

Mary MacKillop Memorial School

Positive Resolution

Policy for Children



Developed by: Staff and School Board

Note: All references to 'Staff members' include Administration Staff, Support Teachers, Teachers and Temporary Relieving Teachers.

Underlying Assumptions, Philosophy and Rationale:

We at Mary MacKillop Memorial School believe that:

- safety, a basic human right, is a pre-requisite for our school to be able to carry out our mission to educate
- children have the right to be emotionally and physically safe at all times
- the dignity of the human person is fundamental to Catholic teaching. Catholic schools operate in a wider community context where legal requirements exist and where they have an obligation to children and young people.

Purpose/Aims:

Through the application of this policy, we at Mary MacKillop Memorial School aim to:

- base our policy on the Gospel values of freedom and justice for all and an underlying belief in the dignity and uniqueness of each person
- ensure the safety and wellbeing of the child is considered paramount in every situation.

Guidelines:

In support of this policy:

The Principal will:

- ensure that all children have an understanding of this policy including the flow chart that outlines the steps they need to take to achieve a positive resolution to their problem
- encourage children to participate in the review of this policy through student voice
- encourage children to learn strategies in problem solving
- encourage staff members to listen carefully to children and to counsel them appropriately in self managing their problems or offering more direct assistance as needed.

All Staff members will:

- ensure they are fully aware of this policy and teach the children the steps they need to take to achieve a positive resolution to their problem
- provide opportunities for children to role play and practise problem solving situations
- help children to understand the difference between those problems that need help from an adult and those that can be solved without adult intervention
- help children to understand the importance of reporting something that is serious, may cause harm or is illegal
- work closely with parents or carers when necessary to support children in achieving a positive resolution to their problem.

Children and Young People will:

- follow the steps required to achieve a positive resolution to their problem
- seek support from their parents, class teacher or suitable adult to support them to achieve a solution to their problem

Parents/Carers will:

- ensure they are fully aware of this policy and support their child(ren) when seeking a positive resolution to their problems
- work closely with the school when necessary to support their child(ren)
- help children to understand the importance of reporting something that is serious, may cause harm or is illegal

Implementation

- All staff members will have access to this policy.
- All parents/carers or volunteers who have direct supervision of children will be made aware of this policy.
- All parents/caregivers and community members will be informed of this policy via the newsletter and the school's website
- The flowchart will be published in each classroom so that children are aware of the steps they need to take to achieve a positive resolution to their problems.
- The names of all relevant Government Agencies will be checked and updated on the review date of this policy.

Basis of Discretion:

Nil

Support Documents:

- Mary MacKillop Memorial School Positive Resolution Flow Chart
- SACCS policy

Financial Budget:

Nil

Resources:

The following organisations may be of assistance to children/families experiencing difficulties

- Department of Human Services: Ph. 8226 8800 <https://dhs.sa.gov.au/contact>
- Access Counselling: Ph. 8231 9111 <https://accesssa.com.au/>
- Child Abuse Report Line Ph. 13 1478 <https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/education-and-learning/health-wellbeing-and-special-needs/report-child-abuse/report-child-abuse>
- Kids Help Line Ph. 1800 551 800 <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>
- Mind: help, hope and purpose Ph. 1300 286 463 <http://www.mindaustralia.org.au/>
- Smiles All Round Ph. 0430 022 705 <https://smilesallround.com.au/>
- Dale Domelo: School Counsellor
- Cara Maney: School Chaplain

Signed _____
(Principal on behalf of School Board)

Date _____ August 2019

Date to be reviewed _____ August 2022

**Mary MacKillop Memorial School
Positive Resolution Flow Chart for Children**

PROBLEM

With child(ren) at school

What Can I Do?

- Tell the person to stop
OR
- Ignore it
OR
- Walk away

**Problem solved.
Problem not solved. Move to next step.**

Talk to someone about it

- Friend
- Teacher
- Parent / Carer / Relative
- Kids Help Line 1800 551 800
- www.kidshelp.com.au

**Problem solved.
Problem not solved. Move to next step.**

At home / school / somewhere else

What Can I Do?

Talk to someone about it:

- Friend
- Teacher
- Parent / Carer / Relative

**Problem solved.
Problem not solved. Move to next step.**

Make a phone call or go online:

**Kids Help Line 1800 551 800
www.kidshelp.com.au**

**Problem solved.
Problem not solved. Move to next step.**

Speak to

A member of the leadership team.

If the problem is still not resolved it will be necessary to have more discussion with the people involved and explore other options.