



Student Code of Conduct

2024-2027

Equity and Excellence: realising the potential of every student

Equity and Excellence outlines the government's vision for a progressive, high-performing education system. Equity and Excellence provides clarity for schools about priorities and expectations, with differentiated support targeted to each school's context and needs.

Queensland Department of Education

Contact Information

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Contact Person:	Peter Davey (Principal)

Endorsement

Principal Name:	Peter Davey
Principal Signature:	
Date:	26/8/23
P/C President and-or School Council Chair Name:	Malia Adamson
P/C President and-or School Council Chair Signature:	
Date:	29/8/23



Kurwongbah State School

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Department of Education

KURWONGBAH STATE SCHOOL

Instrument of Authorisation

Requirement to tell a student about a suspension under Chapter 12, Part 3, Division 2 of the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006 ('EGPA').

I, PETER DAVEY, Principal of KURWONGBAH STATE SCHOOL authorise the persons who are from time to time the holders of the position of DEPUTY PRINCIPAL at this school to tell a student on my behalf of my decision to suspend the student under section 281 of the EGPA.

A DEPUTY PRINCIPAL who tells a student of my decision to suspend that student, acts in my name.

The effect of this authorisation is that a suspension of a student under section 281 of the EGPA will start when a DEPUTY PRINCIPAL tells the student about my decision, as per section 283(2) of the EGPA.

Peter Davey

PETER DAVEY
KURWONGBAH STATE SCHOOL
QUEENSLAND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DATE: 22nd JANUARY 2024

Purpose

Kurwongbah State School is committed to providing a safe, respectful and disciplined learning environment for all students, staff, parents and visitors.

The Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct sets out the responsibilities and processes we use in our school to promote a productive, effective whole school approach to discipline.

Its purpose is to facilitate high standards of behaviour from all in the school community, ensuring learning and teaching in our school is prioritised, where all students are able to experience success and staff enjoy a safe workplace.

Principal's Foreword

Kurwongbah State School has a proud tradition of providing high quality education to students from across the Kurwongbah and Petrie areas. Our vision is for all students to become responsible, confident, self-motivated and co-operative individuals who aspire to achieve their optimal potential. We believe positive, productive relationships across our whole school community provide the foundation stone for student success.

We believe strong, positive relationships between all members of our school are the foundation to supporting the success of all students.

School Vision

A culture that values everyone and empowers individuals to excel through active engagement in a community of learners.

- A culture that values everyone begins with an open mind and a willingness to acknowledge and understand the strengths of individuals.
- A culture that values everyone becomes an inclusive community, encouraging connection and success.
- A culture that values everyone is evidenced by harnessing the collective strengths of individuals to achieve common goals.
- Empowering individuals to excel through active engagement in a community of learners begins with tailored differentiated opportunities, driving a desire to learn and succeed.
- Empowering individuals to excel through active engagement in a community of learners becomes the ability to thrive and embrace the learning journey.
- Empowering individuals to excel through active engagement in a community of learners is evidenced by confident, resilient and adaptable life-long learners.

Kurwongbah State School has five core values, Caring, Honesty, Respect, Resilience and Excellence.

Caring

*Being compassionate and helpful
Looking after each other
Treating others with kindness*

Honesty

*Being honest, truthful, sincere, fair and just
Taking responsibility for your actions even when there could be consequences.
Being true to yourself.*

Respect

*Treating others as you would like to be treated
Showing others courtesy and consideration
Valuing yourself, other people, rules and property*

Resilience

*Not giving up when things get difficult
Sticking to something no matter how long it takes
Bouncing back after disappointment
Staying focussed on your goals*

Excellence

Striving to do your best

Going higher than you've gone before

*Expecting that you **will** achieve quality in your work and relationships*

Reaching for the stars!

Celebrate and take pride in your own achievements and successes

These values have been used in the development of this Student Code of Conduct, with the aim of helping shape and build the skills of all our students to be confident, self-disciplined and kind young people. Our school staff believe that communication and positive connections with other people are the most valuable skills our communities need now and in the future.

Kurwongbah State School staff take an educative approach to discipline, that behaviour can be taught and that mistakes are opportunities for everyone to learn. Our Student Code of Conduct provides an overview of the school's local policies on use of technology, removal of student property and the approach to preventing and addressing incidents of bullying. It also details the steps school staff take to educate students about these policies and how students are explicitly taught the expected behaviours. Finally, it details the consequences that may apply when students breach the expected standards of behaviour, including the use of suspension or exclusion.

