



Mokopane English Combined School

Do more; do it better: make a difference

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POLICY NAME	BULLYING POLICY		
Effective Date	1/1/2023	Authorised by:	Principal
Next Review Date	1/1/2025	<i>Brian Dawson</i>	Principal
Next Review Date	1/1/2027		

Bullying is not tolerated at Mokopane English Combined School

Definition

Bullying is defined as conscientiously hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is often difficult for those that is being bullied to defend themselves. The main types of bullying are:

- Physical – hitting, kicking, theft
- Verbal – name calling, racist remarks, being rude and impolite, and teasing.
- Indirect – spreading rumours, excluding a person from social groups, including cyber bullying
- Nasty looks and other forms of inappropriate body language.
- Harassment or any form of discrimination based on disability, gender, race or religion.

Bullying can take happen anywhere: at school, in sporting teams, in buses, taxis and between neighbours. Students who are being bullied may show changes in behaviour, such as becoming shy and nervous, feigning illness, taking unusual absences or clinging to adults.

There may be evidence of changes in their work patterns, lacking concentration or truanting from school.

Aims and Principles

- All students learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment, without fear of being bullied.
- All anti-social behaviour is deemed to be unacceptable.
- All issues of bullying must be addressed to enable students to fully benefit from the opportunities available to them at school.
- All staff members will be alert to the signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it in accordance with this policy.

Implementation

Staff

The following steps will be taken when dealing with incidents of bullying:

- If bullying is suspected or reported, the incident will be dealt with immediately by the member of staff who has been approached.
- A clear account of the incident will be recorded and given to the Principal.
- The Principal will interview all concerned and record the incident in the student's personal file.
- Form teachers and Subject teachers will be kept informed of the situation.
- Parents will be informed of serious incidents.
- Appropriate measures will be taken in accordance with each school's internal policy.

Students

Students who have been bullied will be supported by:

- The immediate opportunity to discuss the experience with a form teacher or staff member of their choice.
- The reassurance given by the member of staff they have disclosed to
- The offering of continuous support
- Staff restoring self-esteem and confidence

Students who have bullied will be helped by:

- Discussing what happened
- Discovering why the student became involved
- Establishing the wrong doing and need to change
- Informing parent/guardian to help change the attitude of the student

The following disciplinary steps may be taken:

- Demerits
- Official warning to cease offending
- Detention
- Exclusion for the rest of the day
- Exclusion – fixed term
- Permanent exclusion

Raising Awareness

Mokopane English Combined School will raise the awareness of the nature of bullying through the curriculum and assemblies, as appropriate, in an attempt to eradicate such anti-social behaviour within the school.