

Relationships Policy

At Georgetown Primary School we actively promote and believe that:-

- *all students have a right to learn, play and feel safe and secure*
- *all staff have a right to work in a safe and secure environment*

As members of the Georgetown Community we have a responsibility to:-

All GPS stakeholders are responsible for showing:-

RESPECT – Accepting others & their ideas and looking after all personal & school property

CARING - Look after ourselves and others and be considerate of other's feelings

COLLABORATION - Supporting each other as we play and learn

PERSONAL EXCELLENCE - Being the best we can be & celebrating best efforts & achievements

STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Positive encouragement provided by staff using all available opportunities
- Reward systems operate in classes at teachers discretion
- Class and Get Up & Go awards (awarded at assembly)
- Class lessons teaching students about relationships and our agreed values
- Intervention programs to support social skills / group skills development

Supportive strategies to be used if responsibility for maintaining positive relationships is not met

1. Reminder & explanation of the wrong action
2. Final reminder, more explicit explanation & warning of the next step
3. Buddy Class – students are sent to another class with work to complete or for 'reflection' time to allow the class and teacher the right to teach and learn without distraction. Students are counselled by staff. A behaviour slip is written and entered onto EDSAS. The slip is sent to parents via the child's diary with the expectation that the parent sign & return the slip the following day. Slips not signed are followed up by office staff with a phone call to parents.
4. Time Out in office – students will be counselled by Principal or delegate. Action taken could be
 - (a) Phone home or interview on site to discuss issues with parents/caregivers
 - (b) Take Home (less than one day)
 - (c) Suspension (1-5 days)
 - (d) Exclusion (up to a term)

IN THE YARD:

1. Reminder & explanation of the wrong action
2. 'Walk & Talk' – Students walk with the teacher on duty while being counselled. The incident is recorded in the 'minor incidents' by the teacher on duty.
3. In the case of repeated offences, students will be required to 'sit out' at break times. Behaviour slips will be completed by staff and the information entered onto EDSAS. The slip is sent to parents/caregivers via the child's diary with the expectation that the parent sign and return the slip the following day. Slips not signed are followed up with a phone call to parents.
4. In the case of extreme violence or non-compliance, parents/caregivers will be contacted to take their child home for the remainder of the day & a behaviour slip will be recorded.
5. In cases of physical violence, severe bullying or severe harassment, students are referred immediately to the Principal.
6. Students need to observe some basic yard rules. The out of bounds areas are the staff car park, grounds person's shed and incinerator area, classrooms if there is not a teacher present or without teacher permission, outside the school boundary fence and climbing trees.

HARASSMENT:

Harassment is when people are treated in ways that make them feel upset and victimised because of who they are. Harassment can be physical, verbal, written, racial, sexual, psychological, emotional or aimed at disability.

It can be delivered face to face, via peers, through exclusion or online (facebook, text messaging, msn etc)

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS:

STEP 1: Make an 'I' statement OR get a friend to help you make the 'I' statement

if the harassment continues

problem solved

STEP 2: Report to a teacher. The teacher will support you in making an 'I' statement

if the harassment continues

problem solved

STEP 3: Report harassment to the principal. The Principal :-

- Will investigate and counsel the students concerned
- May call the parents
- May arrange a meeting with the parents
- May develop a behaviour plan with the student, parent & class teacher to change harassing behaviour