

## THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF PARENTS

### Parents, you can help by:

- Having a warm, friendly home environment where your child is encouraged to bring friends home.
- Encouraging your child's self-esteem by saying and doing positive things, nurturing their positive qualities and valuing them for whom they are.
- Discussing the school's expectations about behaviour and how best to deal with bullying, how to respond if bullied and what to do if witnessing bullying.
- Being observant and looking out for the telltale signs that something is wrong, such as unwillingness to attend school or loss of confidence.
- Informing the school if you become aware of any bullying incident so it can be stopped.

**All students who attend City Beach Primary School have a right to feel safe.**

## SANCTIONS AND SCHOOL RESPONSES TO BULLYING

We need to identify those who harass others, as well as the victims of bullying, in order to help them.

City Beach Primary School has very clearly defined school rules and if a student is found to be bullying or directly breaking these rules, the following responses should be expected:

1. *Minor infringements - warning on the spot by teacher.*
2. *Directly breaking school rules - warning, isolated, name in duty book.*
3. *Serious offences - Administration referral card sent to Administration who will deal with the matter.*

If a child's name appears 3 times in one month in the duty book, the offender will be seen by an Administration member and a letter sent home to parents. Consequences will also follow.

1. *First visit for being in duty book 3 times - counselling and letter home to parents so we can work together to help the child.*
2. *Severe offence or second referral in duty book - detention at lunch, recess time at discretion of Administration. Parents also notified prior to this.*
3. *Second severe offence - further detention and letter to parent requesting meeting.*
4. *Suspension - after repeated offences or immediately where the offence is most serious.*

**Remember, bullying is serious.**

**Let's work together at City Beach to stop it.**

## CITY BEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL



## POLICY STATEMENT ON BULLYING

**Information for Parents and  
Students**

## WHY A POLICY?

All children should be able to feel safe and valued in our school community.

Therefore the teachers at City Beach have produced a policy to ensure that proper standards of self-discipline are maintained.

## BULLYING IS SERIOUS

### Bullying is not OK

It is not an accepted part of "growing up". City Beach Primary School does not tolerate any form of bullying.

## WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is any wilful, conscious behaviour intended to hurt another person. It is not just physical. It can be emotional as well as social.

## FORMS OF BULLYING

**Bullying may take many forms, including:**

- Making hurtful and racist comments.
- Commenting on social/family backgrounds.
- Referring to religious beliefs and practices.
- Picking on others.
- Unwanted touching, hitting, teasing, abusing, mocking, name calling.
- Spreading rumours.
- Attempting to intimidate, threaten or belittle.
- Deliberately ignoring and avoiding.
- Taking or damaging property.
- Sending hurtful notes.

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BEING BULLIED

**If you are being bullied you should take appropriate action and not just accept it.**

- Bullying is not OK.
- Do not tolerate it.
- Do something about it, whether it happens to you or someone else.
- You have the right to feel safe and valued.
- Try not to retaliate by becoming a physical or verbal bully yourself.
- You could try to ignore the bullying. If you show that you are not upset, the bully may stop.
- Tell the bully to "quit it" or "get lost" or "cut it out".
- Don't be afraid to talk about it with your friends or family.
- You could talk to some of the older students at school, especially the Peer Mediators. They can help you decide how to handle the situation or they can take action.
- Build your own protection by establishing friends.
- Be smart about avoiding high risk places and times.
- There are many adults at school who want to help you too. Perhaps you could talk to your teachers, the Deputy or the Principal. They can help you decide how to handle the situation or they can take action.

## IF YOU WITNESS A BULLYING INCIDENT

If you witness someone being bullied, we hope you care enough to want to help. We all need to work together if we are going to stop bullying in our school.

**You should:**

- Offer friendship and support to the victim, encouraging them to get help from an adult, family or Peer Mediator.
- If possible, intervene while the bullying is happening by saying "leave him/her alone" or "cut it out".
- Report the incident to a teacher or parent as soon as you can. Don't be afraid to come forward as you can speak in privacy and your identity will be kept anonymous if you desire.

## TELLTALE SIGNS OF BULLYING

- A sudden unwillingness to attend school.
- Declining academic performance.
- A decline or total loss of self-confidence.
- A lack or loss of interest in social events.