Bullying is everyone’s business and everyone’s responsibility to reduce it. At Modbury West we do not have a “one size fits all” approach. This is because each person is different and each incident of bullying is different.

At Modbury West we work in partnership with parents, the targets of bullying and students who exhibit bullying behaviours to negotiate an outcome where all parties feel supported.

Bullying website resources:
www.bullyingnoway.com.au
www.kidshelp.com.au
www.cybersmart.gov.au
au.reachout.com
www.kidspot.com.au

Phone numbers:
Kids Helpline 1800 551 1800
Modbury West School 8265 0900

At Modbury West School bullying and harassment are not tolerated. Our school prides itself on creating an environment where all members of our school community feel safe.
What is Bullying?

Bullying is when one person or group uses power to make another person or group feel helpless. It is deliberately hurtful, targeted and repeated.

Bullying can take a variety of forms:
- **Verbal**: name calling, put downs, threats
- **Physical**: punching, kicking, tripping, belongings stolen
- **Social**: being left out or ignored, having rumours spread
- **Psychological**: stalking, dirty looks
- **Cyber Bullying**: offensive and/or threatening messages, graphics, photographs sent through media devices such as mobiles, computers and ipads, social media abuse e.g Facebook

What can you do about bullying?
If you are bullied or you know someone who is being bullied, please report it.

Who to report it to
Tell your teacher, a member of leadership, or a trusted adult at the school. You can also tell your parents or caregivers.

How to report
Tell the adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened, how many people were involved in the bullying and what you have done to try and stop it happening.

When to report
Report the bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens. **DO NOT IGNORE IT**...it will not go away until you do something about it.

What does our school do about incidents of bullying?

At Modbury West School we will listen to the person who is being bullied and the person who exhibits bullying behaviours.

We will use a restorative justice model to ensure that all involved in the bullying will be able to feel their concerns are listened to and acted on. All participants will be offered an opportunity to tell their story.

We will put in place negotiated consequences for those students who bully. These consequences may include separate play zones, office time out, community service, parent meetings, suspension or exclusion.

We will follow our agreed Grievance Procedures. Parents can access this information in the parent handbook.

We will ensure that our practices and responses to bullying behaviour take into account the age, ability, social and emotional development and experiences of students.

What we are doing about bullying at Modbury West School?

**Prevention Strategies include:**
Biannual wellbeing surveys, participation in antibullying workshops and employing the Keeping Safe curriculum. Our teachers incorporate social skilling within their daily interactions with their students. We follow the FISH Philosophy of Choosing your attitude, Play, Being there and Make their day. This Philosophy aims to develop a caring and safe community. Our School Values of respect, trust, honesty, tolerance, caring, and co-operation are considered as valuable social pillars on which to build a school community based on mutual respect and care.

Professional learning for staff.

**Intervention Strategies include:**
Counselling of students who are the target of bullying.
Counselling of students who exhibit bullying behaviours and putting in place consequences for bullying behaviours.
Working in partnership with parents or caregivers.
Teaching students about their role as responsible bystanders.
Ensuring all staff are aware of how to address bullying effectively and respectfully.

**Post-intervention strategies include:**
On going monitoring of the student who was the target of the bullying ensuring his/her safety and wellbeing.
Continued updating of parents and caregivers.
Ensuring our procedures are catering to the needs of our students.
Review and evaluation of behaviour codes and policies through staff discussion, student voice and wellbeing survey feedback.