Encouraging Appropriate Behaviour

At Pinnaroo Primary School we encourage the students to behave in an appropriate manner.

The staff use a variety of techniques to do this, these include:

- Verbal praise
- Good behaviour certificates
- Reward charts / Bonus points
- Stickers
- Games
- Reward time
- Yard Duty awards
- Explicit teaching of social skills
- Anti-Bullying lessons

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WHAT ARE THE SIGNS?

Bullying may be very hard to see. Victims may already be having trouble getting on with other children or with teachers. Bullying usually happens out of sight, away from teachers or other adults.

The people who are most likely to know what is going on are other children. Children who are being bullied often don’t like to tell anyone because they feel weak or ashamed, or are frightened that it will only make things worse. They also feel it is wrong to ‘dob in’ or tell tales on other children.

If the victim tells anyone, it is most likely they will tell their parents - usually their mother - or their friends before they will tell a teacher. Parents should encourage their child to follow the grievance procedures OR contact the school directly for school-related incidences of bullying.

Some tell-tale signs are:

- bruises, scratches or cuts that your child can’t really explain;
- torn or damaged clothing;
- damaged or missing belongings;
- headaches, stomach aches and other pains that the child can’t put a finger on;
- unexplained tears or depression;
- unusual outbursts of temper;
- not wanting to go to school;
- not wanting to play with friends;
- wanting changes in the way he or she travels to and from school;
- quality of school work declines;
- wanting extra money without giving a reason;
- sudden onset of nightmares; and
- bedwetting.

For Teachers

- disruptive in class;
- lack of participation;
- unusually quiet; late to class;
- anxious / fidgets; and
- ‘generally unhappy / out of sorts’.

The students, parents and staff of Pinnaroo Primary School believe that all students should be provided with a safe, caring, inclusive and harassment free learning environment.

Research shows:

- Boys are more often bullied by a single individual; girls more often by groups. There is not much difference between the number of boys and girls who suffer from bullying.
- The size of the school, or whether the school is single-sex or co-educational, government or non-government, makes no significant difference to the amount of bullying that goes on.
- Children are most often bullied when they are in their first few years of primary school and again in their first few years of secondary school.

The students, staff and parents of Pinnaroo Primary School have defined bullying as:

“a type of continuous and planned behaviour that affects others in a negative way.”

Examples of these behaviours might include:

- Verbal: the child is called names, put down, threatened.
- Physical: the child is hit, tripped, poked, kicked, or belongings are stolen or damaged.
- Social: the child is left out, ignored, or rumours are spread.
- Psychological: the child is stalked or given dirty looks.
- Cyber bullying: use of an electronic device, to isolate or discriminate against another person/people.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is repeated incidents involving:

- a bigger, stronger or more powerful child on a smaller or weaker child, or
- a group of children on a single child.
- overt or introverted behaviours

’Bfreezing Out’ another student is a typical form of Bullying

Bullying is different from ordinary teasing, rough-and-tumble or schoolyard fights. What makes it different is that the incidents are ongoing, and there is usually an imbalance of size, strength and power between the children involved.

The bully might have power because he or she is bigger, stronger, sneaky, sly or bossy. Other children may side with the bully - often to protect themselves.