# **NSW Department of Education**



# Cudgegong Valley Public School Behaviour Support and Management Plan

#### Overview

Cudgegong Valley Public School is committed to explicitly teaching and modelling positive behaviour and to supporting all students to be engaged with their learning.

Our goal is to inspire every child to participate positively in the school community and beyond. We focus on promoting excellence, opportunity and success for every student, every day. We value and strive to develop safe, respectful learners in a caring learning community.

Principles of positive behaviour support, trauma-informed practice, inclusive practice, and social emotional learning underpin our daily practice. High expectations for student behaviour are established and maintained through effective role modelling, explicit teaching, and planned responses.

To achieve our mission, key programs prioritised and valued by the school community are:

- Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)
- Grow Your Mind
- Creating Trauma-Informed, Strengths Based Classrooms
- Character Strength and Values Education
- The Anxiety Project.

These programs prioritise social and emotional learning which supports good mental health, positive relationships and supports prevention of bullying.

Cudgegong Valley Public 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. Staff are committed to establishing evidence-based approaches and strategies that promote a positive climate where bullying is less likely to occur.

All members of the school community are active participants in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity and fosters positive relationships. A key component of a supportive school culture is building respectful relationships and an ethos that bullying is not accepted, in both online and offline environments. School staff actively respond to student bullying behaviour.

# Partnership with parents and carers

Cudgegong Valley Public School will partner with parents/carers in establishing expectations for engagement in developing and implementing student behaviour management and antibullying strategies, by:

- inviting parent/carer and student feedback through formal and informal means, such as Tell Them From Me surveys, school surveys, consulting with the P & C and local AECG
- using concerns raised through complaints procedures to review school systems, data and practices.

Cudgegong Valley Public School will communicate these expectations to parents/carers through the school newsletter and school website. Our school proactively builds collaborative relationships with families and communities to create a shared understanding of how to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.

## School-wide expectations and rules

Cudgegong Valley Public School has the following school-wide expectations and rules:

At Cudgegong Valley we do our best by being Responsible Learners who are Safe and Respectful.

Responsible Learner	Safe	Respectful
We always do our best	We move safely around the school	We speak nicely to others
We are prepared for learning	We keep our hands, feet and objects to ourselves	We look after our property and our school environment
We cooperate with others	We stay in bounds	We follow adult instructions
We actively participate in our learning	We use the "No, Go, Tell" strategy when feeling unsafe	We listen to others
		We join in and include others
		We wear our school uniform with pride
		We treat others the way we want to be treated

#### Behaviour code for students

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone. We teach and model the behaviours we value in our students.

The Behaviour Code for Students can be found at <a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-">https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-</a><a href="https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-">https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-<

## Whole school approach across the care continuum

Our school embeds student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies in practices across the care continuum to promote positive behaviour and respond to behaviours of concern, including bullying and cyber-bullying behaviour.

These approaches and strategies are built on a foundation of evidence-based effective classroom practices that set the tone for engagement with learning and respectful relationships. These practices include:

- stating and explicitly teaching classroom expectations
- establishing predictable routines and procedures that are communicated clearly to students
- encouraging expected behaviour with positive feedback and reinforcement
- discouraging inappropriate behaviour
- providing active supervision of students
- maximising opportunities for active engagement with learning
- providing carefully sequenced engaging lessons that provide options for student choice
- differentiating learning content and tasks to meet the needs of all learners.

