

5.4 Response to Bullying

Statement of Intent

Onslow College staff and students are safe from all forms of bullying including but not limited to victimisation, and physical, verbal, cyber, psychological or sexual behaviours.

Definition

Bullying is behaviour that includes the following four characteristics:

- It is deliberate
- There is a power imbalance
- There is an element of repetition and
- It is harmful either physically and/or psychologically

Board Expectations

The Board's expectations regarding bullying are that:

- a positive, supportive school climate is actively fostered by all members of the school community
- staff and students maintain awareness of bullying in all its various forms and of the effects on those who are bullied
- reporting bullying is encouraged and those who do so will have their complaints or reports investigated
- bullying is dealt with by an appropriate combination of discipline and guidance.

Supporting Documents

The Board expects that the following documents outlining management policies, procedures or practices are in place and are consistent with this policy. Where they have been developed by the school they will be regularly reviewed by management. These documents are available to the Board on request:

- Health Curriculum
- Staff handbook sections on: procedures relating to bullying
guidelines and procedures for reporting abuse and neglect
- complaints policy
- student support programmes including Peer Support, Peer Mediation, anti-harassment strategy
- Bullying Prevention and Response, a guide for schools, 2015.
- Policy 5.5 on Sexual Harassment

Delegations

The implementation of this policy is delegated to the Principal.

Review date May 2017

Date for next review 2020