



Preventing

Building a whole-school culture promoting positive relationships, inclusion, safety and kindness, creates school environments where every student feels valued, connected, and supported. When these values and social and emotional skills are consistently modelled and reinforced across the school, the school community is more likely to treat each other with respect, resolve conflicts peacefully, and contribute to an environment where bullying is less likely to occur or persist.



Responding

Responding effectively and reducing harm from bullying demands a whole-school approach where every incident is consistently reported, recorded and responded to with urgency and care. When school staff effectively manage bullying incidents and support students who experience bullying in a coordinated and timely way, it builds trust, ensures accountability, and helps prevent further harm.



Partnering

Active partnerships with the school sector, within the school and with families and community services that build a strong network of support around students, are essential to reducing the harm caused by bullying. When the education sector and whole-school community work together in a coordinated and caring way, students feel safer, more connected, and confident that bullying will be taken seriously and addressed effectively.



Implementing

Effective implementation of whole-school, evidence-informed multi-tiered systems of support provides a coordinated, consistent approach to preventing and responding to bullying across all levels of the school community. When supported by aligned policies, ongoing teacher professional learning, and regular monitoring, these systems create safer environments where student wellbeing is actively protected, and harm is significantly reduced.

Bullying behaviour is typically:

- ongoing and deliberate
- a misuse of power in relationships
- repeated covert/overt verbal, physical and/or social
- online and/or offline
- individual or group-based
- intended to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm
- difficult for the target to stop it from happening to them
- a violation of the right to dignity, safety, and education.