Care Continuum	Strategy or Program	Details	Audience
Prevention	Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL)	Building strong teacher-student relationships forms the foundation of effective classroom management and student engagement. This is supported by explicit teaching and modelling of specific skills, including behaviour expectations and social skills, as well as clear communication with parents around school expectations. Classroom-based systems of expectations and positive reinforcement are crucial, along with consistent teacher expectations, routines, modelling, and responses to behaviour. Integrating mindfulness, movement breaks, and social/emotional learning into teaching and learning programs further enhances student wellbeing. High-quality, differentiated teaching addresses the individual learning needs of all students, with appropriate learning adjustments documented in Individual Student Support Plans and/or Personal Learning Pathways (PLPs). Finally, curriculum links, particularly in PDHPE (including respectful relationships) and personal and social capabilities across all syllabi, ensure a holistic approach to student development.	All
Prevention	Partnerships with Aboriginal Community groups	Connecting to country, through stories, songs, art, land and strong partnerships with community. PLP, Cuppa and Yarn and community events build relationships.	All

Care Continuum	Strategy or Program	Details	Audience
Prevention	National Week of Action (NWA)	Our school participates in the annual National Week of Action against Bullying and Violence (NWA) in August each year.	Staff, students 3 - 6
Prevention	Child protection	Teaching child protection education is a mandatory part of the syllabus.	Students K - 6
Prevention	Breakfast Club	The school community run a breakfast club program that provides access to a free healthy breakfast and builds strong student-staff connections.	Staff, Students K-6
Prevention / Early Intervention / Targeted / Individual	Cyber Safety Hub	Our Cyber Safety Hub serves to empower our whole school community with guidance to help keep children safe online. By creating awareness of online risks & challenges and providing easy-to-follow advice, the Hub enables parents and families to confidently steer their children towards safe and responsible technology use.	All
Prevention	Social Emotional Programs	<ul> <li>Grow Your Mind</li> <li>https://growyourmind.life/</li> <li>Character strengths and Virtues –</li> <li>Peterson &amp; Seligman</li> </ul>	Students K- 6
Early Intervention	Classroom Management	<ul> <li>Communication with parents/carers, and where relevant, the use of communication books</li> </ul>	Individual students K - 6
		<ul> <li>Sensory assessment and supports</li> </ul>	
		<ul> <li>Explicit teaching and modelling of specific skills including behaviour expectations and social skills</li> </ul>	
	Classroom management	Communication with parents/carers, and where relevant, the use of communication books Sensory assessment and supports Explicit teaching and modelling of specific skills including behaviour expectations and social skills	
	Social stories, visual cues and strategies and routines	Curriculum links, particularly in PDHPE, History and English Restorative practices and circle time Self-regulation training – brain breaks, yoga, heavy work Sensory supports (e.g.headphones) Use of Ginambang (kindness Space)	

Care Continuum	Strategy or Program	Details	Audience
Early Intervention	The Anxiety Project	A whole school community approach to managing anxiety and building resilience in our students. Building the capacity of school leaders, teachers, school staff and parents, to reduce children's anxiety levels in our school	All
Targeted / Individual intervention	Learning and Support	The LST works with teachers, students and families to support students who require personalised learning and support.	All
Targeted / individual intervention	Attendance support	The LST refer students to the attendance co-ordinator who will convene a planning meeting with students, families and teachers to address barriers to improved attendance and set growth goals.	Individual students, attendance co-ordinator
Individual intervention	Individual behaviour support planning	This may include developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing: behaviour support, behaviour response and risk management plans.	Individual students, parent/carer, LAST, AP

# Planned responses to positive appropriate behaviour, inappropriate behaviour and behaviours of concern, including bullying and cyber-bullying

#### Identifying behaviour of concern, including bullying and cyberbullying

A behaviour of concern is challenging, complex or unsafe behaviour that requires more persistent and intensive interventions. A behaviour of concern does not include low-level inappropriate or developmentally appropriate behaviour. Bullying behaviour involves the intentional misuse of power in a relationship, is ongoing and repeated and involves behaviour that can cause harm. See Appendix 1.

Cudgegong Valley Public School staff will staff will identify inappropriate behaviour and behaviours of concern, including bullying and cyber-bullying through a range of channels, for example:

- directly observing a student's behaviours, interactions, verbal communications, or work produced (such as written materials, performances or artworks)
- a person disclosing information that is not previously known, either because it is new information or because it has been kept a secret
- concerns raised by a parent, community member or agency.

