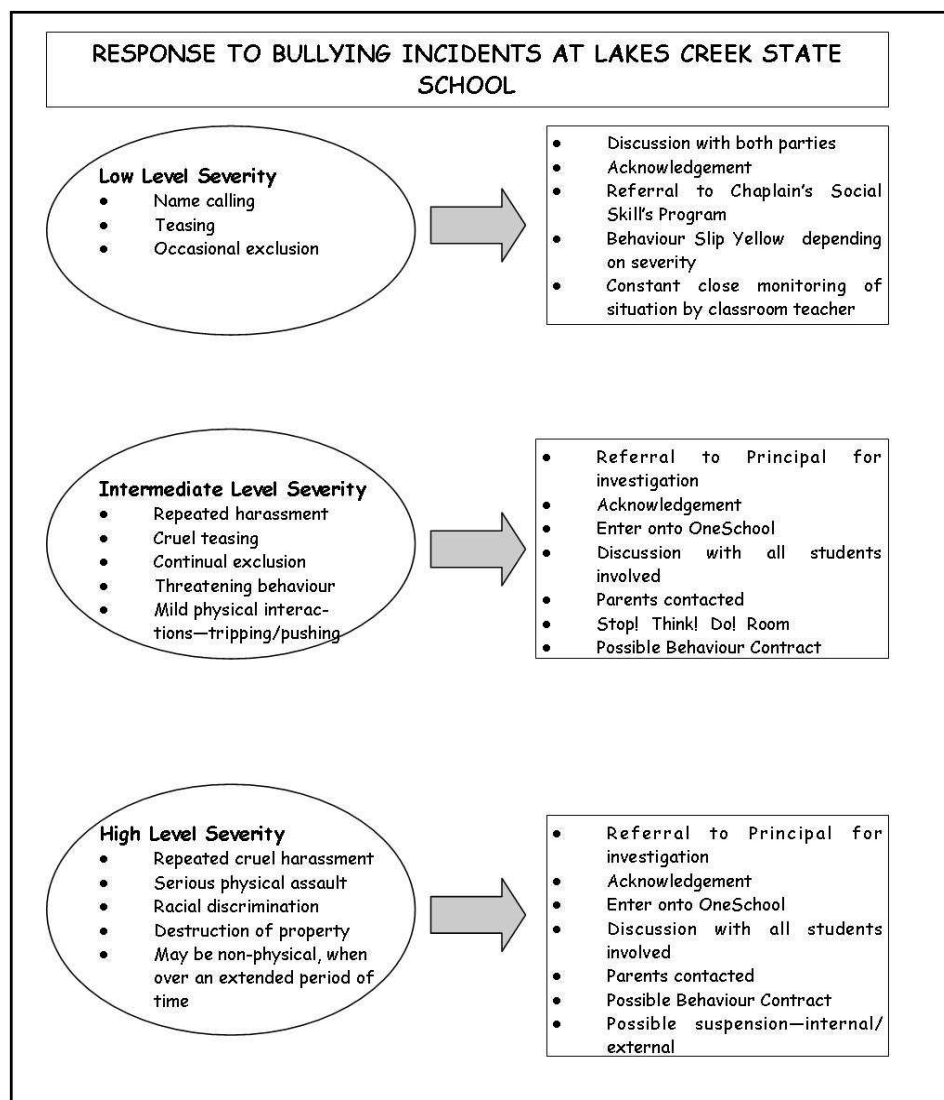
Responses to bullying

Reports of bullying will be investigated and acted upon. Responses to bullying might include targeted support for victims and perpetrators and/or sanctions or consequences consistent with the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

The Responsible Behaviour Plan clearly outlines the strategies and consequences in place for dealing with bullying. Lakes Creek State School does not accept, condone or tolerate bullying and harassment.

If a child reports being bullied or is suspected of being bullied, or a staff member witnesses bullying, the issue will be dealt with appropriately and immediately. The staff member will deal with the issue in the first instance, ensuring the safety of all concerned. A detailed report will then be forwarded to the Principal, after the staff member has interviewed everyone involved. The incident will be entered into OneSchool.

