Attachment to Student Behaviour Support Plan

Teaching and learning experiences related to expected student behaviour and relationships based on Gospel values, form an integral part of our curriculum at Sts Peter and Paul’s.

**WHAT IS BULLYING?**

Bullying is when someone (or a group of people) with more power than you repeatedly and intentionally uses negative words and/or actions against you, which causes you distress and risks your wellbeing.

**Five kinds of bullying**

1. **Physical bullying**
   e.g. hitting, poking, tripping, pushing or damaging someone’s belongings.

2. **Verbal bullying**
   e.g. name calling, insults, homophobic or racist remarks and verbal abuse.

3. **Social (covert) bullying**
   e.g. lying, spreading rumours, playing a nasty joke, mimicking and deliberately excluding someone.

4. **Psychological bullying**
   e.g. threatening, manipulation and stalking.

5. **Cyber Bullying**
   Using technology (e.g. email, mobile phones, chat rooms, social networking sites) to bully verbally, socially or psychologically.

Bullying isn’t . . .

- mutual arguments and disagreements
- single episodes of social rejection or dislike
- single-episode acts of nastiness or spite
- random acts of aggression or intimidation.

**AS A PARENT**

If you believe your child is being bullied please contact your child’s teacher immediately.

**Things you can do if you believe your child is being bullied**

1. **Talk**
   Start a conversation about being bullied. But don’t make it intense or you might deter them from talking to you.

2. **Listen**
   Hear the whole story without interrupting. Ask what they want to happen before you make any suggestions.

3. **Explain**
   It’s normal to feel hurt. It’s never OK to be bullied, and it’s NOT their fault.

4. **Find out what is happening**
   Ask what, when and where the behaviours occurred, who was involved, how often and if anybody else saw it. Find out if any teachers know and if the school has done something to address the situation.
5. Contact the school
Check the school’s bullying policy. Make an appointment to speak to your child’s teacher as soon as possible. Be calm! Make a follow-up appointment in a week or two to make sure the situation is being addressed. Under no circumstances take up the issue with the bully yourself.

6. Give sensible advice
- Don’t advise your child to fight back.
- Don’t explain that the child doing the bullying did not mean it—they did.
- Don’t tell them it will go away—it probably won’t.
- Don’t let your child stay away from school—it won’t solve the problem.

RESPONSE TO STUDENT BULLYING

Once bullying has been identified and confirmed as having taken place, the following action will be taken:

Action One
The student will be warned officially to stop offending.
An individual action plan is set in place in consultation with the administration team and the class teacher.
The parents/carers of the bully and the student(s) being bullied are informed of the behaviour and the action taken.
Options may include exclusion from the playground or other school activities for a period of time deemed appropriate.
The bully and the student being bullied may be involved in a process of mediation

Action Two
If bullying continues, the action plan is reviewed by the administration team with the student, their parents/carers and the classroom teacher. A revised action plan is set in place and relevant documentation completed.
Options may include internal suspension where the bully is excluded from interaction with other students.
The bully and the student being bullied may be involved in a process of mediation aimed at empowering the child being bullied and helping the bully take responsibility for their actions.

Action Three
If bullying continues the student may be recommended for suspension or permanent exclusion from the school community. This will occur in consultation with Brisbane Catholic Education.

Remember...
Preventing bullying is everyone’s responsibility. Each child is entitled to be treated with dignity.