

ANTI-BULLYING PLAN 2024

Asquith Girls High School

Bullying behaviour has three key features. It involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship. It is ongoing and repeated, and it involves behaviours that can cause harm. The NSW Department of Education requires all NSW public schools to have an Anti-bullying Plan which details the strategies implemented to reduce student bullying behaviours.

Resources

The NSW anti-bullying website (see: <https://antibullying.nsw.gov.au/>) provides evidence-based resources and information for schools, parents and carers, and students. Schools are encouraged to visit the website to support whole-school prevention, early intervention and response approaches and strategies for student bullying behaviour.

Asquith Girls High School's commitment

Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. Executive staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

1 School culture and inclusion

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff will actively respond to student bullying behaviour.

Our school engages in the following practices to promote a positive school culture.

1.1 Student assemblies

Student bullying and expectations about student behaviour will be discussed and information presented to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

Dates	Communication topics
Term 1 - W1	Behaviour code for students
Term 1 - W9	Harmony Week and Bullying No Way
Term 2 - W4	Spirit Week and Reconciliation Week - School Values and Inclusion
Term 4 - W1	Mental Health Month and R U OK? Day

1.2 Staff communication and professional learning

Staff will be supported with professional learning that provides evidence-based ways to encourage and teach positive social and emotional wellbeing and discourage, prevent, identify, and respond effectively to student bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication topics and Professional learning
Terms 1	Staff Meeting - Cultural Awareness
Term 1	Wellbeing Team - Trauma Informed Practices
Term 2	Staff Meeting - Accidental Counselor
Term 3	Wellbeing Team - Restorative Practices and Mediation

1.3 New and casual staff

New and casual staff will be informed about our school's approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour in the following ways.

- Information about the school's values, student behaviour support and management is provided to new and casual staff when they enter on duty at the school
- Middle Leaders of the executive staff speak to new and casual staff when they enter on duty in faculties
- The Deputy Principal, Head Teacher Wellbeing and Head Teacher Teaching and Learning speak to new executive staff when they enter on duty at the school, as part of the induction process. Behaviour expectations and management processes detailed to ensure equitable practices are maintained.

2 Partnerships with families and community

Effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

2.1 Website

Our school website has information to support families help their children to regulate their emotions and behaviour and develop socially. Information is provided to assist if children have been involved in bullying behaviour (as the person engaging in bullying behaviour, as the person being bullied or as the person witnessing the bullying behaviour).

The following are published on our school's website. Check the boxes that apply.

- ☒ School Anti-bullying Plan ☒ NSW Anti-bullying website ☒ Behaviour Code for Students

2.2 Communication with parents

Our school will provide information to parents to help promote a positive school culture where bullying is not acceptable and to increase parent's understanding of how our school addresses all forms of bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication methods and topic
Term 1	School website and school newsletter - Anti-bullying policy and behaviour code for students
Term 1	Welcome and Information Nights - Defining bullying and school supports
Terms 2	Student Led Parent Teacher Nights and Accidental Counsellor
Term 1-4	P&C Meeting Nights and P&C Parent Sessions eg. Tuning in to Kids and Teens

3 Support for wellbeing and positive behaviours

Our school's practices support student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches that align with our school community's needs.

Social and emotional skills related to personal safety, resilience, help-seeking and protective behaviours are explicitly taught across the curriculum in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

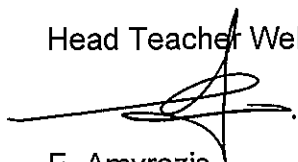
Examples of other ways our school will embed student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices include the following.

- All staff at Asquith Girls High School are teachers of wellbeing. If disagreements or difficulties arise between students, the school uses restorative justice practices to resolve these matters respectfully.
- Year Meetings occur three times a term for each cohort. These sessions each include an activity for student's to engage with social, emotional or inclusive learning.
- The school observes a number of significant awareness days and weeks, including but not limited to: Harmony Week, National Day of Action Against Bullying, R U OK? Day and Mental Health Month
- Cohorts each take part in wellbeing programs designed to promote positive psychology and connections, including but not limited to: Year 7 Camp, Peer Support, RAISE Mentoring, Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM), LifeReady Week.
- The school communicates opportunities to meet with and work in collaboration with parents and caregivers to support the social and emotional needs of all students.

Completed by: N. Ravenscroft

Position: Head Teacher Wellbeing

Signature:



Date: 15.12.23

Principal name: E. Amvrazis

Signature:



Date: 15.12.23

