Anti-bullying Plan
Kensington Public School
Bullying:
Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy (2011)

The NSW Department of Education and Communities rejects all forms of bullying. No student, employee, parent, caregiver or community member should experience bullying within the learning or working environments of the Department.

Bullying behaviour can be:
- **verbal** eg name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- **physical** eg hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- **social** eg ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- **psychological** eg spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones.

The term “bullying” has a specific meaning. The school’s Anti-Bullying Plan sets out the processes for preventing and responding to student bullying. The school has a range of policies and practices, including welfare and discipline policies that apply to student behaviour generally.

School staff have a responsibility to:
- respect and support students
- model and promote appropriate behaviour
- have knowledge of school and departmental policies relating to bullying behaviour
- respond in a timely manner to incidents of bullying according to the school’s Anti-bullying Plan.

In addition, teachers have a responsibility to:
- provide curriculum and pedagogy that supports students to develop an understanding of bullying and its impact on individuals and the broader community.

Students have a responsibility to:
- behave appropriately, respecting individual differences and diversity
- behave as responsible digital citizens
- follow the school Anti-bullying Plan
- behave as responsible bystanders
- report incidents of bullying according to their school Anti-bullying Plan.

Parents and caregivers have a responsibility to:
- support their children to become responsible citizens and to develop responsible online behaviour
- be aware of the school Anti-bullying Plan and assist their children in understanding bullying behaviour
- support their children in developing positive responses to incidents of bullying consistent with the school Anti-bullying Plan
- report incidents of school related bullying behaviour to the school
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur.

All members of the school community have a responsibility to:
- model and promote positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity within the school community
- support the school’s Anti-bullying Plan through words and actions
- work collaboratively with the school to resolve incidents of bullying when they occur.
Our School Anti-Bullying Plan

Our school anti-bullying plan outlines the processes for preventing and responding to student bullying in our school and reflects the Bullying: Preventing and Responding to Student Bullying in Schools Policy of the New South Wales Department of Education and Communities.

Our school anti-bullying plan can be found on our school website as part of our Student Welfare Policy.

http://www.kensington-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

Statement of purpose

Students at Kensington Public School attend school to participate in quality education that will help them to become self-directed, lifelong learners who can create a positive future for themselves and the wider community.

Any inappropriate behaviour that gets in the way of teaching and learning at the school and interferes with the wellbeing of students cannot be accepted.

Protection

At Kensington Public School we foster positive relationships through our student welfare programs. It is a joint responsibility of all members of the school community to:

- Contribute to the preventing bullying by modelling and promoting appropriate behaviour and respectful relationships.
- Promote positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity within the whole school community

Prevention

Below is a list of the preventative strategies used as part of our anti-bullying plan:

- Positive relationships are demonstrated by members of the school community
- Rules and routines are taught explicitly and are applied consistently across the school.
- Student Welfare Program

Each week students are involved in student welfare lessons. As part of these sessions students participate in Peer Support. These lessons help students to build positive relationships with their peers in year K-6.
- Restorative Justice

Children are asked questions using a restorative approach when things go wrong. This helps students develop an understanding of how their actions impact others.

Restorative Questions:

When things go wrong
- What happened?
- What were you thinking at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?

When someone has been hurt
- What did you think when you realised what had happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?
Early Intervention

Students have the right to:

1. To learn in a safe environment
2. To not be bullied
3. To play and mix in a safe environment
4. To play and mix in an environment at school that does not lead to exclusion or victimisation
5. To speak up about bullying
6. To report incidents of bullying without repercussions
7. To confidentiality if reporting an incident without repercussions

Guidelines for Parents/Caregivers

Parents and Caregivers need to be aware of anything unusual or a sudden change in their child’s behaviour that may indicate bullying.

Examples of Warning Signs

- Distress
- Reluctance to attend school
- Unexplained illness
- Request for extra money
- Unexplained bruises/scratches etc.
- Damaged clothing

Strategies for Parents

- Listen to your child’s complaints
- Advise child to immediately/always report incidents of bullying to a teacher
- Notify the school of any bullying incidents you become aware of even if your own child is not involved
- Do not directly approach any other child or their parents regarding bullying incidents. Bullying incidents should be resolved as stated in anti-bullying action plan. (See page right)

The Anti-Bullying Plan Report – NSW Department of Education and Communities