**Morwell (Tobruk Street) Primary School**

**ANTI BULLYING POLICY**

Responsibility: School Council  Reviewed:

**Purpose:**
1. Promote the right of every student to a school environment that is free from harassment.
2. Promote the right of all staff to a workplace that is safe from harassment.
3. Provide appropriate procedures to deal with complaints of harassment.

**Definitions:**
Harassment includes
- Offensive gestures and body language
- Unwelcome sexual advances or request for sexual favours (written, verbal or physical)
- Organising or urging someone to fight with someone else
- Bullying – verbal, written or physical
- Being near a fight and stirring it up
- Threatening someone with payback if they dob
- Racial harassment – verbal, written or physical

**Guidelines:**
1. Bullying or harassing will not be tolerated at Tobruk Street Primary School.
2. It is your right and responsibility to report bullying whether it is happening to you or someone else.
3. If bullying occurs a procedure shall be followed, (see diagram.)
4. Parents will be supportive in helping the school to prevent bullying or harassing.

**Implementation:**
1. Establish an understanding about harassment and procedures amongst staff at the beginning of each year. Reinforce through Professional Development and a social skills program as a core component of classroom curriculum.
2. Develop and implement a social skills program within all classrooms.
3. Establish the Peer Mediation Program throughout the school in an effort to teach children about conflict resolution and the way to handle harassment problems in an effective way.
4. Notify parents of the anti-bullying support policy in place at Tobruk Street Primary School at the beginning of the year and supply ongoing information via the newsletter throughout the year. Provide a small pamphlet outlining the school's anti-bullying position as part of the written information provided to parents each year.

**Evaluation:**
- By the number of positive comments from students, staff and parents
- Minor evaluation annually to include the number of incidents of bullying and harassment recorded
- Major evaluation with the triennial review process, which includes student, parent and staff survey.

**Resources:**
- McGrath, H, Noble, T. *Seven Ways at Once, Bk 1*. Longman, 1997
- Powell, Jillian. *What do we Think about Bullying?* Wayland Pub. Ltd. 1998
- Rigby, Ken. *Bullying in Schools and What to do About it*, ACER 1996