I thank the students, teachers, parents and other members of the community for their work in bringing this Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct together. Your interest and views shared through the process of developing this document have been invaluable. It provides a clear explanation of what we expect from students and how we will support them to meet those expectations.

P&C Statement of Support

As President of the Kurwongbah State School Parents & Citizens Association, I am proud to support the new Student Code of Conduct.

The inclusive and transparent consultation process led by Mr Peter Davey and His team has ensured that all parents have received opportunities to contribute and provide feedback on the final product.

This has been an important aspect in the development of the Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct, as it's through the awareness and involvement of parents that ensures all adults are able to support the students at the school to set and meet expectations.

We encourage all parents to familiarise themselves with the Kurwongbah State School expectations and discuss any support they may need. We want to emphasise the systems in place to help students affected by bullying.

Bullying is a community-wide issue in which we all have a role to play in combating; however, it can have devastating impacts on our students mental health and wellbeing. It is important that every parent and child of Kurwongbah State School knows what to do if subject to bullying, regardless of where it occurs. This includes cyberbullying, through the misuse of social media or text messaging. It is important that parents and children know that the school provides support and advice to help address problems of bullying. There is a flow chart within this document which provides an excellent starting point to understand how to approach the school about these types of problems.

Any Parent or Community member who would like to discuss the Kurwongbah State School Code of Conduct and the role of families in supporting the behavioural expectations of students, are welcome to contact myself or to join the Kurwongbah State School Parents & Citizens Association. It is with your support that we can work collaboratively with the school staff to ensure all students are safe and supported to meet their individual social and learning needs.

Malia Adamson
P&C President
Kurwongbah State School

Data Overview

This section is used to report on key measures related to student discipline, safety and wellbeing using existing data sets available to all schools. This provides an open and transparent reporting mechanism for the school community on the perceptions of students, parents and staff about school climate, attendance and school disciplinary absences.

The Parent, Student and Staff Satisfaction data in the tables below is drawn from the School Opinion Survey. The School Opinion Survey is an annual collection designed to obtain the views of parents/caregivers, students and school staff from each school on what they do well and how they can improve.

Opinions on the school, student learning, and student wellbeing are sought from a parent/caregiver in all families and a sample of students from each state school.

Opinions on the school as a workplace are sought from all school staff and principals. There are additional questions for teaching staff on their confidence to teach and improve student outcomes. Principals are also asked about their confidence to lead the school and improve student outcomes.

There are four different confidential surveys for

- parents
- students
- staff
- principals.

For more information, refer to [frequently asked questions](#) page.

School Opinion Survey

Parent opinion survey

Performance measure			
Percentage of parents/caregivers who agree [#] that:	2021	2022	2023
their child is getting a good education at school (S2016)	99%	No Data	No Data
this is a good school (S2035)	96.8%	98.7%	97.7%
their child likes being at this school* (S2001)	94.8%	96.2%	90.7%
their child feels safe at this school* (S2002)	92.3%	96.2%	90.8%
their child's learning needs are being met at this school* (S2003)	87.0%	91.7%	88.2%
their child is making good progress at this school* (S2004)	92.8%	91.0%	89.8%
teachers at this school expect their child to do his or her best* (S2005)	98.7%	98.7%	99.2%
teachers at this school provide their child with useful feedback about his or her school work* (S2006)	92.3%	92.0%	91.1%
teachers at this school motivate their child to learn* (S2007)	97.4%	94.2%	93.8%
teachers at this school treat students fairly* (S2008)	92.2%	95.6%	93.1%
they can talk to their child's teachers about their concerns* (S2009)	96.1%	96.8%	94.6%
this school works with them to support their child's learning* (S2010)	93.4%	95.5%	91.6%
this school takes parents' opinions seriously* (S2011)	86.3%	93.8%	91.0%
student behaviour is well managed at this school* (S2012)	88.2%	87.1%	85.5%
this school looks for ways to improve* (S2013)	95.2%	95.3%	94.4%
this school is well maintained* (S2014)	97.4%	96.8%	94.5%