Students or parents can report bullying to any staff member. NSW public school principals have the authority to take disciplinary action to address student behaviours that occur outside of school hours or school grounds, including cyberbullying. Students who have been bullied will be offered appropriate support, for example through the school counselling service and wellbeing teacher.

Responses to all behaviours of concern apply to student behaviour that occurs:

- at school
- on the way to and from school
- on school-endorsed activities that are off-site
- outside school hours and off school premises where there is a clear and close connection between the school and students' conduct
- when using social media, mobile devices and/or other technology involving another student or staff member.

#### Preventing and responding to behaviours of concern

Planned responses to behaviour that does not meet school expectations are either teacher or executive managed. Staff use their professional judgement in deciding whether a behaviour is teacher managed or executive managed. They should consider whether the behaviour poses a risk to the safety or wellbeing of the student or others.

- **Teacher managed** low level inappropriate behaviour is managed by teachers in the classroom and the playground.
- Executive managed behaviour of concern is managed by school executive.
- Corrective responses are recorded on Sentral. These can include:

Teacher Managed	Executive Managed
rule reminder	rule reminder
• re-direct	• re-direct
<ul> <li>offer choice</li> </ul>	offer choice
<ul> <li>error correction</li> </ul>	error correction
<ul><li>prompts</li></ul>	• prompts
<ul><li>reteach</li></ul>	• reteach
<ul> <li>play or playground redirection</li> </ul>	apology letter
<ul> <li>loss of class privilege</li> </ul>	community service
<ul> <li>walk with teacher</li> </ul>	time out to executive
<ul> <li>stay in at break to discuss/complete work</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>detention, reflection and restorative practices</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>time out to buddy class</li> </ul>	exclusion from out of school activities
• conference	<ul> <li>communication with parent/carer.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>apology letter</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>community service</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>communication with parent/carer.</li> </ul>	

Cudgegong Valley Public School staff model, explicitly teach, recognise and reinforce positive student behaviour and behavioural expectations. PBL, Character Strengths and Trauma Informed Practices consist of evidence-based strategies used daily by teachers to teach self-regulation, reduce impulsivity, increase focus and strengthen peer networks.

We acknowledge that not all students are encouraged by the same thing or in the same ways. Younger students may be more motivated by adult attention while older students are typically more motivated by peer attention, activities, privileges, or freedom. When learning new skills, students need immediate and frequent reinforcement and as they develop mastery they respond to intermittent and long-term reinforcement to maintain their social behavioural efforts.

The use of verbal and non-verbal specific positive feedback is the most powerful way to:

- help adults and learners to focus on positive social behaviour
- increase the likelihood that students will use the expected behaviours and skills in the future
- decrease unexpected behaviour and reduce the need for corrective responses
- enhance self-esteem and build an internal focus of control.

