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Newsletter Item 11

Aim: To provide families with a rationale for the school’s response to bullying incidents

**Understanding the school’s responses to bullying**

Bullying situations can be complicated and trying to identify exactly what is happening and why can take time.

Punishment alone is unlikely to be effective and may be seen to be using ‘bullying to stop bullying’.

The school priority is to stop the bullying and to try to reduce the chance of it happening again.

The key to stopping bullying is getting children to talk about what is happening and decide what to do to make the situation better for everyone. This approach is called the Method of Shared Concern and will be explained in the next edition of this newsletter.

Our whole-school bullying policy provides a statement about how students, teachers, staff and families describe how the school will respond to bullying situations. This policy is available from the school and all families are encouraged to read it.

It is very important for children to have an understanding of behaviours that are expected of them and that these expectations are consistent at school and at home.

For more information about how our school manages bullying incidents, please check the school portal; ask your children’s teachers or the school administration for a copy of the bullying policy. [Adapt this list as necessary for your school]