NSW Department of Education 

# Warialda High School Behaviour Support and Management Plan

## Overview

*Warialda High School* is committed to explicitly teaching and modelling positive behaviour and to supporting all students to be engaged in their learning.

Our goal is to inspire every child to participate positively in society. 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.

The 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.

Our processes are founded on the idea that students must learn to take responsibility for their own actions and to ensure all staff respond to these challenges consistently to support students to acknowledge harm and learn from their behaviour.

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

* Restorative Practices
* Positive Behaviour for Learning based on our school values – Respect, Achievement, Responsibility and Excellence
* The Resilience Project
* Learning Coaching

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

Restorative practice is a whole school teaching and learning approach that encourages behaviour that is supportive and respectful. A restorative approach focuses on building, maintaining and restoring positive relationships, particularly when incidents that involve interpersonal conflict or wrongdoing occur.

## Partnership with parents and carers

Warialda High School will partner with families in establishing expectations for parent engagement in developing and implementing student behaviour management strategies, including for bullying behaviour by:

* inviting families and student feedback through formal and informal means, including through Tell Them From Me Surveys, school surveys, consulting with the school’s P & C Association and local AECG
* using concerns raised through complaints procedures to review school systems, data and practices.

Warialda High School will communicate these expectations to parents/carers through the school messaging systems and social media and provide links to information and resources in the [Behaviour support toolkit](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/behaviour-support-toolkit).

## School-wide expectations and rules

Warialda High School has the following school-wide expectations and rules for students:

* To be respectful
* To achieve to the best of their ability
* To be responsible
* To strive for excellence

## 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 <https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policyprocedures/pd-2006-0316/pd-2006-0316-01.> This document translated into multiple languages is available here: [Behaviour code for students (nsw.gov.au)](https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/translated-documents/behaviour-code-for-students)

## Whole school approach across the care continuum

Our school embeds student wellbeing and positive behaviour approaches and strategies across the care continuum and responds to behaviours of concern, including bullying and cyberbullying behaviour. Behaviours that do not constitute bullying include mutual disagreements or isolated incidents.

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:

* 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
* actively supervising 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
* data determined Positive Behaviour for Learning lesson delivery
* tailored The Resilience Project lesson delivery
* acknowledgements and rewards for achieving acquired points correlating with a positive level system
* three-tiered level support system for behaviour management

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Care Continuum | Strategy or Program | Details | Audience |
| Prevention/ Early / Targeted / & Individual intervention | [Restorative Practice](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/behaviour-support-toolkit/support-for-teachers/restorative-practices) | Promotes positive proactive strategies to provide opportunities to develop, strengthen, repair and maintain healthy relationships. Includes circles and restorative conversations. | Staff, students 7-12, families |
| Prevention | [Friendly Schools](https://friendlyschools.com.au/) | Students engage in social and emotional wellbeing lessons, which are reinforced by staff regularly, including at year and whole-school assemblies. | Staff, Wellbeing team, students 7-12, families |
| Prevention | [PDHPE curriculum](https://education.nsw.gov.au/teaching-and-learning/curriculum/pdhpe) | The development of self-management skills enables students to take personal responsibility for their actions and emotions. | Students 7-10 |
| Prevention / Early Intervention / targeted / individual | Australian eSafety Commissioner [Toolkit for Schools](https://www.esafety.gov.au/educators/toolkit-schools) | The toolkit resources are categorised into four elements: Prepare, Engage, Educate and Respond. The resources are used to engage with the school community about creating and maintaining safe online environments to prevent cyber-bullying incidents. | Students 7-12, staff, families |
| Prevention | Communication with parents | To increase parent’s understanding of how our school addresses all forms of behaviour. | Staff, students 7-12, families |
| Prevention | Transition Year 6 into 7 | Focusing on a safe and successful movement from primary to high school. | Incoming Year 7 students |
| Prevention / Early intervention | [Student support officer](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/student-support-officers) | Supports the implementation of the school’s approach to wellbeing. | Student 7 - 12 |
| Targeted / individual intervention | [Learning and Support](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/parents-and-carers/inclusive-learning-support/high-school/how-your-child-can-be-supported-in-high-school/school-learning-and-support-team) | The LST works with teachers, students and families to support students who require personalised learning and support. | Staff, individual students 7-12, families |
| Targeted intervention | Check-In | For students who exhibit low level behaviours of concern. | Individual students 7-12, |
| Targeted intervention | Leadership programs | These include Student Representative Council, sports leadership opportunities and reading tutors. | Students 7-12 |
| Individual intervention | Daily achievement | A period of time on a daily achievement monitoring to change a pattern of behaviour. | Students 7-12 |
| Individual intervention | [Attendance](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-matters-resources-for-schools) monitoring | Address barriers to improve attendance and set growth goals. | Students, Year Advisor |
| Individual intervention | [Individual behaviour support planning](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/behaviour-support-toolkit/support-for-teachers/planning-behaviour-support-for-individual-students/How-do-I-plan-for-behaviour-support) | This may include developing, implementing monitoring and reviewing: behaviour support, behaviour response and risk management plans. | Students, parent/carer, LaST, Senior Executive |

## 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.

### Warialda High School 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 their year advisor or school counselling service.

