8.1 Anti Bullying Policy

Lake Rerewhakaaitu School aims to create a safe physical and emotional environment and takes all reasonable steps to eliminate bullying within our school community. Our approach to bullying is in keeping with the primary board objectives outlined in the Education and Training Act 2020 (s.127).

Bullying is deliberate and harmful behaviour that is repeated, or continues over a period of time. It may include, but not limited to:

verbal bullying (e.g. name-calling, teasing, mocking, threatening)

physical bullying (e.g. hitting, kicking, stalking, taking belongings)

social bullying (e.g. social exclusion, spreading rumours, damaging relationships) discrimination based on ethnicity or race, gender, sex and variations of sex characteristics, sexuality, religion and beliefs, health status, disability, age, etc.

Bullying can occur at school, outside school, and/or online.

Bullying prevention

To help prevent bullying at Lake Rerewhakaaitu School, we work to: create a safe and inclusive school environment, recognise diversity and avoid cultural bias, eliminate racism, discrimination, and stigma promote safe and responsible digital technology use.

Bullying response

Although bullying can be subtle and hard to recognise, all members of the school community have a responsibility to take action against bullying.

Lake Rerewhakaaitu School staff are trained to recognise bullying within and outside the classroom and intervene appropriately. Students are informed of what to do if they are being bullied or witness bullying.

Parents/Caregivers, whānau, and any others who are concerned about bullying should discuss their concerns with a teacher or the principal. Concerned parents/caregivers and whānau should not approach other students or parents.

Lake Rerewhakaaitu School deals with incidents of student bullying through our school behaviour management plan and/or Responding to Digital Incidents policy.

If a member of staff or a parent/caregiver experiences or is involved in school-related bullying, we follow the school harassment or raising concerns procedures, as appropriate.

In some extreme cases of bullying, the police may need to be involved.

Related topics

Behaviour Management
Harassment
Raising Concerns
Responding to Digital Incidents
Digital Technology and Online Safety
Inclusive Education
Student Wellbeing and Safety

Education and Training Act 2020
Harmful Digital Communications Act 2015
Privacy Act 2020
Human Rights Act 1993
Resources
New Zealand Police | Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa: Kia Kaha
KiVa: Bullying Prevention in Aotearoa
TKI | Te Kete Ipurangi: Prevent Bullying and Promoting positive behaviour
Bullying-Free NZ: Schools (also see Bullying assessment matrix)
Human Rights Commission | Te Kāhui Tika Tangata: Bullying prevention and response: A guide for schools
Netsafe: Online Bullying Help for Young People and Incident Support
NZHEA | Ako Hauora Aotearoa: Mental health education and hauora

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