

# Anti-Bullying Strategies and Procedures

Within each class the strategies used will differ depending on the age of the children and the degree of bullying that has been experienced by individuals or perpetrated by members of the class. N.B. all children who have been continually bullied or have continually bullied need individual counselling to deal with their issues. At times, it may be appropriate to withdraw children from the class sessions to protect them or other children, especially any children with high anxiety levels, or 'power brokers' in a class.

For example, puppets would be effective in KG and Class 1

Class 2, Class 3

Class 4, more direct discussion of issues, class meetings

Class 5

Class 6, role-plays - circles

Class 7, 8 packages such as the P.E.A.C.E Pack (Philip Sleek, Flinders Uni)

Class 9, 10 use video material and discuss issues. Individual counselling

A common theme with all classes would be that bullying is unacceptable behaviour at school, in or out of the classroom.

Strategies to deal with bullying:

1. Consequence for bullying is community service within the school in the first instance.
2. Parents of all children involved in an incident will be informed of the incident and the consequences for all parties involved.
3. Physical violence directed toward another child may result in the perpetrator being immediately sent home.
4. Reports of emotional bullying or sexual harassment need to be investigated thoroughly by a delegated Harassment Officer (training is available through O.E.C.) and necessary action be taken.
5. Students will be expected to make amends to the victim of a bullying incident.

Orana Steiner School has a strong Pastoral Care program and has adopted KidsMatter, BounceBack and MindMatters to educate our young people to deal with challenging behaviours and situations and to instil their ability to build meaningful relationships. This encourages students, parents and teachers to work together with the aim of strengthening relationships and harmony. The approach sits very comfortably with the Steiner philosophy and complements the School's behaviour management program.

## **Bullying at School**

Bullying involves physical, verbal and non-verbal behaviours that are intentionally controlling and hurtful to others.

Examples of physical bullying behaviours:

- Hitting stealing from another
- Punching physically threatening
- Poking writing graffiti
- Shoving pinching
- Jabbing chasing and cornering
- Intimidating tripping
- Unwanted touching vandalizing

Examples of **verbal and non-verbal bullying** behaviours:

- Making fun of belittling
- Incessant teasing excluding
- Name-calling shunning
- Threatening ignoring
- Mocking lying about
- Putting down ganging up on
- Making offensive, racial or sexual comments about or to another

Bullying is a serious problem because it can create a climate of harassment and fear for a child in a school.

Victims of bullying experience a sense of isolation and loss of self-confidence and bullies may develop patterns of anti-social behaviour that continue into adulthood.