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, where there is a clear and close connection between the school and students’ conduct.

### 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 by teachers may include:

* rule reminder
* re-direct, offer choice or error correction
* prompts
* reteach
* seat change/play or playground re-direction
* stay in at break to discuss/complete work/walk with teacher
* conference
* reflection and restorative practices
* communication with parent/carer

Warialda High School uses the following strategies and systems to explicitly teach, recognise and reinforce positive student behaviour and behavioural expectations:

| **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** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1. 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. | 1. Contact office to seek help from HT/DP straight away if there is a risk. Otherwise notify 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. | 2. Use indirect responses e.g.  Proximity, signals, non-verbal cues, ignore, attend, praise, redirect with specific corrective feedback. | 2. CT/HT/DP 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 documented. | 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 a low-level consequence is applied. | 3. HT/DP collects information and reviews the incident from multiple perspectives to determine the next steps. CT/HT/DP to record incident on Behaviour / wellbeing system and contact parent/carer by email or phone. DP/P may consider further action for e.g. formal caution/suspension. |
| 4. Social-emotional learning lessons are taught during fortnightly wellbeing lessons. | 4. Teacher records on Behaviour / wellbeing ITD system by the end of the school day. Monitor and inform the family if repeated. For some incidents, a referral is made to the school’s anti-racism contact officer (ARCO) or anti-bullying co-ordinator. | 4. Refer to the school’s Learning Support / Wellbeing Team considering current and previous behaviour data. Other actions may include developing a behaviour support/response plan and/or completing a risk assessment. |
| Teacher/parent contact | Teacher/parent contact | Teacher/parent contact |
| Parents are notified through the parent portal when intermittent and infrequent reinforcers are actioned.  Student awards for positive behaviour are presented weekly and twice per term for level advancement. | Staff may contact parents by phone or email when a range of corrective responses have not been successful.  Individual support planning and referral to Learning Support / Wellbeing team may be discussed. | Parent/carer contact is made by HT/DP/P to discuss any support and behaviour responses, including referral to the LST 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 Behaviour / wellbeing system. 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
* reflection and restorative practices (listed below)
* liaise with [Team Around a School](https://education.nsw.gov.au/inside-the-department/directory-a-z/team-around-a-school) for additional support or advice
* communication and collaboration with parents/carers (phone, email, parent portal, meeting)
* formal caution to suspend, suspension or expulsion.

The NSW Department of Education [Student Behaviour policy](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2006-0316) and [Suspension and expulsion procedures](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policyprocedures/pd-2006-0316/pd-2006-0316-06) 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 procedure](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/staff-only/pd-2013-0454-05); [Student Behaviour policy](https://education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/pd-2006-0316) and Suspension and expulsion procedures

Students and/or parents/carers can report cyberbullying to the [eSafety Commissioner](https://www.esafety.gov.au/report) and reporting links for most sites, games and apps can be found at the [eSafety](https://www.esafety.gov.au/key-issues/esafety-guide) Guide.

## Reflection and restorative practices

Toilet and food breaks are always included when students are withdrawn from the playground as a planned 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? |
| Alternate break plan – withdrawal from playground during breaks and re-allocation to office/classroom for supervised breaktime 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 | Next break | School executive | Behaviour / wellbeing system |
| Restorative practice – [peer mediation](https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/school-community/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/behaviour-support-toolkit/support-for-teachers/restorative-practices/peer-mediation), [circles](https://education.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/main-education/student-wellbeing/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/media/documents/Circles.pdf) or restorative conversations in groups | Scheduled as soon as all involved are available | SSO / DP / Year Advisor / Principal | Behaviour / wellbeing system |

## Review dates

Last review date: Day 3, Term 1, 2025

Next review date: Executive Meeting Mid-Term 1, 2026

### Appendix 1: Behaviour management flowchart

**Behaviour of concern**

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?*

**Observe Inappropriate Behaviour**

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

*Calm and engaged classroom*Apply preventative strategies

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

**Serious behaviour of concern**

Teacher to inform executive staff and focus on safety.

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

* Redirecting to another area   
  or activity
* Provide reassurance
* Offer choices

NO

YES

NO

YES

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?*

YES

Speak privately with student

CT/HT/DP/SSO to *calmly* allow the student to explain the situation to identify ways to fix the problem.

HT/DP to check-in with teacher for feedback and contact parent.

CT/HT/DP to enter incident on Behaviour / wellbeing system.

*Is it safe for the student to   
return to normal routine?*

YES

NO

NO

Provide positive verbal/nonverbal acknowledgement

Provide positive verbal/nonverbal acknowledgement or de-escalation strategy

**Consider additional supports**

Identify and engage support(s) for the student to return to normal routine:  
*Refer to counsellor/wellbeing team, contact parents, conversation with teacher, refer to and/or revise behaviour plans.*

*Is suspension required for additional* ***planning time****? If so, consult with principal.*

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

### Bullying Response Flowchart

The following flowchart guides the actions Warialda High 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. The timeframes will vary depending on the professional judgment of staff who receive the bullying complaint and their assessment of immediate risk to student/s.