

Russell Vale Public

Anti-bullying Plan 2018

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.

Russell Vale'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
11 W1	Behaviour code for students
16/03/18	Bully no way day. Activities during assembly and through library program for all classes.
12 W6	Whole School Assembly - Be kind message
13 W2	NED Show - Encourage others

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
23/7/18	SDD - focus on wellbeing and dignity and respect for staff and students
21/8/18	Comprehensive review of wellbeing framework
13	Review of discipline and wellbeing policy
14	Review of Anti-bullying plan

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 is provided to staff when they enter on duty at the school
- an executive staff member speaks to new and casual staff when they enter on duty at the school
- the principal speaks to new executive staff when they enter on duty at the school, as part of the induction process.

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 topics
12 W2, W6	Newsletter info regarding cyberbullying
13 W6	Newsletter defining student bullying and school supports
Term 3	Behaviour and discipline policy in TTFM custom questions to seek feedback
10/09/18	Think U Know guide to cybersafety presentation for parents

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.

The Habits of Mind, developed by Art Costa and Bena Kallick, provide teachers and students with strategies to become flexible thinkers, resilient people and problem solvers.
At Russell Vale Public School, the students are explicitly taught how the Habits relate to specific events and situations in their lives and others. They learn about behaviours important in successfully adopting each Habit of Mind. The aim is for these habits to become habitual and instinctive. Students for whom these dispositions have become habitual, can learn anything anytime, anywhere and as such, are a fabulous basis on which to build.
At Russell Vale Public School our Wellbeing team will continue to focus on the development of further lessons and their implementation for the 16 Habits of Mind.

Completed by: Paul Cuthbertson

Position: Relieving Principal

Signature:  Date: 17/08/18

Principal name: Paul Cuthbertson

Signature:  Date: 17/08/18