



## Behaviour Expectations

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At Gooseberry Hill Primary School every person has the right to feel safe and be safe. We expect the school community to be caring, respectful and considerate of each other.

***Bullying will not be tolerated at Gooseberry Hill Primary School.***

### WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is a **deliberate, repeated** behaviour towards a person who has difficulty stopping the situation.

Bullying incidents are unprovoked and can be physical, verbal, social or psychological.

Bullying is when these things happen again and again to someone.

Examples of types of bullying are:

#### *Exclusion*

Being repeatedly ignored, left out on purpose or not being included.

#### *Verbal Abuse and Teasing*

Being made fun of and teased in a mean and hurtful way repeatedly.

#### *Lies or Rumours*

Lies or nasty stories are told about them to make other kids avoid them.

#### *Threats*

Being threatened or made afraid of getting hurt.

When someone demands your possessions or money. When belongings are removed damaged or hidden.

Being forced to do something wrong.

#### *Physical*

Being hit, kicked, punched or pushed around.

### WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

Try not to over-react. Listen calmly and try to work out the facts

- Be aware of the signs of distress in your child. For example: unwillingness to attend school, a pattern of illness missing equipment, requests for extra money, damaged clothing or equipment.
- Take an active interest in your child's social life and acquaintances
- If your child is being bullied discourage any planned retaliation, either physical or verbal, by discussing the positive strategies they can use
- Assist your child to discuss any incidents of bullying with a teacher
- If possible, allow your child to report and deal with the situation. Your child can gain respect and confidence through taking the initiative and dealing with the problem without parental involvement
- Remember not to deal directly with the other children or their parents but work through the school.
- Be willing to attend interviews if your child is involved in an incident of bullying, even if your child is not directly involved or affected.

- Be positive about your child's qualities and encourage your child to be tolerant and caring.
- Discuss the school's expectations about behaviour and how best to deal with bullying

### **What if my child is bullying others?**

All children are capable of bullying others. It is normal for parents to feel shocked, embarrassed and even doubtful if they find that their child has been bullying others.

To help discourage children from bullying others, parents can:

- Talk about bullying behaviour with them and discuss why they may want to bully someone.
- Suggest other more positive actions than bullying.
- Help your child to be aware of the effects of bullying others.
- Be alert and discourage bullying behaviour at home.
- Encourage and provide opportunities for children to openly discuss any issues or concerns with you.
- Teach your children what appropriate behaviour is and how you expect them to treat others.
- Talk to the school Admin for further advice and strategies.

### **WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO?**

#### **What if it happens to me?**

- Don't put up with it! Tell them to STOP! Tell someone you trust. This is not "dobbing".
- Don't react. Just walk away with your head held high.
- Use a strong, confident voice. Be Assertive - don't be 'put down'.
- Avoid the person who is harassing you. Stay away from the places you might be bullied.
- Don't show you're scared even if you might be.
- Don't try to swap insults.
- Tell the bully - "Leave me alone!" or use Good Guys or Girl Power comeback statements and walk confidently away.
- If they persist, report it to your teacher or Deputy.

#### **What if it happens to someone else?**

- Let the person know that what they are doing is bullying.
- Refuse to join in with their bullying and walk away.
- Support the person who is being bullied.
- Ask a teacher to help or make your way to the Office.

**We all need to work together if we are going to stop bullying behaviour in our school.**

#### **What will the school do?**

- Listen and respond with empathy.
- Manage the situation using a 'shared concern' approach.
- Hear both parties explain the situation separately if required.
- Have both parties provide ideas on improving the situation separately if required.
- Record incidents of bullying using the Behaviour Management System.
- Ensure there is follow up with the student being bullied as well as the student bullying.
- Contact the parents or caregivers of both students.