

PARENTS SURVEY

Bullying at your child's school

What is bullying?

Bullying can happen at school, at home or online.

It is never okay, and it is not a normal part of growing up. There is a new nationally agreed definition of bullying which all Australian schools now use:

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

What is not bullying?

There are also some behaviours, which, although they might be unpleasant or distressing, are not bullying:

- **mutual conflict** - which involves a disagreement, but not an imbalance of power. Unresolved mutual conflict can develop into bullying if one of the parties targets the other repeatedly in retaliation
- **single-episode acts** of nastiness or physical aggression, or aggression directed towards many different people, is not bullying
- **social rejection or dislike** is not bullying unless it involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others.

To learn more about bullying, search for [Bully Stoppers](#) on the Department of Education and Training website.

Bullying



The 3 main features of bullying are:

- the misuse of power in a relationship
- it is ongoing and repeated
- it involves behaviours that can cause harm.

1. My child is in year

- F 1 2 3 4 5 6
 7 8 9 10 11 12

2. Your impression of our school is...
(tick the most appropriate)

- that it is mostly friendly and caring
 that it is sometimes friendly and caring
 not friendly and caring
 I don't know

3. Do you think students at this school treat each other with respect and kindness?

- Yes
 No

4. Is bullying a problem at our school?

- It's not much of a problem and we don't need to do anything extra
 It's a bit of a problem. It only happens sometimes, but we could improve things
 It's a big problem. It happens a lot and we need to do more about it
 I don't know

5. Have you seen our school's Bullying Prevention and Support Policy?

- Yes, I have seen it
 No, I haven't seen it

6. How do you think staff at our school react when they find out that a student is being bullied?
(Please tick one box)

- Most take it very seriously and try to stop it straight away
 Some take it seriously and try to stop it straight away
 Hardly any take it seriously and try to stop it straight away
 I don't know

7. Does your child feel safe from bullying at school?

- They feel very safe all the time
 They feel reasonably safe most of the time
 They don't feel safe a lot of the time
 I don't know

8. Is your child currently having problems with bullying at school?

- Yes
 Maybe
 No
 I don't know

9. Do you know who to talk to or where to get help if your child is experiencing bullying or cyberbullying at school?

- Yes
 No

10. Do you feel satisfied with the strategies and programs that this school is using to prevent and manage bullying and create a respectful and safe school environment?

- Yes
 Maybe
 No
 I don't know

11. Is there anything else that you think we could do or that you want to tell us about bullying at our school?

**NEED SOME
HELP?**

Helpful Resources:

- [Bully Stoppers](#)
[eSafety Commissioner](#)
[Alannah and Madeline Foundation](#)
[Raising Children Network](#)
[Parentline](#)