POLICY STATEMENT ON BULLYING

GOLDEN RULE: Treat others how we like to be treated.

SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT RELATIONSHIPS RESPONSIBILITY

IF YOU SEE OR EXPERIENCE BULLYING YOU MUST REPORT IT STRAIGHT AWAY. IT’S EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY TO STOP BULLYING!!

‘Children and young people are at the centre of everything we do’
At PLJPS EVERYONE has the right to be safe. We aim to establish a community where everyone feels valued, respected and safe. We appreciate, understand and accept individual differences.

Our values of Respect, Relationships, Responsibility promote families, staff, student and community partnerships and open communication in order to support and teach appropriate student behaviour and reduce the incidence of Bullying in our school.

**WHAT IS BULLYING?**

Bullying is:
- A repeated, unjustifiable behaviour that may be physical, verbal or psychological.
- Intended to cause fear, distress or harm to another
- Intended to take away someone’s power or safety
- Conducted by a more powerful individual or group against a less powerful individual or group

The following table gives some examples of Bullying a child may experience in their lifetime.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of:</th>
<th>Direct Bullying</th>
<th>Indirect Bullying</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical</td>
<td>Hitting, slapping, punching. Kicking, strangling. Spitting, biting. Throwing missiles directly at others Inappropriate touching.</td>
<td>Organising another student to harm someone. Not respecting personal space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Physical</td>
<td>Name calling. Hurtful, vindictive teasing Demanding money or possessions. Forcing or coercing others to commit offences such as stealing.</td>
<td>Constant exclusion from a group. Spreading rumours. Getting other students to dislike another student.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non Verbal</td>
<td>Threatening &amp;/or obscene gestures.</td>
<td>Deliberate, organised exclusion. Removing, hiding &amp;/or damaging others belongings.</td>
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**IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED YOU SHOULD:**
- Tell them to stop, use a strong voice saying exactly what the behaviour is that you don't like.
- Ignore them and report their actions.
- Walk away and report it
- Tell an adult who will help you (ie someone on your network)

**IF YOU SEE SOMEONE BEING BULLIED YOU COULD:**
- Tell the bully to stop
- Be a friend to the person being bullied
- Find another friend or group to play with.
- Ask an adult for help.
- Report the Bullying
All children will be heard and all children involved in the Bullying incident (including bystanders) will be a part of the Restorative Conference.

Early Years Script in use at PLJPS:

First to the mistake-maker, 2nd to hurt child:

“*What happened?”*

To mistake maker

“*When you ......................, was that a good choice or a bad choice?”*

To hurt child:

“*How did you feel when ............... did .....................?”*

To mistake maker:

“How did (harmed person) feel when you .................................. ?”

To mistake maker (non judgemental telling):

“At school it is NOT OK to ....................., next time I want you to ......................“

To hurt child:

“What could (wrongdoer) do that would help you feel safe.”

To hurt child:

“In order to stop this Bullying (harmed child) would like you to ...................... . Can you do this on your own or would you like some help?”

Here, if there is anything else that needs fixing, the adult can add: “You will also need to ..........”

To mistake maker (non judgemental telling):

“I think you also need to .......................... Bullying is NOT acceptable at our school. A clear consequence is stated for any future incidence.

THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WILL:

- Promote students’ sense of concern and responsibility
- Provide positive role models
- Build self esteem and resilience
- Develop skills and strategies to deal with Bullying
- Keep lines of communication open
- Share information

REMEMBER

IF YOU DONT TELL SOMEONE WE WILL THINK EVERYTHING IS OK
WHAT WE DO AT PLJPS TO REDUCE BULLYING

Prevention strategies include:

- Use of Restorative Practise visual and verbal script throughout the whole school
- Promote the values of RESPECT, RELATIONSHIPS AND RESPONSIBILITY
- Teaching Child Protection Curriculum and the use of SMART practice in all classrooms
- Specific social skill teaching regularly.
- Grievance procedures published and distributed.
- Ongoing professional learning for staff
- Monitoring situations to ensure safety and well being are maintained.
- Regular review of yard procedures to ensure their effectiveness
- Provide a range of break time activities ie. Oval sports/ play shed/ library/ computing
- Regular review and evaluation of Behaviour Management strategies and policies.
- Counselling students.
- Communication with families.
- Consequences for those who continue to display bullying behaviours

RELATED POLICIES INCLUDE:
Policy Statement on Code of Behaviour
Parent Grievance Procedures
available on the website & at the school

Thank you for taking the time to read this information. For further details please feel free to make contact with our school.