



TREETOPS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy Statement

At Treetops Montessori School we uphold the *United Nation Charter of Rights for Children* by maintaining that every child has the right to an education and every child has the right to be safe. At Treetops Montessori School we **will not** tolerate Bullying, we will educate our staff and students about bullying, we will closely monitor the behaviour of our staff and students to ensure that bullying is not allow to occur and we will take swift action to deal with any bullying that does occur.

Definition of Bullying

A series of repeated intentionally cruel incidents, involving the same children, in the same bully and victim roles. This, however, does not mean that in order for bullying to occur there must be repeat offences. Bullying can consist of a single interaction. Bullying behaviour may also be defined as a criminal act if the bully is twelve years of age or older. Bullying is a wilful, conscious desire to hurt, frighten or threaten. Bullying is ongoing in nature. It can be physical and/or verbal and includes racial, religious, and sexual harassment, offensive gestures, intimidation, extortion and social exclusion. It is behaviour that is designed to hurt, injure, embarrass, upset or discomfort the other person.

Rights And Responsibilities

These rights and responsibilities apply to all members of our school community.

Our Rights	Our Responsibilities	Examples of Acceptable Behaviour
To be treated with courtesy and respect.	To practise courtesy, respect and care of others. To promote the self-esteem of all.	Respect of others (no teasing or name calling). Honesty and courtesy in all situations. Friendly socialisation. Respect of the culture and diversity of <i>all</i> members of the school community.
To work in an enjoyable, safe environment free from violence	To keep our environment safe, secure and free from violence.	Care of all students and staff.
To teach and learn without disruption.	To ensure that there is no disruption (physical or psychological) to another person's teaching-learning environment.	Following classroom rules and directions from staff.

School Commitment

In line with the National Safe Schools Framework, the school will:

- Encourage teachers to embody programs against bullying in their classroom curriculum in order to develop educative and positive programs to minimise bullying.
- Record incidents of bullying in a consistent way that allows for monitoring of such behaviour.
- Discuss appropriate standards of behaviour and school rules with all students.
- Involve the Police and other agencies as necessary.

The school will support students who are being bullied by:

- Improving the self esteem of victims through counselling and/or social skills programs.
- Developing programs to assist bullies to work cooperatively with others rather than in a confrontational way.
- Taking bullying seriously and thoroughly investigating.