Prevention Responses to recognise and reinforce positive, inclusive and safe behaviour	Early Intervention Responses to minor inappropriate behaviour are teacher managed.	Targeted/Individualised Responses to behaviours of concern are executive managed
Behaviour expectations are taught and referred to regularly.     Teachers model behaviours and provide opportunities for practice.     Students are acknowledged for meeting school-wide expectations and rules.	1. Refer to school-wide expectations and/or emotional regulation visuals and/or supports so that the student can self-regulate.	1. Contact office to seek help from executive straight away if there is a risk. Otherwise notify student's stage supervisor or executive ASAP and before the end of the school day.
2. Verbal and non-verbal specific positive feedback is paired with a positive, tangible reinforcer in a school-wide continuum for acknowledging expected behaviour (pink slips).	2. Use indirect responses including proximity, signals, nonverbal cues, ignore, attend, praise, redirect with specific corrective feedback.	2. Executive/CT to take immediate steps to restore safety and return the situation to calm by using appropriate strategies such as: redirecting to another area or activity, providing reassurance or offering choices. Incident review and planning is scheduled for a later time, determined by the context and nature of the incident.
3. Tangible reinforcers include those that are: free and frequent moderate and intermittent significant and infrequent Intermittent and infrequent reinforcers are recorded on Sentral.	3. Use direct responses e.g. rule reminder, re-teach, provide choice, scripted interventions, student conference. Students have an opportunity to meet the classroom/playground behaviour expectation before low-level consequence is applied.	3. Executive collects information and reviews the incident from multiple perspectives to determine next steps. Executive to record incident on Sentral and contact parent/carer by email, Class Dojo or phone.  Executive/principal may consider further action e.g., formal caution or suspension.
4. Social emotional learning lessons are taught (PBL focus and Character Strength) weekly.	4. Teacher records on Sentral by the end of the school day. Monitor and inform family if repeated. For some incidents, referral is made to the school's wellbeing teacher, anti-racism contact officer (ARCO) or anti-bullying coordinator.	4. Refer to the school's Learning and Support Team considering current and previous behaviour data. Other actions may include completing a risk assessment and/or collaboratively developing a behaviour support/response plan.
Teacher/parent contact	Teacher/parent contact	Teacher/parent contact
Teacher contact through the parent portal, Class Dojo or phone calls home are used to communicate student effort to meet expectations. Recognition awards for positive individual and class behaviour are given at weekly school assemblies.	Teacher contacts parents by phone, Class Dojo or email when a range of corrective responses have not been successful. Individual planning and referral to Learning Support Team may be discussed.	Parent/carer contact is made by school executive to discuss any support and behaviour responses, including referral to the LST, Wellbeing teacher, school counsellor, outside agencies or Team Around a School.

#### Responses to serious behaviours of concern

Responses for serious behaviours of concern, including students who display bullying behaviour, are recorded on Sentral. These may include:

- review and document incident
- determine appropriate response/s, including supports for staff or other students impacted
- refer/monitor the student through the school learning and support team
- develop or review individual student support planning, including teaching positive replacement behaviour and making learning and environmental adjustments
- detention, reflection and restorative practices (listed below)
- liaise with Team Around a School for additional support or advice
- communication and collaboration with parents/carers (phone, Class Dojo, email, parent portal, meeting)
- formal caution to suspend, suspension or expulsion.

The NSW Department of Education <u>Student Behaviour policy</u> and <u>Suspension and Expulsion</u> Procedures apply to all NSW public schools.

#### Reporting and recording behaviours of concern

Staff will comply with reporting and responding processes outlined in the:

- Incident Notification and Response policy
- Incident Notification and Response Procedures
- Student Behaviour Policy and Suspension and Expulsion procedures

Students and/or parents/carers can report cyberbullying to the <u>eSafety Commissioner</u> and reporting links for most sites, games and apps can be found at the <u>eSafety</u> Guide or the <u>CVPS Cyber Safety Hub.</u>

#### Detention, reflection and restorative practices

Toilet and food breaks are always included when withdrawal from free choice play at either break is planned as a response to behaviour. The maximum length of time will be appropriate to the age/developmental level of the student.

Strategy	When and how long?	Who coordinates?	How are these recorded?
<b>Reflection –</b> a structured debriefing and planning after a crisis event or behaviour of concern with an individual student (reflection / triage conversation).	Next day at either lunch or recess break	Assistant Principal	Documented in Sentral
Alternate play plan – withdrawal from free choice play and re-allocation to Free Parking, office or classroom for supervised play, following breach in behaviour. The purpose is to assist the student to achieve the desired behaviour, to reflect on their behaviour and make positive choices – individual or group (detention)	Next break	Assistant Principal	Documented in Sentral
Restorative practice – a whole school teaching and learning approach that encourages behaviour that is supportive and respectful. It puts the onus on individuals to be truly accountable for their behaviour and to repair any harm caused to others as a result of their actions.	Scheduled for either lunch or recess break	Assistant Principal	Documented in Sentral

# Review dates

Last review date: 31/01/2025

Next review date: Day 1 Term 3 2025

#### Appendix 1: Behaviour management flowchart

Calm and engaged classrooms

Apply preventative strategies

Positive classroom climate, providing and teaching explicit rules, engaging lessons, active supervision, offering pre-corrections

Observe inappropriate behaviour

Does the behaviour pose a risk to the safety or wellbeing of
the student or others?

