



POLICY 02.13.00-E Anti-Bullying

Purpose

At St Edmund's College (the School), we believe that all members of the community have the right to a learning and work environment free from intimidation, humiliation and hurt. We all share a responsibility to create a culture of caring which will not tolerate bullying. This policy builds on the school's pastoral care policy to provide clear and agreed procedures and strategies for combatting bullying in the School, responding to bullying behaviours and protecting and supporting all parties involved.

Policy Framework

We try to establish relationships which are grounded in love, compassion, reconciliation and justice. In witnessing Christian values we reject ideas, beliefs and behaviours that marginalise or victimise people.

Definition of Bullying

The national definition of bullying for Australian schools says:

Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have 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. (BULLYING/NO WAY Safe Australian Schools. Together)

Bullying takes many forms, all of which will cause distress.

Examples of bullying include:

Physical: hitting, pushing, tripping, kicking, spitting on others.

Verbal: teasing, using offensive names, ridiculing, spreading rumours

Non-Verbal: writing offensive notes or graffiti about others, rude gestures

Exclusion: deliberately excluding others from group, refusing to sit next to someone

Extortion: threatening to take someone's possessions, food or money

Property: stealing, hiding, damaging or destroying property

Cyber bullying: using e-mail, text messaging, social media or other internet medium to hurt others.

St Edmund's **School Youth Engagement Officer** is Senior Constable Lynda Hart and is contactable at hart1lyn@police.nsw.gov.au or on mobile number 0437 883 329.

Date of Next Review	July 2027
Approval Authority	College Principal
Related Policies / Procedures	New Perspectives on Bullying <i>Ken Rigby, 2002</i> 02.13.01-E – Anti-bullying Procedure 02.02.00-E – Pastoral Care of Students Policy