

BELAIR JEAN BONYTHON KINDERGARTEN

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Aims

The aim of this policy is to ensure that Belair Jean Bonython kindergarten is a safe environment, free from bullying, for all children and members of the community.

Definition

- Bullying involves one or more students exerting power or dominance over another or others.
- Bullying behaviour is deliberate, unwelcome, uninvited and usually repeated.
- Bullying involves behaviour which is physical, verbal, psychological or social/relational.
- Bullying includes a wide range of conduct that causes another person to feel embarrassed, offended, hurt, humiliated, insulted, ridiculed, angry or afraid.
- Bullying can have a serious long-term effect on the health and well being of young people.

Objectives

- To reduce the incidence of bullying.
- To create a supportive climate and break down the secrecy surrounding bullying.
- To provide staff, students and parents with options to respond to bullying.

Students

If a child feels they are being bullied or have witnessed bullying behaviour they should:

- Tell the person that they are being a bully and to stop the behaviour.
- Support the person who is being bullied and request help from a teacher at the time of the incident.
- Report behaviour to a staff member of the child's choice.
- Refrain from bullying others.

Teachers

If a child reports a bullying incident or a teacher witnesses incidents of bullying, they should:

- Listen and provide support to the target of the bullying by acknowledging the nature of and seriousness of bullying behaviour.
- Find out the background and attempt to resolve the incident.
- Record and monitor incidents of bullying behaviour and fill out a report form if appropriate
- Refer the incident to the director if necessary.
- Encourage target student to report similar behaviour if repeated.
- Put in place anti-bullying procedures as appropriate: eg. Ask the perpetrator to acknowledge the behaviour and agree to stop it.

Parents and Caregivers

- Encourage students to discuss the effects and consequences of bullying.
- Encourage students to report any incidents of bullying.
- Contact the kindergarten if you are aware that any child is being bullied or suspect that it is happening.