



The Code of School Behaviour

Better Behaviour
Better Learning

Berserker Street State School

Bully Prevention Strategy

To be read in conjunction with Responsible Behaviour Plan for students.

Rationale

State schools in Queensland are committed to providing quality learning opportunities that enable all students to achieve within safe, supportive and disciplined learning environments.

School community beliefs about bullying

Bullying refers to deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves.

There are three main types of bullying:

- physical attacks (hitting, kicking, sexual assault, theft);
- verbal attacks (name calling, racist comments, offensive remarks, ridicule);
- indirect bullying (spreading rumours, explicit ostracism from social groups).

“At Berserker Street State School bullying in all its forms is not accepted and all members of Berserker Street State School accept their responsibility to promote positive relationships and to prevent bullying”.

Our school has a developed whole school approach to managing behaviour which involves a supportive school culture and explicit teaching of anti-bullying strategies. This approach includes our responsible behaviour plan and a positive learning environment that encourages diversity and empowers students to be active in their pursuit of justice for themselves and others. Anti-Bullying posters are displayed in every classroom.

Educational Programs

It is important that students staff and parents understand what bullying is, how it impacts on people and how bullying is responded to at Berserker Street State School. At Berserker Street State School we use the following educational strategies.

1) Virtues Program

The purpose of the Virtues Program is to develop a culture of character where respect, patience, self-discipline, tolerance and joy for learning are among the virtues our children master. At Berserker Street State School, we introduce and reinforce a ‘Virtue of the Week’.

2) Skills for Growing and Skills for Adolescence

Skills for Growing is a comprehensive program that brings together parents, educators and community members to teach children important life and citizenship skills within a



The Code of School Behaviour

Better Behaviour
Better Learning

consistent and caring environment. The program helps children develop the skills that lead to:

- Self-discipline
- Good judgement
- Responsibility
- Getting along with others

Prevention Programs

Effective social skill and positive relationships act to prevent bullying. At Berserker Street State School we promote effective social skills and positive relationships by,

Classroom Themes ~ Units of work that encourage healthy relationships and peer awareness.

SPOT On's ~ The purpose of the Spot On's is to recognise those who consistently display appropriate behaviours and to encourage students to strive towards "Spot On" behaviour.

School Sport ~ Teaching appropriate behaviours and specific sporting skills to students through participation in a sport/social skills program

Student of the Week ~ Each week students are nominated from each class to receive a 'Student of the Week' certificate on Assembly.

Responses to bullying

Reports of bullying will be investigated and acted upon. Responses to bullying might include targeted support for victims and perpetrators and/or sanctions or consequences consistent with the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

Strategies for students to deal with bullies

1. Let the bully know that what they are doing is bullying.
2. Refuse to join in with their bullying
3. Support any students who are bullied.
4. Stand up for yourself if anyone tries to bully you by:
 - Telling them to stop
 - Ignoring them – Be a 'Brick Wall' ([Brick Wall Theory](#))
 - Say 'no'
 - Ask an adult for support if nothing else works and after you have tried to manage the situation

At Berserker Street State School we support victims and perpetrators by;

- *Providing counselling support*
- *Conducting bully interviews (e.g. method of shared concern)*
- *Increased supervision of at risk areas*
- *Social skills programs targeting victims and perpetrators*
- *Classroom meetings*
- *Removing perpetrators from main play areas and restricting their area of play*



