

Avoca Beach Public School Anti-bullying Plan 2018

Bullying behaviour has three key features. It involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship. It is ongoing and repeated, and it involves behaviours that can cause harm. The NSW Department of Education requires all NSW public schools to have an Anti-bullying Plan which details the strategies implemented to reduce student bullying behaviours.

Resources

The NSW anti-bullying website (see: <https://antibullying.nsw.gov.au/>) provides evidence-based resources and information for schools, parents and carers, and students. Schools are encouraged to visit the website to support whole-school prevention, early intervention and response approaches and strategies for student bullying behaviour.

Avoca Beach Public School's commitment

Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. Executive staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

1. School culture and inclusion

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff will actively respond to student bullying behaviour.

Our school engages in the following practices to promote a positive school culture.

1.1. Student assemblies

Student bullying and expectations about student behaviour will be discussed and information presented to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

Dates	Communication topics
Term 1 Wk1	Behaviour code for students communicated to all students K-6 in classes by the classroom teacher.
Term 1 Wk_	PBL focus on respectful behaviour towards others, highlighting that bullying is not tolerated.

1.2 Staff communication and professional learning

Staff will be supported with professional learning that provides evidence-based ways to encourage and teach positive social and emotional wellbeing and discourage, prevent, identify, and respond effectively to student bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication topics and Professional learning
Term 1	Update/review of the social and emotional wellbeing programs that are currently taught in the school.

1.3. New and casual staff

New and casual staff will be informed about our school's approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour in the following ways.

- All new staff who are employed on a block or yearly basis will be inducted into the school via the school's induction policy and procedures. This involves all new staff having a deep understanding of the school's vision and the policies and procedures that exist to support the academic and wellbeing progress/achievement of all students K-6 who attend Avoca Beach Public School.
- The school's Anti-Bullying Plan will be put into each class's casual folder in order for casual teachers to read and implement the school's Anti-Bullying Plan.

2. Partnerships with families and community

Effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

2.1. Website

Our school website has information to support families help their children to regulate their emotions and behaviour and develop socially. Information is provided to assist if children have been involved in bullying behaviour (as the person engaging in bullying behaviour, as the person being bullied or as the person witnessing the bullying behaviour).

The following are published on our school's website. Check the boxes that apply.

- School Anti-bullying Plan NSW Anti-bullying website Behaviour Code for Students

2.2. Communication with parents

Our school will provide information to parents to help promote a positive school culture where bullying is not acceptable and to increase parent's understanding of how our school addresses all forms of bullying behaviour.

Dates	Communication methods and topics
Term 1	Newsletter & P&C item informing of the Department of Education's Behaviour Code for Students. +
Term 1	Newsletter & P&C item informing of zero tolerance of bullying behaviour & anti-bullying lessons that are taught
Term 1-4	PBL focus on respectful, responsible and personal best behaviour.
Term 4 +	Kindergarten transition parent information session on wellbeing and support provided for students. +

3. Support for wellbeing and positive behaviours

Our school's practices support student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches that align with our school community's needs.

Social and emotional skills related to personal safety, resilience, help-seeking and protective behaviours are explicitly taught across the curriculum in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

Examples of other ways our school will embed student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices include the following.

- The school's PBL values of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best are encouraged and positively reinforced on a daily basis through the use of verbal praise and tangible 'Stellar' slips. Weekly merit awards and annual Super Stellers are an additional way that the school supports positive wellbeing behaviours.
- Anti-bullying lessons are taught annually to explicitly teach students about bullying and bystander responsibility.
- Annual Friendology lessons are taught to students from year 1 - 6, promoting healthy, respectful relationships.
- Annual Worrywoos lessons are taught to Kindergarten students to develop their social and emotional intelligence.
- The Department of Education's Child Protection and Drug Education lessons are also taught annually. This develops students knowledge and understanding of safe and unsafe behaviour and proactive strategies.
- For students who require individualised support, executive staff use the processes/procedures of Restorative Justice to discuss situations that have occurred and how to resolve the situation and prevent further situations from occurring.

Completed by: Sarah Baldwin

Position: Deputy Principal

Signature:  Date: 08/11/2018

Principal name: Ross Hallways

Signature:  Date: 08/11/2018