Emu Park State School
Bully Prevention Strategy
To be read in conjunction with Emu Park State School's behaviour policy.

Rationale
Education Queensland is committed to provisions that ensure all young Queenslanders have a right to and receive a quality education.

School community beliefs about bullying
Our aim is to create the conditions for each learner to progress towards responsible self-management, whilst learning about how and why people behave the way they do. We focus on catering for individual differences. We realise that all children will move towards this goal at their own pace and that they will also have individual needs along the way.

Our approach builds relationships, encourages self-evaluation and focuses on quality.

At Emu Park State School we believe, children learn best in a supportive environment that caters for their individual needs. We are a school that is big enough for opportuinit and small enough to care.

By the time students leave us, we want them to be:
- Happy confident self-managed individuals; and
- Socially responsible citizens.

Emu Park State School opposes bullying in all its forms. Bullying is not tolerated. All members of Emu Park State School accept their responsibility to promote positive relationships and to prevent bullying. This policy is strengthened by parental and community support.

Definition of bullying
"Bullying, harassment, violence and discrimination are harmful behaviours that deprive individuals and groups of their rights, jeopardise physical and emotional safety and undermine the wellbeing of our school communities and society"
Source: (2008) *Bulling. No Way!*, the Issues, website: http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/issues/default.shtml.

Types of bullying
"Bullying and harassment:
1. may be physical (hitting, kicking, pinching)
2. verbal (name-calling, teasing)
3. psychological (standover tactics, gestures)
4. social (social exclusion, rumours, putdowns)
5. sexual (physical, verbal or nonverbal sexual conduct)
6. may be motivated by jealousy, distrust, fear, misunderstanding or lack of knowledge
7. have an element of threat
8. can continue over time
9. are often hidden from adults
10. will be sustained if adults or peers do not take action"
Source: (2008) *Bulling. No Way!*, the Issues> the behaviours>the types of behaviour, website:
http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/issues/default.shtml.

Educational Programs
It is important that students staff and parents understand what bullying is, how it impacts on people and how bullying is responded to at our school. At Emu Park State School we use the following educational strategies:

1. Units of work that encourage healthy relationships and peer awareness
2. Class meetings
3. Acknowledgement of positive behaviour
    a. Class awards (Negotiated with teachers and class)
    b. School awards (Aussie of the Month, Personal Achievement and Virtues)
    c. Whole class rewards

        d.   Individual rewards
4. Seating arrangement
5. Promotion of Positive School/Community Relationships
6. Comfortable, Well-Resourced Physical Environment
7. Effective Teaching and Learning Principles
8. Sound Teaching Micro skills
9. Collaborative Planning and Participation
10. Emphasis on SERS
11. Inclusive Practices

Prevention Programs

Effective social skill and positive relationships act to prevent bullying. At Emu Park State School we promote effective social skills and positive relationships by:

1. Units of work that encourage healthy relationships and peer awareness
2. Bully and behaviour catered workshops and performances
3. Social Skilling Programs

Responses to bullying

Reports of bullying will be investigated and acted upon. Responses to bullying might include targeted support for victims and perpetrators and/or sanctions or consequences consistent with the Responsible Behaviour Plan for Students.

At Emu Park State School we support victims and perpetrators by:
- Removing perpetrators from main play areas and restricting their area of play
- Providing counselling support for both victims and perpetrators
- Increased supervision of perpetrators and victims
- Social skills programs and units of work targeting victims and perpetrators

At Emu Park State School the consequences for bullying might include the following:
- Restricted play
- Reflection discussion with teacher during play time
- Detention
- Family meetings

Suspension and recommendation for exclusion where bullying is so severe no other form of consequence would be deemed adequate.

Reporting and monitoring bullying

At Emu Park State School reports of bullying are taken seriously. Students and parents may report bullying in the following ways:
- Directly to a member of staff
- Anonymously on the school website
  http://emuparkss.eq.edu.au/wcmss/index.php/component/option,com_mislogin/Itemid,69/
- Via the annual/biannual bully survey

Reports of bullying will be collated and monitored to inform the school community about the extent of bullying and to identify particular areas of concern for future action.

Related legislation

- *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006*
- Education (General Provisions) Regulation 2006
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991*
- *Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act 2000*
- *Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995*
- Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 1997

Related policies

- SMS-PR-012: Student Protection
- SMS-PR-021: Safe, Supportive and Disciplined School Environment
- CRP-PR-009: Inclusive Education
- SMS-PR-018: Information Sharing under Child Protection Act 1999
- SMS-PR-008: Family Law Matters Affecting State Educational Institutions
- CMR-PR-001: Complaints Management
- SCM-PR-003: Appropriate Use of Mobile Telephones and other Electronic Equipment by Students
- SMS-PR-024: Internet - Student Usage
- SDV-PR-001: Employee Professional Development
- The Code of Conduct

Some related resources

- National Safe Schools Framework
  (**ncab.nssfbestpractice.org.au/resources/resources.shtml**)
- National Framework for Values Education in Australian Schools
  (**www.valueseducation.edu.au**)
- Bullying. No Way!
  (**http://www.bullyingnoway.com.au/**)