



**Vision:** "Creating Our Future By Achieving Personal Bests"

**Trademark:** "Excellence Through Innovation"

**Outcome:** "A high performing academic school"

## Smithfield State High School's Policy on Bullying Bullying "There's no Excuse"

# SPEAK UP – SPEAK OUT POLICY

**Date Approved: November 2007**

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**When staff, students and parents work together,  
we create an environment of care and concern.**

## **BULLYING**

We believe that everybody should enjoy our school equally and feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of appearance, colour, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion and nationality.

Bullying can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Bullying can be face to face or via different media such as phones, computers, etc. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing" or any other rationalisation. The victim is never responsible for being a target of bullying

## **WHOLE SCHOOL RESPONSE TO BULLYING**

You have the right to feel safe. Bullying will not be accepted at Smithfield State High School. Bullies will be required to face the consequences of their actions.

### **Responsibility Promise**

This will be taken by all students at the start of the year or on enrolment. It will follow their induction assembly on school expectations.

Each student will be asked to sign the promise.

### **Incident Report**

This form will be completed when any report of bullying has been made. Each report will be investigated taking into account all necessary circumstances.

### **Records of Interview**

This form will be completed when interviewing students reported of bullying.

### **Action**

Appropriate consequences will follow in accordance with the school's Behaviour Management Policy.

## **What do we do about bullying at Smithfield State High School?**

### **The school will**

- ☞ Have a clear school policy on bullying and display it prominently in classrooms and around the school.
- ☞ Point out unacceptable bullying behaviour.
- ☞ Train staff in appropriate handling of incidents
- ☞ Develop or adopt a curriculum that educates students about bullying.
- ☞ Teach students about less obvious forms of bullying like gossiping and exclusion.
- ☞ Discuss pro-active anti-bullying measures (such as having lunch with a student who has been excluded in the past).
- ☞ Establish support systems for students involved in incidents, such as peer counselling and mediation.

- ☞ Establish a system to support and inform parents when incidents of bullying occur.
- ☞ Offer counselling to students who bully.
- ☞ Ensure an atmosphere where students feel safe reporting incidents of bullying and confident they will be dealt with and not ignored.
- ☞ Report all incidents of bullying immediately to staff.
- ☞ When an incident is reported all students involved will be given the opportunity to give their version of the incident.
- ☞ Put in place sanctions for bullying such as verbal warnings, removal from a classroom or school grounds, a verbal or written apology to the victim, a parent teacher meeting, and detention or suspension for repeat offenders.
- ☞ Monitor cases of persistent bullying and be fully informed of all incidents and their progress.

## BYSTANDERS BEWARE!

**Are you a bully or a hero?** If you encourage bullying, or stand at the sidelines watching fights without stepping in to stop or going for help, then you are a bully and will be dealt with in line with the school's Behaviour Management Policy.

Instead be a hero and stand up for those being bullied by telling the bully that they need to leave the student alone. This often stops the bullying immediately. If the bully ignores you and / or your friends, then report the incident immediately to an adult.

# There is no place for bullying in our school.



*Diversification Action Team  
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## Students will

- ☞ Value student differences and treat others with respect.
- ☞ Not become involved in bullying incidents or be a bully.
- ☞ Be aware of the school's policies and support system with regard to bullying.
- ☞ Report honestly and immediately all incidents of bullying to a staff member.
- ☞ Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision such as toilets and in the playground.
- ☞ Support students who have been or are subjected to bullying.
- ☞ Talk to teachers and parents about concerns and issues regarding bullying.

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- ☞ Work with other students and staff, to help the school deal with bullying effectively.
  - ☞ Provide a good role model for younger students and support them if bullying occurs.
  - ☞ Participate fully and contribute to strategies dealing with bullying

**Parents/Guardians should**

- ☞ Keep themselves and their children informed and aware of school bullying policies.
- ☞ Work in partnership with the school to encourage positive behaviour, valuing differences and promoting sensitivity to others.
- ☞ Discuss regularly with their children their feelings about school work, friendships and relationships.
- ☞ Inform the school of changes in their children's behaviour or circumstances at home that may change a child's behaviour at school.
- ☞ Alert the school if any bullying has occurred.

**STUDENT RESPONSE TO PERSONAL BULLYING – Use the safe technique and talk to:**

- ☞ Your friends
- ☞ A Year 12 Support Team student
- ☞ A Teacher, Form Teacher or Year Co-ordinator
- ☞ The Guidance Officer
- ☞ The School Based Police Officer
- ☞ The Principal or Deputy Principal
- ☞ Your Parents/Guardians
- ☞ Anyone with whom you feel comfortable



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*Diversification Action Team  
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## Student's Anti-Bullying Promise

We the students of Smithfield State High School agree to join together to stamp out bullying at our school.

We believe that everybody should enjoy our school equally, and feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of colour, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion or nationality.

Bullying can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone. Bullying can be face to face or via different media such as mobile phones, computers etc. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing" or any other rationalization. The victim is never responsible for being a target of bullying.

### By signing this promise, we the students agree to:

1. Value student differences and treat others with respect.
2. Not become involved in bullying incidents or be a bully.
3. Be aware of the school's policies and support system with regard to bullying.
4. Report honestly and immediately all incidents of bullying to a staff member.
5. Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision such as toilets and in the playground.
6. Support students who have been or are subjected to bullying.
7. Talk to teachers and parents about concerns and issues regarding bullying.
8. Work with other students and staff, to help the school deal with bullying effectively.
9. Provide a good role model for younger students and support them if bullying occurs.
10. Participate fully and contribute to strategies dealing with bullying.

I acknowledge that whether I am being a bully or see someone being bullied, if I don't report or stop the bullying, I am just as guilty.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Form:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



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## Anti-Bullying Promise – Parents / Guardians

We believe that everybody should enjoy our school equally, and feel safe, secure and accepted regardless of appearance, colour, race, gender, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence, religion and nationality.

Bullying can be pushing, shoving, hitting, and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, and excluding someone.

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Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing" or any other rationalisation.

The victim is never responsible for being a target of bullying.

### By signing this promise, we the parents / guardians agree to:

- Keep ourselves and our children informed and aware of the school bullying policies.
- Work in partnership with the school to encourage positive behaviour, valuing differences and promoting sensitivity to others.
- Discuss regularly with our children their feelings about school work, friendships and relationships.
- Inform the school of changes in our children's behaviour or circumstances at home that may change a child's behaviour at school.
- Alert the school if any bullying has occurred.

**Smithfield State High School would like to invite you as a parent/guardian of students at our school to sign the anti-bullying promise below. Please detach the slip and return it to the school office. Help us put an end to bullying!**

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## Anti-Bullying Promise – Parents / Guardians

I/We, the parents / guardians of \_\_\_\_\_ agree to join together to stamp out bullying at our school. I/We have read and agree to follow the steps in the schools policy on bullying.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

