



ANTI-BULLYING

At St Mary's we believe that Care and Respect for Everyone is shown at all times. Bullying behaviour is not acceptable in any form.

We educate students, staff and parents that bullying does not always involve hitting and punching, but may also involve name calling, exclusion from games and spreading of rumours. This may include the use of mobile phones or the internet (cyber-bullying).

We encourage children being bullied and those who see bullying behaviour occurring to:

- Turn - Ignore what is being done; walk away when you're being bullied.
- Talk - Ask them to stop; ask someone being bullied if they need help.
- Tell - Go with the person to a safe place; report what's happening to an adult.

In Term 1 of each year, a Positive Behaviour Program is taught in each grade K-6. This program incorporates social skill development, anti-bullying strategies (based on the Peer Support Foundation Anti-Bullying Program) and behavioural expectations. This results in the formulation of class rules and consequences.

As explained at the beginning of year Parent Information Sessions if children feel they have been bullied, they are to report the incident to the teacher on the playground or in the classroom. It is the child's responsibility to collect a form from the office or class teacher (only for bullying situations). They must complete the form, at school or at home, and return to the special box in the office as soon as possible. A teacher will get back to them within 3 days to help resolve the situation. Both children are interviewed and consequences discussed. A decision is made and the consequence is recorded.

These forms are kept and will be examined and analysed by the PBS committee. Children who are identified frequently as displaying bullying behaviour will be given strategies to help them to relate more positively with their peers and to encourage a change of behaviour. A record will also be kept of those children who report incidents of bullying frequently and they will be given appropriate assistance, if required.

Parents will be notified each time their child is interviewed, if they so request. If you wish to be notified each time your child is interviewed, please return the signed form below to the office as soon as possible.

✂ _____

I wish to be advised whenever my child/children are interviewed:

Child's name _____ Class _____

Child's name _____ Class _____

Child's name _____ Class _____

Child's name _____ Class _____

Parent's name _____ Signature _____

Parent's Contact Numbers _____ (home) _____ (mob)

Date _____