

## 2021 Anti Bullying Plan

Bullying behaviour has three key features. It involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship. It is ongoing and repeated, and it involves behaviours that can cause harm. The NSW Department of Education requires all NSW public schools to have an Anti-bullying Plan which details the strategies implemented to reduce student bullying behaviours.

### Resources

The NSW anti-bullying website (see: <https://antibullying.nsw.gov.au/>) provides evidence-based resources and information for schools, parents and carers, and students. Schools are encouraged to visit the website to support whole-school prevention, early intervention and response approaches and strategies for student bullying behaviour

### Riverstone High School's Commitment

Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. Executive staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

### 1. School culture and inclusion

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff will actively respond to student bullying behaviour. Our school engages in the following practices to promote a positive school culture.

#### 1.1. Student assemblies

Student bullying and expectations about student behaviour will be discussed and information presented to promote a positive school culture where bullying is not accepted.

Dates:	Pride Lessons
Term 1	Attendance
Term 2	Expectations & Core Values
Term 3	Wellbeing
Term 4	Mental Health



## 2021 Anti Bullying Plan

### 1.2 Staff communication and professional learning

Staff will be supported with professional learning that provides evidence-based ways to encourage and teach positive social and emotional wellbeing and discourage, prevent, identify, and respond effectively to student bullying behaviour

Dates:	Communication topics and Professional Learning
Term 1	Attendance
Term 2	Expectations & Core Values
Term 3	Wellbeing
Term 4	Mental Health

### 1.3. New and casual staff

New and casual staff will be informed about our school’s approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour in the following ways:

At Riverstone High School new and casual staff are informed about the school’s approaches and strategies to prevent and respond to student bullying behaviour, when it does occur. For example:

- Information is provided in a handout to staff when they enter on duty at the school in our casual folders
- The Head Teacher in charge of Daily Organisation speaks to new and casual staff when they enter on duty at the school
- The Principal speaks to new executive staff when they enter on duty at the school, as part of the induction process
- New Scheme Teachers complete a 12 month Induction Program that involves exploring DoE and School-based wellbeing policies

### 2. Partnerships with families and community

Effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

#### 2.1. Website

- Our school website has information to support families help their children to regulate their emotions and behaviour and develop socially. Information is provided to assist if children have been involved in bullying behaviour (as the person engaging in bullying behaviour, as the person being bullied or as the person witnessing the bullying behaviour).
- The following are published on our school’s website. Check the boxes that apply.

- ☒ School Anti-bullying Plan
- ☒ NSW Anti-bullying website
- ☒ Behaviour Code for Students



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### 2.2. Communication with parents

Our school will provide information to parents to help promote a positive school culture where bullying is not acceptable and to increase parent’s understanding of how our school addresses all forms of bullying behaviour.

Dates:	Communication with parents
Term 1	Newsletter Focus: Attendance
Term 2	Newsletter Focus: Core Expectations
Term 3	Newsletter Focus: Wellbeing
Term 4	Newsletter Focus: Mental Health

### 3. Support for wellbeing and positive behaviours

Our school’s practices support student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches that align with our school community’s needs.

Social and emotional skills related to personal safety, resilience, help-seeking and protective behaviours are explicitly taught across the curriculum in Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

Examples of other ways our school will embed student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices include the following.

- The Leader in Me: Students complete lessons structured around the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens and learn how to manage their lives, actions and responsibilities
- Wellbeing Day: An annual school event where students engage in a range of activities that aims to increase their wellbeing by focusing on the issues that are relevant to them
- PRIDE Assemblies: Every term, student success is celebrated in a public assembly that also addresses a theme that relates to student issues and achievement

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