

Esk State School – Anti Bullying Compact

We agree to work together to improve the quality of relationships in our community at Esk State School. It is through intentional consideration of our behaviour and communication that we can reduce the occurrence of bullying, and improve the quality of the schooling experience for everyone.

The agreed national definition for Australian schools describes bullying as:

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

We believe that no one deserves to be mistreated and that everyone regardless of race, colour, religion, immigration status, nationality, size, gender, popularity, athletic capability, academic outcomes, social ability, or intelligence has the right to feel safe, secure, and respected.

The Esk State School community:

- Treats everyone with kindness and respect.
- Abides by the school's behaviour expectations.
- Supports individuals who have been bullied.
- Speaks out against verbal, relational, physical bullying and cyber bullying.
- Notifies a parent, teacher, or the principal reporting when bullying does occur.

Acknowledgement of agreement:

Parent's signature: _____

Student's signature/name: _____

School representative signature: _____

Date:

Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include:

- mutual arguments and disagreements (where there is no power imbalance)
- not liking someone or a single act of social rejection
- isolated acts of meanness or spite
- isolated incidents of aggression, intimidation or violence.