



BOULDER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Policy: BULLYING POLICY

Created: 2009, Revised 2015

It is everyone's responsibility to prevent bullying from happening.

Definitions:

Bullying

Bullying is the intentional targeting of an individual **repeatedly**, over time, using physically or psychologically aggressive behaviours that are intended to enforce or maintain an imbalance of power through domination.

Cyber-bullying:

This involves the use of information and communication technologies such as email, text messages, instant messaging and websites to engage in the bullying of other individuals or groups. This technology provides an alternative means for verbal, relational and psychological forms of bullying.

Our Goal for the Boulder Primary School Community is

Set up a system and procedures that supports zero-tolerance towards bullying. To create a safe environment for students where they can relax and focus their attention on learning.

Behaviours We Seek:

School:

How Boulder Primary School will respond to bullying:

- Addressing bullying issues in a proactive manner through the Boulder Beat program.
- Explicit teaching of social skills through the Boulder Beat program, promoting healthy peer/adult relationships within the classroom and across the school.
- Staff will use a common language when discussing bullying with students.
- Teach assertive responses to all students.
- Ensure all incidents of bullying are recorded and a consequence applied.
- Ensure relevant staff are alerted to incidents of bullying to ensure monitoring of student/s.
- Offer the target of bullying support.
- If there are three recorded incidents of bullying, an intervention is applied.

Parents:

The school would like parents to become involved by:

- Informing the class teacher of any incident.
- Watching for signs of stress or distress in children.
- Becoming a partner in devising strategies to support children.
- Being open to devising strategies to change bullying behaviour should their child be involved in bullying.

Students:

The school would like students to:

- Report all incidents of bullying to duty or class teachers.
- Try to stand up for themselves in a positive way ("I" statements).
- Try to talk with the person they are having a problem with.
- Get help from a teacher or another person they trust.
- Ignore the situation and keep playing or working.
- Talk to a friend to get some ideas to help make a decision.
- Try coming to an agreement with the other person.

Curriculum We Implement:

To create a bully-free environment through the explicit teaching of social skills that provides students with the confidence to manage bullying behaviours.

Review date:

Endorsed by the School Council:

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Appendix 1

Countering Bullying – Students involved in a Bullying Situation

Type:	Behaviours:	School Action:
Students who bully:	Students who use bullying behaviour need to understand that bullying in any form is not acceptable.	Will receive a consequence, as he/she is responsible for own actions.
Targets of bullying		Counselled on actions they must take that can reduce incidents of bullying.
Bystander 1 Supporters	These students support and could be helping the bully. Supporters may also have 'set up' the incident by being messengers.	Will receive a consequence, as he/she is responsible for own actions.
Bystander 2 Spectators	These gather or deliberately watch the incident.	May receive a consequence as he/she should get help from an adult and they were not pro-active in stopping the incident.
Bystander 3 Witnesses	Are aware of the incident.	Are counselled on getting help from an adult.

Possible Symptoms as a Result of Bullying

The following symptoms have been associated with students experiencing bullying behaviour. These students may:

- Have decreased interest in school.
- Feel reluctant to go to school.
- Perform below their ability at school.
- Frequently complain of headaches or stomach aches.
- Want to be taken to and from school by a new route.
- Have frequent damage to / loss of items such as clothing, property or school work.
- Have frequent injuries such as bruises or cuts.
- Be withdrawn and seem reluctant to say why.
- Have difficulty sleeping, wet the bed or have nightmares.
- Frequently come home hungry.
- Ask for extra lunch or pocket money and/or have money going missing from the house.
- Appear generally unhappy, miserable, moody and/or irritable.
- Be reluctant to eat or play properly.
- Threaten or attempt to harm themselves.
- Have no friends to share free time.
- Be rarely invited to parties or other social activities with peers.