



**MIRANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
3 Syla Avenue MIRANDA 2228  
Telephone: 9524 4631  
Email: [miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:miranda-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [miranda-p.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://miranda-p.schools.nsw.gov.au)



## **STOP WALK TALK anti-bullying strategy**

Wednesday 27 April 2022

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

We are proud of our students' behaviour and attitude towards being safe, respectful and responsible learners. Our school rejects all forms of bullying behaviours, including online (or cyber) bullying by maintaining a commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful learning community that promotes student wellbeing. All staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

Our ongoing data would suggest that bullying is not a major issue at Miranda Public School and that any matters that do arise are dealt with promptly and effectively.

However, as part of our ongoing commitment to best practice in student welfare, Miranda Public School has introduced an anti-bullying plan which involves a strong focus on teaching all students strategies to use if they feel they are being bullied.

The NSW Department of Education Anti-Bullying Plan for Schools defines bullying as:

*"intentional, repeated behaviour by an individual or group of individuals that causes distress, hurt or undue pressure".*

Bullying is not an argument between children where both children are upset or something that only happens on occasion.

Bullying can be:

- verbal eg name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- physical eg hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- social eg ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- psychological eg spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS, social media posts and email messages

All staff members teach students a self-managed, school-wide response to put-downs, aggressive behaviour and bullying. This strategy is designed to empower the students - to give them a simple

way to immediately deal with put-downs, aggression or bullying behaviour. In addition, anti-bullying lessons are proactively taught in all classrooms.

Your support in discussing this strategy at home with your children will help to reinforce the practice we are trying to establish at school. It might be useful to talk with them about why it is wrong to tease, torment or hurt others.

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school initiatives and programs.

Michael Duffy  
Principal



To be the best  
**LEARNER**  
at MIRANDA PUBLIC SCHOOL  
WE WILL...

**BE  
SAFE**

**BE  
RESPECTFUL**

**BE  
RESPONSIBLE**

### The Stop Walk Talk Strategy:

*If they are feeling put-down, verbally or physically bullied, students are to:*

Step 1: Hold up their hand and assertively say:



**STOP**

Step 2: If the ‘bullying’ does not stop students are to **WALK** away.



Step 3: If the ‘bullying’ still does not stop, students are to **TALK** to a teacher.



*NB: If any child is in danger or is being physically hurt they are taught to go straight to a teacher.*

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*If another student tells them to “STOP” or “WALKS AWAY”, this is a sign that the other student feels put-down or bullied. The students must:*

- stop what they were doing.
  - take a deep breath and count to 3.
  - “get on with their day”, even if they disagree.
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*The students are also being encouraged to help a friend to walk away if they see that friend being put-down or bullied. The students are being taught that good friends look after each other and it is not acceptable to just stand and watch when they see someone else being put-down or bullied.*

