

Bullying

At Cervantes Primary School we believe the working environment for students and staff should be safe and free from violence, harassment and bullying of any kind.

Bullying is a misuse of power to target an individual or group to intentionally cause embarrassment, pain or discomfort. It can be:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, pinching, pushing, tripping, biting),
- Verbal, (put-downs, insulting language, name-calling, swearing, racist or sexist comments) ,
- Cyber (text messages, e-mail, websites, instant messaging),
- Psychological (stalking, threats, gestures, blackmail, manipulation) and
- Relational (ostracising others, spreading rumour, threatening to share personal information)

Bullying may also include students who may not be directly involved in bullying but are a bystander.

To promote and foster a positive environment where students feel safe, supported, and respected the staff will:

- Maintain caring and supportive relationships with students,
- Model life skills and explicitly teach social skills and cooperative strategies to develop resiliency.
- Be observant of signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying and report to class teacher or principal.
- Be on time and active on playground duty to minimise occasions for bullying.
- Listen and use restorative practises in conflict situations.

Cervantes Primary School

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Behaviour Management

It is the aim of Cervantes Primary School to develop appropriate and acceptable behaviour through:

- A positive environment to enable teachers and students to work together.
- A caring school environment where the rights of individuals are respected.
- The recognition of students displaying exemplary behaviour.
- The establishment of a set of clear rules in each classroom.
- Ensuring the school community are informed of consequences for individuals who breach or seriously breach school discipline.
- The establishment of procedures to resolve conflict in a non-violent manner.



The School Code of Conduct was formulated with students, staff and School Board and we expect all our school community members to:

- Consider the safety of themselves and others at all times.
- Display respect and courtesy for people, property and the environment.
- Be punctual, prepared and well presented for class.
- Work responsibly and diligently in all activities.
- Be an active participant in your learning and school community.

School Values

Our school values drive all expectations of student behaviour in the classroom and around the school grounds:

Show Respect
Be responsible
Build relationships



We have a whole school approach to ensuring the students have the necessary skills and strategies:

- Classroom rules are set with students and relate to school values. These are to be communicated with parents early in the year at parent- teacher meetings.
- The Bounce Back program is employed to teach students about social skills and resilience.
- The school chaplain is utilised as a mentor for students and supports the values instilled at school.
- The Stop, Think, Do approach is used with students to help them make good choices.
- Restorative practise is used to resolve conflict situations and encourage self reflection.

Responsibilities

Along with staff, students and parents also have responsibilities to ensure they support the school's behaviour management system.

Students have the responsibility to:

- ensure that their behaviour is not disruptive to the learning of others
- ensure that the school environment is kept neat, tidy and secure;
- ensure that they are punctual, polite, prepared and display a positive manner;
- behave in a way that protects the safety and well- being of other



Parents have the responsibility to:

- ensure that their child attends school;
- ensure that the physical and emotional condition of their child is at an optimum for effective learning;
- ensure that their child is provided with appropriate materials to make effective use of the learning environment;
- support the school on providing a meaningful and adequate education for their children.

Rewards and Recognition

Encouragement and praise are the primary instruments of reinforcement. There is also whole school reward systems in place.

- Faction Points are given to students for positive behaviour and personal achievements and they will receive a red or blue faction slip, which is recognised at assembly.
- Merit certificates are awarded to worthy students at each assembly.
- Value tickets are presented to students demonstrating our school values. There is a draw to select a prize from the treasure box each week and at assembly.
- Each child has the opportunity to participate in 30 minutes of Golden Time on a Friday afternoon. Teachers can take intervals of 5 minutes off Golden Time from students for any breaches of values or rules in the classroom.

Behaviour Management Procedure

Managing disruptions and negative behaviours to maintain an engaging learning environment, will be handled in the following manner:

1. Low key responses– reminder of value or expected behaviour, use a set signal for stop, proximity, warning to make a better choice.
2. Continued misbehaviour
A) In class– loss of Golden Time, Time Out Mat (ECE)
B) In playground– 5 minutes time out
3. Serious breach of School Values/ Code of Behaviour- referral to principal or teacher in charge, where a self reflection will be completed and parents will be contacted.
4. Serious breach of Conduct - sent to principal or teacher in charge, where a self reflection will be completed and consequence given (this can include community service, in school suspension). Parents will be contacted.

Serious breach of conduct

1. Physical assault or intimidation of staff or students
2. Verbal abuse or harassment of staff and students
3. Wilful offence against property, including theft
4. Substance misuse

Each situation will be treated in a fair manner and the student's past behaviour will be taken into consideration when setting an appropriate consequence.

Students who are continually breaching the school's values or Code of Behaviour will have an individual behaviour management plan.