

At Karcultaby Area School we want all students to feel safe and able to learn in an environment free from harassment and bullying. Therefore we want bullying and harassment to be taken seriously. This policy explains what bullying and harassment is, how you can report it and what we will do to stop it happening.



If you would like more information about bullying and harassment or require further information about our school, please contact us on 8626 3077.

[Other good sources of information about bullying and harassment](#)

www.bullyingnoway.com.au

www.cybersmart.gov.au

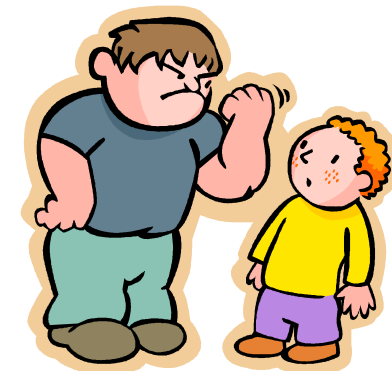
Kids helpline 1800551800

DECD parent helpline 1800222696

Reviewed 2012

KARCULTABY AREA SCHOOL

Anti-Bullying / Harassment Policy



At Karcultaby Area School we believe:

- Bullying and harassment is the abuse of power
- Bullying includes racist or sexual harassment or any other form of discriminatory behaviour
- Bullying can involve violence
- Bullying is everyone's business
- Bullying and harassment can have long term effects on those involved, including bystanders

Definition of Bullying:

- Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons.

Definition of harassment

- Harassment is behaviour that targets an individual or group due to their identity, race, culture, religion, looks, gender, age, ability or disability that offends, humiliates, intimidates or creates a hostile environment

Examples of bullying and harassment:

- Having your lunch money or possessions taken often
- Being left out of games or conversations often
- Being hit or kicked repeatedly
- Being bullied by information and communication technologies such as the internet and mobile phones
- Being teased regularly
- Targeting someone by spreading malicious/hurtful rumours about them
- Graffiti messages

How can I tell if my child is being bullied or harassed?

Some signs a child or young person is being bullied or harassed may be:

- Reduced ability to concentrate and learn
- Refusal to attend school, excuses not to go
- Unexplained cuts, bruises, or scratches
- Stolen or damaged possessions/ clothing
- Headaches or stomach aches
- Asking for extra pocket money or food
- Acting out, tearfulness, sadness, lack of interest in usual activities
- Unwillingness to discuss or secrecy about their online communications (eg mobile phone texts, Facebook comments)

What you can do about bullying/harassment:

- If you are bullied or you know someone who is being bullied, please report it

Who to report it to:

- Tell your teacher, the principal, the school chaplain or a professional counsellor in an outside agency
- Tell your parents too

How to report it:

- Tell a trusted adult where the bullying/ harassment happened and what you have done to try to stop it happening

When to report it:

- Report the bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens
- Do not ignore bullying as it may get worse

What we will do about incidents of bullying:

- Listen and talk to the person who has been bullied and the person who has bullied others
- Put negotiated consequences in place for the person who has been bullying others which may include time out, suspension or exclusion
- Use a process such as the 'Method of Shared Concern' to help everyone involved to improve their relationships with each other