

## **Anti-Bullying Policy**

Ernabella Anangu School will provide a positive culture where bullying is not accepted, and in doing so, all will have the right of respects from others, the right to learn or teach, and a right to feel safe and secure in our school.

### **What is bullying?**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person .A person is being bullied when they are regularly exposed over time to negative and harmful actions. Bullies are people who deliberately set out to intimidate, exclude, threaten and/or hurt others. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

### **Bullying can be:**

**Emotional:** being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g.. hiding books, threatening gestures, pulling faces)

**Physical:** pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence

**Racist:** racial taunts, graffiti, gestures

**Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments

**Verbal:** name-calling, teasing, sarcasm, spreading rumours

**Cyber:** being bullied by SMS or mobile phones or through the internet using e-mail, MSN, messenger, Facebook or social networking sites.

### **At Ernabella Anangu School we respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying by:**

- Communicating with parents/ caregivers about the situation.
- Counselling students who have bullied others
- Putting consequences in place for students who bully others.
- Having the teachers, AEW's, Anangu Coordinator and leadership team talk with the bully about their choices and behaviour.

### ***How can I tell if my child is being bullied or harassed?***

Children who are being bullied at school may not always tell a teacher or AEW about it. They may be afraid to tell, thinking that it might make the situation worse. That is why, as a parent/caregiver you have an important part to play in helping your child and the school deal with bullying.

Some signs a child or young person is being bullied or harassed may be:

- Reduced ability to concentrate and learn.
- Refusal to go to school, excuses not to go
- Headaches, stomach aches or illnesses without a cause.
- Acting out, tearfulness, sadness, getting angry, throwing stones not interested in things they like doing.
- Not willing to talk about their online communication. Being secretive (e.g. mobile phones, text Facebook, social media comments)

### ***What should I do if I think my child is being bullied?***

You may feel upset or anxious if your child tells you that they have been bullied. However it is important that you remain calm.

- Listen to your child
- Find out what happened. Who was involved and when and where the bullying took place.
- It is important to tell your child that telling you about the bullying is the right thing to do. **Inform the teacher or report the bullying to Leadership or the Anangu Coordinator so the problem can be worked out together.**

### ***Informing the school.***

#### **Grievance Procedures**

Talking with the school about your concern is important in helping to solve the problem. If you need more support in solving the problem the school can help you to contact the Regional (Mark Ames) or Assistant Regional Director (Warren Giles).

The school grievance procedures are on the website.

*Parents or Caregivers must not discipline other students.*

*At school you should not approach parents of children who have been bullied.*

*Talk to the school staff and let them work through the issue with you and your child.*

#### **Need more information?**

**Bullying No Way:** [www.bullyingnoway.com.au](http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au)Kids

**Helpline:** 1800551800

**Parent Helpline:** 1300131719

**DfE Parent Helpline:** 1800222696