

## CYBER BULLYING POLICY

Any form of Bullying is unacceptable.

When bullying ( unwanted, repeated and ongoing behaviour) is carried out via the internet through such services as emails, a chat room, discussion groups or instant messages or via the phone using SMS, email or applications such as snapchat, it is cyber bullying.

When photos, videos or pictures are sent of a person in a provocative pose or state of undress this is a form of cyberbullying called Sexting.

The impersonation of somebody else when using the internet or phone is also a form of Cyberbullying.

Cyber bullying at any level will not be tolerated and in some instances requires the information to be passed on to the police for further action.

### **School & Community Information**

- As part of the school's responsibility, parents, students, teachers and community members will be aware of the Flagstaff Hill R-7 School Policy on Cyberbullying.
- That the school community is made aware of the seriousness of cyberbullying and its impact on those students who are cyberbullied.
- Students will develop a greater understanding about cyberbullying and what they need to do to be responsible users of social media technologies.

### **Staff Training and Development**

- Professional development for staff relating to all forms of bullying (including cyberbullying)
- Teachers are aware of their responsibilities regarding the protection of all students from all forms of bullying.
- Each classroom teacher to clarify with students what Bullying is and what cyberbullying is.
- The staff are aware of and use anti bullying programs with students.
- Identify bullies through the Bullying audit.
- Monitor students who have behaviours consistent with those who bully or who have been identified via the Bullying audit.

### **Student Awareness**

- Students have a clear understanding of what bullying is.
- Students have a clear understanding of what cyberbullying is.
- Students know how to report an incident of Bullying or Cyberbullying and who they can talk to if needing to make a report.
- All students participate in a bullying survey at least twice a year. All results will be scrutinised and acted upon.
- Students use their personal phones on a limited basis, in a responsible manner and in line with the schools mobile phone policy
- If parents are concerned about cyber bullying they should make a police report as well as inform the school.

### **Parent Awareness**

- Parents to be aware of cyber safety and implement some simple social media guidelines at home.
- Parents are encouraged to contact the school if they become aware of any Bullying.
- Parents are encouraged to use the **eSafety** website to find out further information regarding cybersafety.

### **Inappropriate Behaviours**

- The consequence for any student's action in relationship to any form of Bullying is individually based.
- At Flagstaff Hill R-7 Primary School we have a variety of strategies to cope with bullying and Cyberbullying. These strategies range from Restorative practice conferencing to exclusion if needed
- Students are encouraged to be active in managing their behaviours in accordance with the schools above the line / below the line policy
- Where students are seen to be breaking the law in regards to the sending of pictures or videos then SAPOL will be involved.

For students

What does cyberbullying look like?

Cyberbullying can occur in many ways, including:

- abusive texts and emails
- hurtful messages, images or videos
- imitating others online
- excluding others online
- humiliating others online
- nasty online gossip and chat.

I am being cyberbullied—how do I stop it?

- talk to someone you trust straight away—like a parent, sibling, uncle/aunt, teacher or friend, or contact Kids Helpline
- don't retaliate or respond—they might use it against you
- block the bully and change your privacy settings
- report the abuse to the service and get others to as well
- collect the evidence—keep mobile phone messages, take screen shots and print emails or social networking conversations
- do something you enjoy—catch-up with friends, listen to good music, watch a good show or chat online to people you can trust
- remember you didn't ask for this—as such you have the right to feel safe both at home and at school.