The Principal will interview all concerned and decide on a course of action that is appropriate to the situation. Parents/caregivers will be contacted to ensure that they are fully aware of the situation.





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At Lakes Creek State School we support victims and perpetrators by:

- Class meetings
- Informal and formal discussions
- Classroom management strategies
- Opportunities to engage in co-operative learning
- Discussions with parents
- Upskilling of students who are bullied or those who bully others
- Counselling by the Guidance Officer
- Access to the Chaplain's Services and Social Skills Program
- Behaviour Contracts - class and playground

At Lakes Creek State School the consequences for bullying might include the following;

- Bully interviews
- Stop! Think! Do! Room
- Family meetings
- Official warnings
- Classroom and Playground Contracts
- Internal suspension
- 1 to 5 day Suspension
- 6 to 20 day suspension
- Behaviour Improvement Condition
- Recommendation for exclusion to the Executive Director of Schools

Reporting and monitoring bullying

At Lakes Creek State School reports of bullying are taken seriously. Students and parents may report bullying in the following ways:

- Directly to a member of staff
- An entry in the bully box available at the office
- Via the annual/biannual school wide bully survey

Reports of bullying will be collated and monitored to inform the school community about the extent of bullying and to identify particular areas of concern for future action.

Staff members will document all reports of bullying using:

- Behaviour Slips - yellow
- Stop! Think! Do! Room Register - red
- Record of Student Behaviour interviews
- OneSchool Incident Application



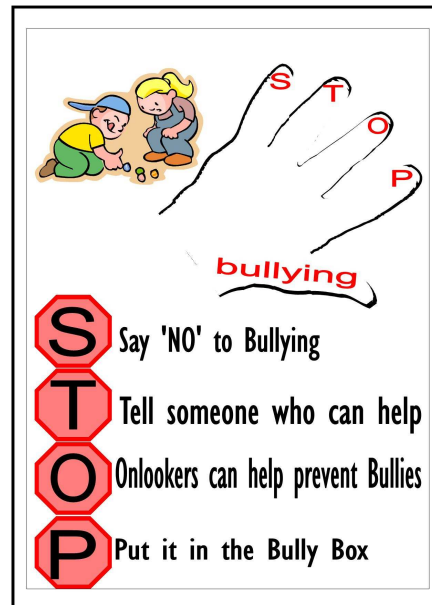
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For Parents and Carer: What can you do to help?

- Encourage your child to discuss the bullying and encourage them to speak out. This will probably be very hard for your child
- Always listen and don't dismiss the matter. Ascertain the relevant facts
- Don't be too over-protective
- Speak with a counsellor or teacher and try some role-play situations to practice assertive behaviour
- Discuss your concerns with the school
- If you discover your child is bullying others, raise the matter with the school, so together, a plan of action can be decided upon

Posters



Related legislation

- *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- *Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2006*
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*
- *Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 1997*



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Related policies

- [SMS-PR-012: Student Protection](#)
- [SMS-PR-021: Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment](#)
- [CRP-PR-009: Inclusive Education](#)
- [SMS-PR-018: Information Sharing under Child Protection Act 1999](#)
- [SMS-PR-008: Family Law Matters Affecting State Educational Institutions](#)
- [CMR-PR-001: Complaints Management](#)
- [SCM-PR-003: Appropriate Use of Mobile Telephones and other Electronic Equipment by Students](#)
- [SMS-PR-024: Internet - Student Usage](#)
- [SDV-PR-001: Employee Professional Development](#)
- [The Code of Conduct](#)

Some related resources

- National Safe Schools Framework (ncab.nssfbestpractice.org.au/resources/resources.shtml)
- National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools (www.valueseducation.edu.au)
- Bullying. No Way! (www.bullyingnoway.com.au)
- MindMatters (www.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters)
- School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (www.learningplace.com.au/deliver/content.asp?pid=24668)
- Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses (<http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/buscode>)