Student opinion survey

Performance measure			
Percentage of students who agree [#] that:	2021	2022	2023
they are getting a good education at school (S2048)	96%	No Data	No Data
they like being at their school* (S2036)	89.1%	81.2%	82%
they feel safe at their school* (S2037)	92.2%	85.3%	82.8%
their teachers motivate them to learn* (S2038)	95.9%	95.3%	91.3%
their teachers expect them to do their best* (S2039)	98.6%	99.0%	98.3%
their teachers provide them with useful feedback about their school work* (S2040)	94.2%	92.7%	90.1%
teachers treat students fairly at their school* (S2041)	84.0%	80.6%	81%
they can talk to their teachers about their concerns* (S2042)	85.5%	84.7%	75%
their school takes students' opinions seriously* (S2043)	83.0%	74.3%	70.8%
student behaviour is well managed at their school* (S2044)	76.9%	87.1%	60.4%
their school looks for ways to improve* (S2045)	95.5%	91.1%	89.9%
their school is well maintained* (S2046)	88.6%	86.8%	87.3%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things* (S2047)	90.6%	90.2%	86.9%

Staff opinion survey

Performance measure			
Percentage of school staff who agree# that:	2021	2022	2023
they enjoy working at their school (S2069)	91.4%	93.5%	88.2%
they feel that their school is a safe place in which to work (S2070)	94.8%	97.4%	89.7%
they receive useful feedback about their work at their school (S2071)	87.7%	84.2%	82.1%
they feel confident embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives across the learning areas (S2114)	No Data	90.2%	No Data
students are encouraged to do their best at their school (S2072)	98.3%	98.7%	97%
students are treated fairly at their school (S2073)	75.4%	82.9%	79.4%
student behaviour is well managed at their school (S2074)	57.9%	68.4%	67.2%
staff are well supported at their school (S2075)	78.9%	81.8%	76.1%
their school takes staff opinions seriously (S2076)	77.6%	81.6%	77.9%
their school looks for ways to improve (S2077)	94.8%	94.8%	92.6%
their school is well maintained (S2078)	84.5%	77.9%	86.6%
their school gives them opportunities to do interesting things (S2079)	85.7%	89.3%	78.8%

* Nationally agreed student and parent/caregiver items

'Agree' represents the percentage of respondents who Somewhat Agree, Agree or Strongly Agree with the statement.

DW = Data withheld to ensure confidentiality.

School Disciplinary Absences (SDA)

Principals use a range of disciplinary consequences to address inappropriate behaviour. Suspensions, exclusions and cancellations of enrolment are only used as a last resort option for addressing serious behaviour issues. Principals balance individual circumstances and the actions of the student with the needs and rights of school community members.

All state schools are required to report School Disciplinary Absences (SDA) for the school year in their school annual report. There are four main categories of SDA: short suspension, long suspension, exclusion and charge-related suspension.

The following table shows the count of incidents for students recommended for each type of school disciplinary absence reported at the school.

KURWONGBAH STATE SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY ABSENCES			
Type	2021	2022	2023
Short Suspensions – 1 to 10 days	37	39	54
Long Suspensions – 11 to 20 days	1	0	0
Charge related Suspensions	0	0	0
Exclusions	0	0	0

Learning and Behaviour Statement

Everyone brings their own sets of personal beliefs to a school community. These beliefs influence their decisions, behaviour and social practices. It is reasonable to expect that not everyone will share the same sets of beliefs, and this contributes to a richly diverse social environment in each school. It can also contribute to differences in expectations and force us to reflect on our own understanding of what we consider acceptable and unacceptable. We encourage any student or parent to make an appointment with the principal to discuss the model of behaviour support and discipline used at this school.

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

Kurwongbah State School uses multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) as the foundation for our integrated approach to learning and behaviour. MTSS is a preventative, differentiated model grounded in practical strategies, targeted planning and data-informed decision-making. Based on a problem-solving model, in MTSS school staff match increasingly intensive interventions to the identified needs of individual students.

