BALMORAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE BULLYING POLICY

Purposes:
To make students, staff and parents aware of the issues related to bullying and to try and reduce the amount of bullying that occurs in the school.
To enhance the safe, supportive, cooperative and caring learning environment that exists at Balmoral Community College

What is bullying?
Children sometimes bully weaker (physically and/or mentally) students by deliberately and often repeatedly hurting or upsetting them in some way. (See Types below)
It is not bullying when young people of about the same strength (physically or mentally) have the odd fight or quarrel.
Types: Physical, Verbal, Gesture, Exclusion, Extortion.
It is acknowledged that acts of bullying can have short term and long term emotional effects on those who are bullied.

School rules and consequences
1) The school does not permit bullying of any kind.
2) Students who are bullied are encouraged to:
   a) stand tall, indicate to the bully that they do not like being bullied and request the bully to stop.
   b) speak up if the bullying continues. (speaking up is a protective action and is not “dobbing”)
      Counselling and support will be available to these students. (through BCC staff and/or external professionals)
3) Students who are detected bullying will have the following action taken:
   a) counselling, detention and a warning.
   b) contact with parents and development of a bullying contract between the student, parents and the school together with counselling and support (through BCC staff and/or external professionals)
   c) Suspension if the contract is broken.
It is possible in severe circumstances for one of these steps to be by-passed e.g to proceed from step one to step three.