



St Patrick's College Sutherland

Anti- bullying Policy

Date of publication: 2014
Staff responsible: Director of Pastoral Care

Last revision date: June 2017
Date to be reviewed: June 2020

This policy is consistent with the Sydney Catholic Schools Anti-Bullying policy which can be accessed at [SCS Anti-Bullying Policy](#)

1.0 Rationale

St Patrick's College Sutherland is committed to the promotion of the dignity of the human person which is the foundation of all Catholic social teaching. Essential to the dignity of persons is the creation and maintenance of a respectful, safe and supportive learning environment that promotes student wellbeing and enables school communities to engage a diverse range of learners in an inclusive manner. Within this context it is vital that learning technologies are used ethically and responsibly and communication is respectful.

The Charisms of Nano Nagle and Edmund Rice emphasise the core values of our Catholic faith and include dignity, respect, justice, equality, compassion, trust and courage.

2.0 Guiding principles

- 2.1 Every member of the school community has the right to feel safe and be safe at school.
- 2.2 Bullying in any form is unacceptable behavior
- 2.3 All school community members share the responsibility for identifying and addressing bullying behavior and play a role in the prevention and resolution of bullying.
- 2.4 The College's response to bullying is grounded in restorative practices
- 2.5 As a school community we actively support students to develop understanding and skills to keep themselves and others safe.
- 2.6 Effective record keeping is a crucial and expected component of the college's response to bullying.

3.0 Definition of Bullying

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful, and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Bullying can involve humiliation, domination, intimidation, victimisation and all forms of harassment including that based on sex, race, disability, sexual orientation or practice of religion. Bullying of any form, or for any reason, can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Bullying can happen anywhere: at school, travelling to and from school, in sporting teams, between neighbours, or in the workplace.

Bullying behavior can be:

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

Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not defined as bullying. Bullying behaviour is not:

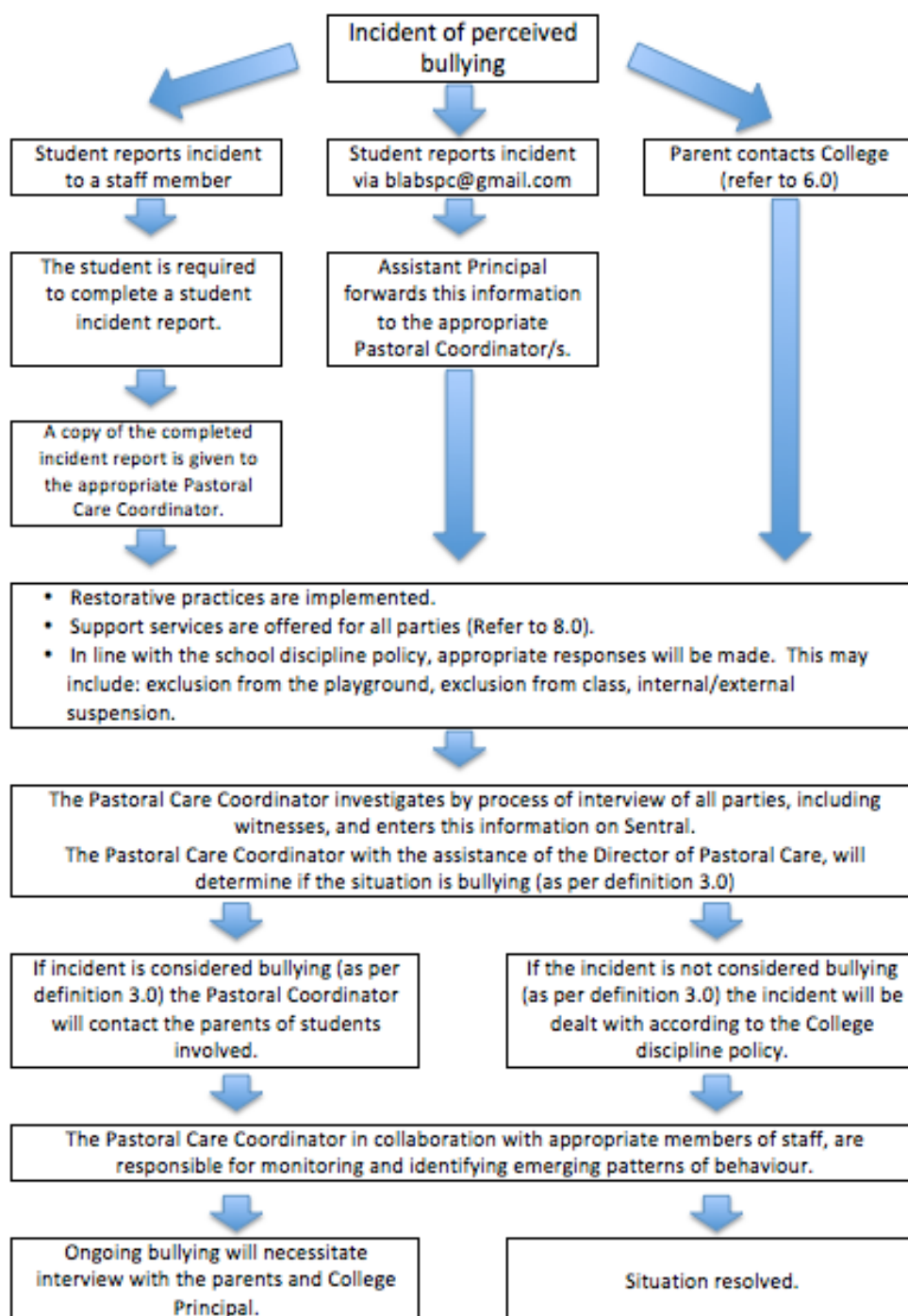
- children not getting along well
- a situation of mutual conflict
- single episodes of nastiness or random acts of aggression
- or intimidation.

