

Friendly Schools Friendly Families (2002-2004)

Aim

The aim of the study was to assess whether a multi-age, multi-level bullying prevention program can reduce bullying among primary school children. The Friendly Schools Friendly Families Project tested the Friendly Schools intervention to include more capacity-building support for schools and a greater focus on family-level activities.

Methods

FSFF was a three-year group randomised controlled trial (2 intervention and 1 comparison condition) that involved over 2500 primary school students, their teachers and parents.

Student self-report data were collected from 2552 Grades 4 and 6 students from 20 randomly selected schools in Perth at baseline and at three posttests.

Results/Findings

Results: The high intervention was more effective than the moderate and low interventions, with significant positive effects for 'being bullied' in the Grades 4 and 6 cohorts, for 'bullying others' in the Grade 4 cohort and 'telling if bullied' in the Grade 6 cohort.

Conclusions: Comprehensive whole-school programmes that include capacity building and parental involvement appear to reduce bullying behaviour more than programmes without these components.

Who was involved?

Investigators: Donna Cross, Stacy Waters, Natasha Pearce, Thérèse Shaw, Margaret Hall, Erin Erceg, Sharyn Burns, Clare Roberts, Greg Hamilton.

Publications

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