



# ALBANY RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Bullying Prevention POLICY

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018      REVIEW DATE: 2019

### PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To reinforce within the school community what bullying is, and the fact that it is unacceptable. (refer to Student Engagement, Inclusion and Wellbeing policy for definitions)
- 1.2 To provide information to parents/ carers to support the understanding of bullying support processes in the school and to ensure bullying is reported to staff whether a person is an observer or a victim.
- 1.3 To ensure that all reported incidents of bullying are followed up appropriately.
- 1.4 To provide a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted, and in so doing, the entire school community will have the right of respect from others, the right to learn or to teach, and a right to feel safe and secure in their school environment at all times.

### GUIDELINES:

This policy reflects the protocols and practise outlined in our whole school Child Safe Standards Policy.

- 2.1 Bullying may consist of physical harm, harassment, intimidation, verbal insults or hurtful remarks, or actions designed to hurt somebody's reputation, social standing or to cause humiliation. Bullying may be carried out directly or indirectly, and may include the use of digital technologies such as social network sites, websites or on-line chat rooms.
- 2.2 Our school has a zero tolerance position toward bullying. All reported instances of bullying will be investigated and appropriate actions and communication undertaken.
- 2.3 Our school will combat bullying by providing a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment based on the S.H.A.R.E. principals of inclusive education.  
(Student Centred, Human rights focused, Acknowledges strengths, Respects legal obligations, Evidence based).

#### Isolated, Infrequent or Less Serious Incidents:

- 2.4 All instances of suspected bullying or inappropriate behaviour must be responded to by staff.
- 2.5 All instances of bullying must be documented. Use of Compass software, incident reports or Yard duty folders are acceptable forms of documentation.
- 2.6 Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they suspect a bullying or a behaviour problem.
- 2.7 The school will reinforce with children the importance of reporting inappropriate behaviour involving themselves or others, and the imperative that staff respond consistent with school policy.

#### Repetitive or Serious Incidents:

- 2.8 Serious incidents and/or repetitive incidents of bullying or unacceptable behaviour must be reported, responded to by staff, as per steps in the Student Engagement, Inclusion



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and Wellbeing policy. All such instances will be documented. Serious incidents are those that include physical assault, sexual assault, criminal activity involving theft or serious damage of property, serious threats or homophobic bullying etc.

- 2.9 Students, staff and parents identified by others as bullies will be informed of allegations and appropriate actions undertaken.
- 2.10 All repetitive or serious incidents must be brought to the attention of the Principal or Assistant Principal of the school.
- 2.11 The most appropriate staff member will contact parents of the targeted child. The Principal or Assistant Principal will contact alleged perpetrators unless advised by police etc not to do so.
- 2.12 Parents or community members who bully, harass or abuse staff will be provided with official warnings, if necessary referred to the police, and/or have Trespass restrictions placed upon them by the Principal consistent with the Summary Offences Act.
- 2.13 Student surveys, and feedback opportunities will be used to provide forums for student voice, agency & leadership.
- 2.14 Where a student of ARPS had been identified as undertaking bullying behaviour outside the school, a course of action will follow (on a case by case basis) which is in line with the consequences referenced in the Student Code of Conduct.

### Related documentation:

- ARPS Student Engagement, Inclusion and Wellbeing Policy
- ARPS eSmart and eLearning Policy
- ARPS Child Safe Standards Policy
- ARPS Cyber Safety Policy
- ARPS Peer Mediation Policy
- Student Code of Conduct

Resources:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/bullystoppers/Pages/prinprevent.aspx>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/teachers/teachingresources/practice/Amplify.pdf>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/participation/Pages/studentswithdisability.aspx>

Principal: \_\_\_\_\_

School Council President: \_\_\_\_\_

Date ratified by School Council: \_\_\_\_ 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018 \_\_\_\_

To be reviewed: 2019 \_\_\_\_\_

ARPS POLICY