(NSW Public Schools Website)

4.0 Link to responsible use of technology

St Patrick’s College enforces the responsible use of technology guidelines. All staff and students have been informed of and agreed to use technology in a responsible manner at all times. Each student (and their parents) have signed the Student Acceptable Use Form. The Student Acceptable Use Agreement Form is available on the [College website](#).

5.0 Procedure for Reporting/Documenting Bullying



6.0 Staff Contacts

[Year 7 Coordinator Mr Phillip Ruxton](#)

[Year 11 Coordinator Mrs Lorella Ganiatsos](#)

[Year 8 Coordinator Mr Mitchell O'Brien](#)

[Year 12 Coordinator Mrs Elizabeth Smith](#)

[Year 9 Coordinator Mrs Pamela Fisher](#)

[Director of Pastoral Care Mrs Jodie Hughes](#)

[Year 10 Coordinator Mrs Bronwyn Peyton](#)

[Assistant Principal Mr James Clancy](#)

5.0 Staff Training

The College anti-bullying delegate (Director of pastoral care) will attend training through CEO. The College anti-bullying delegate in conjunction with the Assistant Principal and Principal will organise annual training of all staff in the implementation of the College anti-bullying and harassment policy and make use of staff meetings and staff news to remind staff of their shared obligations in this endeavor.

6.0 Student Education

Through the College Pastoral Care program students in years 7 – 12 will be educated about the nature, impact and implications of Bullying using a variety of methodologies appropriate to each year group. In addition students will also be educated about the process of reporting bullying and the support services available to students and families who have been impacted by bullying.

7.0 Detail of specific support services

School Counsellors - Phone 9542 9000

- Mrs Rose Hughes rose.hughes@syd.catholic.edu.au
- Ms Allison Scott allison.andrews@syd.catholic.edu.au

Counselling support services (free)

Sutherland Child, Youth and Family Counselling Service
Caringbah, Menai, Engadine – 9522 1000

(In the case of emergencies and for young people who are at significant risk of harm, parents / carers / guardians should call the Acute Care Team (ACT) on 9540 7831 or take the young person to the Emergency department at The Sutherland Hospital (The Kingsway, Caringbah – 9540 1111)

Headspace Miranda

Suite 5/5a 522 Kingsway Miranda, 2228

Tel: 9575 1500 <http://www.headspace.org.au/headspacecentres/headspace-miranda>

Telephone/online Support

Kidshelp line 1800 551 800 <http://www.kidshelp.com.au/>

Eheadspace 1800 650 890 <https://www.eheadspace.org.au/>

Online information

Beyond Blue Youth <http://www.youthbeyondblue.com/>

Blackdog institute <http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>

Butterfly foundation <http://thebutterflyfoundation.org.au/>

Police Youth Liaison Officer

Constable Mary Portelli

Tel: 9542 0852

port3mar@police.nsw.gov.au