At Highbury Primary School bullying is taken seriously, consequences will be applied and prevention and intervention strategies implemented. This policy applies to children, parents/carers, volunteers and the wider school community. Adults are asked to follow the Grievance procedure if issues arise.

Bullying is repeated verbal, physical or social behaviour that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons. Conflict or fights between equals and single incidents are not regarded as bullying however, we do address such incidents. Bullying in any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Examples
- Physical: hitting, pushing, touching, grabbing, looks, stares, facial expressions, gestures, spitting, taking or damaging property.
- Verbal or written: spoken or written insults, threats, suggestive comments, name-calling, unfair criticism, spreading rumours.
- Graffiti: using pictures, tags or words
- Social: forming groups to leave out, ignore and disrespect; influencing, encouraging or organising someone else to be involved in any type of bullying or harassment.

Cyber-bullying is bullying which uses e-technology as a means of victimising others. It is the use of an internet service or mobile technologies- such as e-mail, chat room discussion groups, instant messaging, web pages or SMS (text messaging)- with the intention of harming another person.

Examples
- Communications that seek to intimidate, control, manipulate, put down or humiliate the recipient.

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

Who to report to
- Tell your teacher, a leadership member or a professional counsellor in an outside agency. Tell your parents or caregivers too.

How to report
- Tell the trusted adult where the bullying happened, how often it has happened 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. When bullying is ignored it may get worse.

Further support:
www.bullyingnoway.com.au
Kids Help Line: 1800 551 800
DECD Parent Help Line: 1800 222 696
Child and Youth Health Parent Help Line: 1300 364 100

At Highbury we believe the prevention of bullying is everyone’s business. We work alongside other DECD schools, school communities, services and agencies to create learning communities which are:

Safe  Inclusive  Conducive to learning  Free from harassment and bullying