



ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

POLICY AREA

BULLYING AND HARRASSMENT

PREAMBLE

St Francis Xavier School community seeks to provide a safe, supportive, respectful and inclusive learning environment in which the rights of all students to learn and all teachers to teach are supported and respected.

“Bullying is behaviour that is intimidating, offensive, humiliating or degrading. It may involve name calling, exclusion from the group and physical violence. It is repeated behaviour with a deliberate intent to hurt”. (Kids Helpline website)

Being bullied is a frightening and harmful experience for children and has been linked with poor self esteem, anxiety, lowered learning opportunities and depression into adult years. Children who bully also have higher than average levels of anxiety and self harm. Anyone who feels threatened by the actions of others is disadvantaged in this learning and development process.

Bullying is NOT a normal part of growing up. It does not reflect Christian values and undermines the dignity of individuals.

VALUES

COMPASSION, JUSTICE, DIGNITY, WITNESS, RESPECT, TOLERANCE.

REFLECTION MATERIAL

POLICY

Bullying and harrassment in any form have no place in our community. All members of the community accept their responsibility to ensure that bullying behaviours are dealt with appropriately and effectively .

IMPLICATIONS

- The school has well established procedures for behaviour management, including procedures for incidents of bullying and harrassment.
- Clear expectations and consequences of bullying and harrassment are communicated to all members of the school community.
- Bullying and harrassment will be dealt with proactively. Students will be educated to recognise bullying behaviours in themselves and others to deal with this in acceptable and appropriate ways.
- Reporting procedures for dealing with complaints will be in place.
- Ongoing inservice and professional development of staff and parents/caregivers will be provided by the school.