Defining Bullying:

- Bullying involves the exertion of power or dominance over another or others.
- Bullying is any behaviour that deliberately hurts others with words or actions. It is an abuse of power.
- Bullying involves behaviour which is physical, cyber, verbal, psychological and/or social/relational.
- Bullying includes a wide range of conduct that causes another person to feel embarrassed, offended, hurt, humiliated, insulted, ridiculed, angry and/or afraid.

Objectives:

- To reduce the incidence of bullying.
- To counter the view that bullying is an inevitable part of school life.
- To sustain a supportive, safe environment and break down the secrecy surrounding bullying.
- To provide staff, students and parents with options to respond to bullying.

Students:

If a student feels they are being bullied or has witnessed bullying behaviour this is what they need to do:
1. Tell the person they are bullying and to stop.
2. Support the person who is being bullied.
3. Tell a school adult straight away.
4. Report the behaviour to class or other teacher.
5. Choose to talk to a trusted student or Christian Pastoral Worker.

If a student reports a bullying incident or a school adult witnesses incidents of bullying, they:

Teachers:
1. Listen and provide support to the target of the bullying by acknowledging the seriousness of bullying behaviour.
2. Find out the background and attempt to resolve the incident following agreed school procedures.
3. Record details in the student's diary if appropriate.
4. Refer the incident to the Principal.
5. Offer target student the option of follow-up care.
6. Record the incident in school records.

Principal:
1. Provide support to targets of bullying.
2. Record and monitor incidents of bullying behaviour.
3. Put appropriate anti-bullying procedures in place.
4. Contact parent/s of student/s who have been bullying others as well as the parent/s of victims.
5. Encourage target student to report similar behaviour if repeated.
6. Give feedback to victims action taken following their report of the incident.
7. Keep staff involved.

School:
1. Dissemination of Policy and Procedures as requested.
2. Include within Curriculum strategies for learning effective ways to deal with bullying.
3. Encourage parents to discuss incident and the part their child played and other options they could have chosen.
4. Analyse data regularly.

Parents and Caregivers:
1. Encourage their child/children to discuss the effects and consequences of bullying.
2. Encourage their child/children to report any incidents of bullying to school adults straight away. (Try not to do everything in his or her place).
3. Contact the school if they are aware that their child is being bullied or suspect that it is happening.

WALLAROO MINES PRIMARY SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY AND PROCEDURES

We expect everyone to be treated with respect. When this does not occur and power is used to attack or control others, this is perceived by others as Bullying or Harassment.

Policy Developed: May 2008
Review Date: May 2009
This policy is consistent with:

- The National Safe Schools Framework. 2004
- State Government Anti-Discrimination Legislation.
- SACSA: The Essential Learnings Framework.
- School Mission Statement - Values and Principles:

> **Every Wallaroo Mines Primary School Student has the right to an education in a safe and secure environment that will:**
> * enable them to recognise, respect and value all people.
> * enable them to attain their full potential academically and socially.
> * prepare them for life in an ever-changing world.

> * Site Plan focussed on: 4. Student Well-being and Engagement

**Aim**

The aim of the policy is to ensure that Wallaroo Mines Primary School is a safe environment, free from bullying, for all members of the school community (including staff, students and parents/caregivers).

**What we do at Wallaroo Mines Primary School to reduce bullying**

**Prevention Strategies:**

- Openly talking about bullying, what it is and what we can do about it.
- Write frequent newsletter reports.
- Teach about diversity and valuing differences.
- Involve older students in regular contact with younger students to foster the community aspect of the school.
- Provide T&D opportunities for staff where appropriate.
- Annual review of the policy.
- Incorporate aspects of anti-bullying activities during the year, with particular focus at the beginning of each year, as part of our Social Skills program.

**Intervention Strategies**

- Respond to reported incidents immediately and decisively.
- Staff consistently apply the same standards to all students.
- Provide counselling to students who have been bullied.
- Give regular immediate feedback to those victims about actions taken following the reported incident/s.
- Talk to parents/caregivers as required.
- Counsel those who bully, consistently put agreed consequences into action (eg. isolation from peers, internal suspension, school community service, written apology) and then follow up with counselling.
- Educate students to take a proactive role when witnessing bullying.

**Our Bystander Policy**

Everyone understands that many incidents of bullying/harassment result in the bully receiving positive attention from peers. We seek to reduce this inherent reward to reduce the instances of bullying, and to diffuse the effects of such behaviour for the sake of victims.

Students are encouraged to:

* immediately report instances of, harassment, victimisation and gang-like behaviour.
* walk away from such behaviours and seek help for the victim.

If bystanders do nothing about instances of bullying they may receive similar consequences to the perpetrator.

**Post Intervention Strategies:**

- Monitor the situation between students to ensure their safety and well-being are maintained.
- Discuss strategies with parents/caregivers when necessary.
- Review yard duty policy and behaviour codes to ensure their effectiveness.