

## **Non Violence Policy**

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### **Rationale**

Our school recognises that bullying and aggressive behaviour can happen. This policy aims to ensure victims learn skills to overcome bullying and bullies are encouraged to consider other ways of behaving. The school staff and pupils accept the need to develop skills of negotiation and to use these in the classroom and playground. Parents and caregivers will be invited to learn these and practise them with the pupils at home.

### **Purpose**

To establish recognised procedures and strategies that will work towards eliminating violence, bullying and unmanaged anger at Allandale School.

### **Guidelines**

1. The Peer Mediation Programme will be taught and used in the playground. Each year a teacher will have the delegated responsibility of overseeing this.
2. Conflict resolution skills will be taught and used in the classroom.
3. The school acknowledges that bullying and violence happen and that pupils should be encouraged to report it to both the school and their parents.
4. Complaints about bullying and aggression will always be written down and taken seriously.
5. Children who talk to adults about being bullied or hurt will be looked after by teachers.
6. Parents and caregivers of bullies and victims will be contacted by teachers so they know what has happened. Monitoring and follow-up will take place to ensure that aggressive behaviour stops.
7. The 'No Blame Approach' to bullying will be used where appropriate. In this case point 6 above does not necessarily apply.
8. Some anger management training such as the exercises in "A Volcano in my Tummy" will be taught in all classes each year. All classes will learn "The Anger Rules".
9. Because the people least likely to be bullied are confident, assertive, like themselves, and go around with good friends, the school will concentrate on developing these skills through both direct teaching, the use of related programmes that develop self esteem and through the classroom climate.

10. Methods used in the classroom will be shared with parents through the school newsletter and through curriculum meetings.

11. The Policy will be monitored by the Principal and Management Team

**Conclusion**

Violence and bullying have existed for a long time. In order to remove it from the school there must be a school wide commitment from pupils, staff and parents and caregivers.

Working together we can all find a better way.