Tier	Prevention Description
1	<p>All students (100%) in the school receive support for their academic and behavioural development. Focus is on the whole-school implementation of both the Australian Curriculum and Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations. This involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> teaching behaviours in the setting they will be used being consistent when addressing challenging behaviour, while taking developmental norms and behavioural function into account providing refresher lessons and targeted recognition throughout the school year so skills are ready and likely to be used when students need them asking students and their families for their perspectives on school climate, instruction, reinforcement, and discipline so improvements in Tier 1 may be made.
2	<p>Targeted instruction and supports for some students (10-15%) are more intense than Tier 1 services, providing more time and specialisation in services from a range of school-based staff to enable students to meet the required academic and behavioural standards.</p> <p>Tier 2 supports build on the lessons provided at Tier 1, and may prevent the need for more intensive interventions. Tier 2 supports are provided to small groups of students with similar needs, offering more time and/or detailed instruction on the Australian Curriculum or particular aspects of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations. The types of interventions offered at this level will vary according to the needs of each school's student body, but all have certain things in common:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there is a clear connection between the skills taught in the interventions and the school-wide expectations. interventions require little time of classroom teachers and are easy to sustain variations within each intervention are limited interventions have a good chance of working (e.g., they are "evidence-based" interventions that are matched to the student's need). <p>If the school data indicates that more than 10-15% of students require targeted services, then a review of Tier 1 is needed to address the basic implementation and quality of instruction.</p>
3	<p>Individualised services for few students (2-5%) who require the most intensive support a school can provide. These are usually delivered in very small groups or on an individual basis.</p> <p>Tier 3 supports continue to build on the lessons and supports provided at Tiers 1 and 2, becoming more individualised and more intensive until teams can identify what is needed for a student to be successful. Tier 3 supports are based on the underlying reasons for a student's behaviour (their FBA) and should include strategies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PREVENT problem behaviour TEACH the student an acceptable replacement behaviour REINFORCE the student's use of the replacement behaviour MINIMISE the payoff for problem behaviour. <p>Tier 3 supports exist along a continuum. Many students can benefit from a simple (or brief) Functional Behaviour Assessment (FBA) that identifies unique strategies to help the student achieve success. A smaller percentage of students may require a more comprehensive FBA that includes a more thorough process for data collection, teaming, and problem solving. A much smaller percentage of students may need an intensive FBA and wraparound plan that includes personnel from outside agencies and rigorous problem solving procedures.</p> <p>If the school data indicates that more than 2-5% of the student population requires individualised services, a review of Tier 1 and Tier 2 supports and organisation is recommended.</p>

Consideration of Individual Circumstances

Staff at Kurwongbah State School take into account students' individual circumstances, such as their behaviour history, disability, mental health and wellbeing, religious and cultural considerations, home environment and care arrangements when teaching expectations, responding to inappropriate behaviour or applying a disciplinary consequence.

In considering the individual circumstances of each student, we recognise that the way we teach, the support we provide and the way we respond to students will differ. This reflects the principle of equality, where every student is given the support they need to be successful. This also means that not everyone will be treated the same, because treating everyone the same is not fair. For example, some students need additional support to interpret or understand an expectation. Others may benefit from more opportunities to practise a required skill or behaviour. For a small number of students, the use of certain disciplinary consequences may be considered inappropriate or ineffective due to complex trauma or family circumstances. These are all matters that our teachers and Principal consider with each individual student in both the instruction of behaviour and the response to behaviour.

Our teachers are also obliged by law to respect and protect the privacy of individual students, so while we understand the interest of other students, staff and parents to know what punishment another student might have received, we will not disclose or discuss this information with anyone but the student's family. This applies even if the behavioural incident, such as bullying, involves your child. You can be assured that school staff take all matters, such as bullying, very seriously and will address them appropriately. We expect that parents and students will respect the privacy of other students and families.

If you have concerns about the behaviour of another student at the school, or the way our staff have responded to their behaviour, please make an appointment with the principal to discuss the matter.

Student Wellbeing

Kurwongbah State School we encourage parents and students to speak with their class teacher or make an appointment to meet with the guidance officer if they would like individual advice about accessing particular services.

Learning and wellbeing are inextricably linked — students learn best when their wellbeing is optimised, and they develop a strong sense of wellbeing when they experience success in learning. The [student learning and wellbeing framework](#) supports state schools with creating positive school cultures and embedding student wellbeing in all aspects of school life through connecting the learning environment, curriculum and pedagogy, policies, procedures and partnerships for learning and life.

Curriculum and pedagogy

Schools build the foundations for wellbeing and lifelong learning through curriculum embedding [personal and social capabilities](#) (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and social management) in the implementation of the [P–12 curriculum, assessment and reporting framework](#).

Schools acknowledge the positive impact that a meaningful relationship between teacher and students can have on students' academic and social outcomes. As part of the whole school's curriculum at Kurwongbah State School, we engage with Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Education.

