



PREAMBLE

Stella Maris is a school of Good Samaritan Education established in 1931 in the Benedictine tradition. The policies of the College give expression to its values and ethos and reflect the legal requirements of a school registered and accredited by the NSW Board of Studies.

POLICY

Stella Maris College acknowledges that all students have a right to an education that is free from discrimination, harassment and bullying.

“Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons” – National Safe Schools Framework (2011).

Conflicts between equals, and single incidents of conflict, possibly require intervention by the College but these are not defined as bullying.

Cyber-bullying involves the use of any information and communication technology where there is deliberate, isolated or repeatedly hostile behaviour, by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others, or is undertaken recklessly without concern for its impact on others. By its nature technology facilitates repeated access to harmful content.

If the incident of bullying is extremely serious or the bullying continues after intervention it may be necessary to involve the police. The Deputy Principal will make contact with:

- The Police School Liaison Officer may be contacted through the North Shore Local Area Command at Chatswood.
- The Police Youth Liaison Officer may be contacted at the Manly Local Area Command.

PROCEDURE

It is the responsibility of all within the College community to ensure that bullying does not occur.

- The College Leadership must develop and monitor a culture that is based on mutual respect and trust.
- There must be provision for specific programmes and resources related to anti-bullying.
- Staff must be role models in the manner in which they deal with everybody.
- Staff must be observant for signs of distress in students as a result of bullying and report this to the appropriate Head of Year.
- Students should report any incident of bullying where they are the victim, to their Head of Year.
- Students should report any incident of bullying that they observe involving others to their Head of Year.
- Specific information related to bullying is contained in the student diary

Students who engage in bullying are to be dealt with under the Discipline Policy and the Student Management Plan of the College. All incidents of bullying are to be documented and kept on a secure student file.

VERSION 1

DATE OF POLICY: August 2013

DATE FOR REVIEW: August 2016