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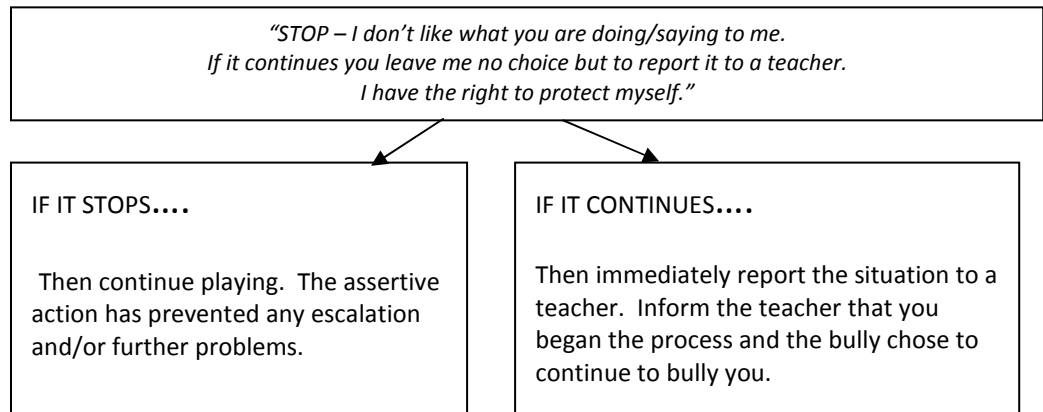


The Code of School Behaviour
Better Behaviour
Better Learning

At Berserker Street State School the consequences for bullying might include the following;

- *Bully interviews*
- *Detention*
- *Family meetings*
- *Suspension and recommendation for exclusion where bullying is so severe no other form of consequence would be deemed adequate*

The moment an individual feels that they are being bullied (unwelcomed verbal, and or physical attention) they are strongly encouraged to follow this process:



The teacher is to investigate the situation. The complaint and the consequences must be recorded in the OneSchool application. Berserker Street State School fosters a supportive school environment. Anti-bullying strategies are taught throughout the school with specific reference to the ‘Bullying Posters’ and the schools “*Virtues Program*”.

Reporting and monitoring bullying

At Berserker Street State School reports of bullying are taken seriously. Students and parents may report bullying directly to a member of staff

If bullying is suspected or reported, the member of staff who has witnessed the incident/been approached, should ensure the student's safety and deal with the incident immediately. A clear account of the incident should be recorded in OneSchool and flagged for an administrator.

STAGES FOR DEALING WITH BULLYING

Stage One	Official warning, counselling/mediation, parents may be contacted
Stage Two	Referral to administration, withdrawal of rights (eg lunchtime or excursion), parents to be involved. Entry into OneSchool application.
Stage Three	In-school suspension under supervision of an administrator, parents to be involved, further counselling may be offered. Case is managed by Administrator in OneSchool application.
Stage Four	Suspension / Behaviour Management Condition / Recommendation for Exclusion, parental involvement, counselling and risk management maybe a condition of re-entry. Case is managed by Administrator in OneSchool application.





The Code of School Behaviour

Better Behaviour
Better Learning

The nature and severity of each case will determine which stage is appropriate.

Reports of bullying will be collated and monitored to inform the school community about the extent of bullying and to identify particular areas of concern for future action.

Related legislation

- *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- *Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2006*
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*
- *Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 1997*

Related policies

- [SMS-PR-012: Student Protection](#)
- [SMS-PR-021: Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment](#)
- [CRP-PR-009: Inclusive Education](#)
- [SMS-PR-018: Information Sharing under Child Protection Act 1999](#)
- [SMS-PR-008: Family Law Matters Affecting State Educational Institutions](#)
- [CMR-PR-001: Complaints Management](#)
- [SCM-PR-003: Appropriate Use of Mobile Telephones and other Electronic Equipment by Students](#)
- [SMS-PR-024: Internet - Student Usage](#)
- [SDV-PR-001: Employee Professional Development](#)
- [The Code of Conduct](#)

Some related resources

- National Safe Schools Framework (ncab.nssfbestpractice.org.au/resources/resources.shtml)
- National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools (www.valuededucation.edu.au)
- Bullying. No Way! (www.bullyingnoway.com.au)
- MindMatters (www.curriculum.edu.au/mindmatters)
- School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (www.learningplace.com.au/deliver/content.asp?pid=24668)
- Code of Conduct for School Students Travelling on Buses (<http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/buscode>)