



RAPID BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Embracing Life through Learning

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Government
of South Australia
Department for Education
and Child Development

Student Grievance Procedures

We expect all students to learn and play in an environment that is free from harassment or bullying. In line with school values we have high expectations of students to treat others with dignity, care and respect. They all have a right to feel safe and connected and all have responsibility to ensure the students are expected to be respectful and cooperative community members.

Bullying must be addressed through restorative practices (e.g. the victim has a say in the consequences, power is refocused or the bully may ask for forgiveness) that empower individuals to speak up and assert themselves. This is an important life-long skill.

Bullying can be overt behaviour, easily observable by others or subtle and hidden from others, including teachers. Sometimes it is felt but hard to explain.

Bullies look for differences in their victims – sometimes these are physical, or because you are a girl or a boy (sexist) or because you come from a different cultural background (racism).

What strategies can I use if someone bullies me?

- Identify a network of trusted people who can help you
- Bullies rely on you being silent. Speak up and tell others what has happened
- Don't react at the time and be sure to report it later
- Stick up for yourself
 - Use a loud assertive voice
 - Make an / statement. Say Stop it, I don't like it when you....(e.g Yelling or hitting)...Leave me alone!
 - Your loud voice is likely to attract attention to your situation
 - Make eye contact when you sat it, stand tall and proud, use bold body language
- Tell your teacher, senior staff, pastoral support worker or a trusted friend. These people will help you to be assertive and to resolve the issue. Speak up when it happens. Teachers need to know you have been bullied before they can help you.

DON'T

- Bully back
- Put up with it
- Don't say – 'That's ok' when bullies apologise. Instead tell them that you accept their apology (if you do) and you don't want them to do it again.

Bystander Behaviour

Standing by watching, laughing or encouraging bullying is also unacceptable.

Such action indicates that you accept bullying of another person. Bystanders needs to take action and support the person being bullied. Be assertive and tell the bully to STOP!!