

BULLYING AND THE MENTOR

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Victim Fights Back In NSW Sydney School | YouTube

What is bullying?

Definition:

Keith Sullivan, in New Zealand, defines bullying as a conscious and wilful act of aggression and/or manipulation by one or more person against another person or persons.

Ken Rigby, in Australia, defines bullying as repeated oppression, psychological or physical, of a less powerful person by a more powerful person or group of persons.

Bullying in New Zealand Schools

Under National Administration Guideline 5 (NAG 5) schools are required to provide a safe physical and emotional environment for students.

Schools should at least have a policy to address issues related to bullying and take active steps to address problems through their pastoral network.

Prevalence

Scientific studies show that bullying is an international problem that affects all schools. There is a remarkable similarity in the incidence of bullying from country to country, school to school.

Bullying knows no international boundaries, socio-economic status or ethnic boundaries.

www.Nobully.org.nz

Research

Country	Primary		Secondary	
Rates	Often bullied	At least weekly	Often bullied	At least weekly
New Zealand	Not available	Not available	15%	9%
England	27%	10%	10%	6%
International	23%	15%	10%	6%

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What are we doing about bullying in Schools?

Policies

- NAG 5
- BOT Charter and School Policies
- Classroom Treaties

What are we doing about bullying in Schools?

Prevention

- School-Wide Positive Behaviour Supports – PB4L
- Kia Kaha (New Zealand Police)
- Managing Anger: Eliminating Violence (Ministry of Education Group Special Education)
- Cool Schools (Peace Foundation of Aotearoa)

What are we doing about bullying in Schools?

Individual Interventions

- Behaviour Crisis Response Service
- Individual Severe Behaviour Interventions
- Restorative Justice Processes
- Undercover Bullying Intervention

Mentors and Bullying Interventions

The Mentor is not an Intervention. The Mentor is a valued member of a team working collaboratively to plan and implement interventions to support students who are either bullies or victims of bullying.

The Mentor will ideally inform intervention planning, collaborate around implementation of interventions and be an independent voice that supports the young persons aspirations.

Your website says:

The process by which a more experienced, trusted guide forms a relationship with a young person who wants a caring, more experienced person in his/her life so that the young person is supported in growth towards adulthood and the capacity to make positive social connections and build essential skills is increased.

Individual Interventions

Successful Interventions require the following:

- Assessment
- Analysis
- Collaborative Intervention Planning
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Case Study

Key points

- Mentors are not an intervention but they can support an intervention.
- The Mentors should be included in all parts of individual bullying interventions.
- The Mentors knowledge is critical when conducting a functional behaviour assessment.
- The Mentoring relationship is often the only positive relationship for some of our kids and should be honoured and respected by professionals