

ST COLUMBA'S
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



BULLYING OF STUDENTS: PREVENTION POLICY

The St Columba's policy outlined in this document follows, and is written in alignment with, these relevant CSPD policies, guidelines and procedures:

- [Bullying Prevention and Response Procedures](#)
- [NSW anti-bullying website](#)
- [Wellbeing Policy 2022](#)
- [Safeguarding Procedures](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)
- [Procedural Fairness Guidelines](#)
- [Responsible Use of ICT and Social Media \(Students\) Guidelines](#)
- [Weapons Procedures](#)
- [Suspension, Transfer & Exclusion](#)

CONTACT PERSON

Principal	- Mr Phillip Scollard
Assistant Principals	- Mr Ross Gawthorne / Ms Megan Bertenshaw
Head of Wellbeing	- Mrs Tracy Mulhall
Year 12 Leader of Wellbeing	- Ms Monique Salloum
Year 11 Leader of Wellbeing	- Mr Jack Brogan
Year 10 Leader of Wellbeing	- Mr Ben Born
Year 9 Leader of Wellbeing	- Mr Josh Hunter
Year 8 Leader of Wellbeing	- Mrs Pip Moore
Year 7 Leader of Wellbeing	- Mr Anthony Sivestrini

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Definition:

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.

Bullying behaviour has three key features:

- It is an intentional misuse of power
- It is ongoing and repeated
- It involves behaviours that cause harm

Bullying behaviour is not isolated, nor is it single conflicts or incidents. Bullying behaviour is not:

- Students not getting along well
- A breakdown of a friendship
- A situation of mutual conflict (e.g. disagreements)
- A single episode of nastiness
- Random acts of aggression, cruelty or intimidation
- Isolated incidents of conflict separated by many months or years.

Rationale:

Bullying in any form is unacceptable. As a place of learning, we have a responsibility to create environments that are free from bullying, and that encourage positive relations that reflect Gospel values amongst students.

Aims:

At St Columba's we are committed to providing a positive environment, and to establishing a safe, respectful and supportive school culture, free from all forms of bullying. We also aim to respond to events of bullying in a just and effective manner that promotes personal and peer respect, as well as safety for all. This aim is fostered through the entire College community including leadership, staff and families.

Prevention:

St Columba's aspires to:

- Establish Wellbeing programs include bullying prevention strategies, which teach students the universal expectations of safe behaviour and respectful, inclusive relationships
- Use data collected about bullying to analyse and evaluate our responses to student safety and bullying prevention
- Ensure that positive behaviours and respectful relationships are promoted and profiled throughout the school community (e.g. the school newsletter 'News & Events', the College website, whole school and cohort assemblies, and the Wellbeing program)
- Create opportunities for families to partner with the College in preventing bullying behaviour. This may include information forums and/or discussion groups.