NO

YES

#### Low level inappropriate behaviour

Manage it at teacher level De-escalate the situation by *calmly*:

- correcting the behaviour
- identifying student need
- ensuring student understands corrective response
- responding proportionally to the level of behaviour displayed

Has the behaviour stopped or improved?

Provide positive verbal/nonverbal acknowledgement

YES

NO

Speak privately with student
Clearly and calmly state the issue and
invite the student to come up with
solutions with you to resolve the
matter.

Has the behaviour stopped or improved?

Behaviour of concern

Teacher to inform executive staff and focus on safety.

Executive/CT to assist student to de-escalate to baseline by using appropriate strategies such as:

redirecting to another area or activity

providing reassurance

- offering choices

Speak privately with student Executive/CT/Wellbeing teacher to calmly allow the student to explain the situation to identify ways to fix the problem.

Executive to check-in with teacher for feedback and contact parent.
Executive/CT/Wellbeing teacher to enter incident on Sentral.
Is it safe for the student to return to normal routine?

YES

NO

NO

YES

#### **Consider additional supports**

Identify and engage support(s) for the student to return to normal routine: Refer to learning and support team/wellbeing teacher/school counselling service, contact parents, conversation with teacher, refer to and/or revise individual student support plans.

Is additional time required for additional planning time? If so, refer to the principal for possible suspension.

Is a **mandatory report** required?
If so, consult with principal and MRG.

#### **Bullying Response Flowchart**

The following flowchart explains the actions Cudgegong Valley Public School staff will take when they receive a report about student bullying, including bullying which may have occurred online or outside of the school setting. It is hoped that within in first 3 days of being made aware of the incident we will have completed steps 1-3 (Listen, Document and Collect). It is hoped that the next two steps (Discuss and Implement) would be completed within a week. These timeframes may vary depending on the professional judgment of staff who receive the bullying complaint and their assessment of immediate risk to student/s.

Listen

- •Identify bullying behaviour, including cyber-bullying
- •Provide a safe, quiet space to talk and reassure the student that you will listen to them
- •Let them share their experience and feelings without interruption
- •As a mandatory reporter, if you hold immediate concerns for the student's safety, let the student know how you will address these. Immediate in this circumstance is where the staff member believes the student is likely to experience harm (from others or self) within the next 24 hours.
- Ask the student for examples they have of the alleged bullying (e.g. hand written notes or screenshots)
- •Write a record of your communication with the student and check with the student to ensure you have the facts correct
- Enter the record in Sentral
- •Notify school executive of incident if required in line with behaviour management flowchart
- •Notify parent/s that the issue of concern is being investigated

Collect

Document

- •Gather additional information from other students, staff or family
- •Review any previous reports or records for students involved
- •Make sure you can answer who, what, where, when and how
- •Clarify information with student and check on their wellbeing
- Г
  - •Evaluate the information to determine if it meets the definition of bullying
  - •Make a time to meet with the student to discuss next steps
  - •Ask the student what they believe will help address the situation
  - •Engage the student as part of the solution
  - •Provide the student and parent with information about student support network
  - •Agree to a plan of action and timeline for the student, parent and yourself

▼ Implement

: Discuss

- Document the plan of action in Sentral
- •Complete all actions agreed with student and parent within agreed timeframes
- •Monitor student and check in regularly on their wellbeing
- •Seek assistance from student support network if needed

Review

- Meet with the student to review situation
- •Discuss what has changed, improved or worsened
- •Explore other options for strengthening student wellbeing or safety
- •Report back to parent
- •Record outcomes in Sentral
- •Refer matter to the Learning and Support Team within 48 hours if the situation is not resolved

Ongoing follow-up

- •Continue to check in with student on a regular basis until concerns have been mitigated
- •Record notes of follow-up meetings in Sentral
- •Look for opportunities to improve school wellbeing for all students