Respectful Relationships Education

Through the Health Learning Area, students at Kurwongbah learn about respectful relationships.

Respectful relationships education aims to teach students how to develop behaviours and attitudes that promote healthy, safe and respectful relationships.

Everyone has the right to be respected, feel valued and be treated equally. We all have a role to play in fostering respect.

The department's Prep to Years 12 Respect program is aligned with the Australian Curriculum and provides teachers with age-appropriate teaching and learning resources to support students to develop the skills and knowledge they need to build and maintain healthy, positive relationships.

For more information on what students learn in the Respect program, visit the [Respectful Relationships Education Hub](#)

Policy and expectations

Within a school community there are specific health and wellbeing issues that will need to be addressed for the whole school, specific students, or in certain circumstances.

Drug education and intervention

Drug education is addressed through our Health Curriculum Units.

Specialised health needs

Kurwongbah State School works closely with parents to ensure students with specialised health needs, including those requiring specialised health procedures, have access to a reasonable standard of support for their health needs whilst attending school or school-based activities.

This means that appropriate health plans are developed and followed for students with specialised health needs, that staff are aware of the student's medical condition and that an appropriate number of staff have been trained to support the student's health condition.

Medications

Kurwongbah State School requires parent consent and medical authorisation to administer any medication (including over-the-counter medications) to students. For students requiring medication to be administered during school hours, the school can provide further information and relevant forms.

For students with a long-term health condition requiring medication, parents need to provide the school with a [Consent to administer medication](#) form signed by the prescribing health practitioner.

Kurwongbah State School maintains a minimum of one adrenaline auto-injector, defibrillator and asthma reliever/puffer, stored in the school's first aid room to provide emergency first aid medication if required.

Mental health

Kurwongbah State School implements early intervention measures and treatments for students where there is reasonable belief that a student has a mental health difficulty. This includes facilitating the development, implementation and periodic review of a [Student Plan](#).

Suicide prevention

Kurwongbah State School staff who notice suicide warning signs in a student should seek help immediately from the school guidance officer, or other appropriate staff.

When dealing with a mental health crisis, schools call 000 when there is an imminent threat to the safety of student in the first instance, and where necessary provide first aid. In all other situations, Kurwongbah State School staff follow suicide intervention and prevention advice by ensuring:

- the student is not left alone
- their safety and the safety of other students and staff is maintained
- students receive appropriate support immediately
- parents are advised
- all actions are documented and reported.

Suicide postvention

In the case of a suicide of a student that has not occurred on school grounds, Kurwongbah State School enacts a postvention response, by communicating with the family of the student and ensuring immediate support is provided to students and staff who may be affected.

Where a suicide has occurred on school grounds or at a school event, Kurwongbah State School staff immediately enact the School Emergency Management Plan and communicate with the family of the student and ensure immediate support is provided to students and staff who may be affected.

Student wellbeing survey

Each year, Year 5 and 6 students at Kurwongbah complete a Student Wellbeing Survey. Students then use this information to create an action plan with the intent to improve student wellbeing. Students are taught that wellbeing is everyone's responsibility and that we need to work together to ensure

Breakfast Club

Charlie's Fuel 4 School (Breakfast Club) operates four days per week. The purpose of this program is to ensure students have had a healthy breakfast and are prepared for the day ahead. It also provides an opportunity for Community Engagement by offering breakfast to staff and parents, as well. This program is run by the school's chaplain and operates Tuesday – Thursday.



Student Support Network

Kurwongbah State School is proud to have a comprehensive Student Support Network in place to help the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of every student. In addition to the assistance provided by class teachers, we have a team of professionals whose dedicated roles are to help ensure our school is an inclusive, nurturing environment.

Students can approach any trusted school staff member at Kurwongbah State School to seek assistance or advice. If they are unable to assist they will provide guidance and help ensure the student is connected to the appropriate representative of the Student Support Network.

Parents who would like more information about the student support roles and responsibilities are invited to contact the Guidance Officer on the school phone number.

Role	What they do
Class Teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitors the social and emotional wellbeing of students • monitors student absence and reason for absence • provides support for individual students diverse educational, social-emotional and physical needs within the context of the classroom • liaises with specialist school staff to support students and their families • implement Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL).
Head of Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supports staff, students and their families through the verification process for disability • supports staff, students and their families where the student has a disability or an identified educational difficulty that requires specific supports • liaises with departmental specialist staff to support students and families • coordinates and supports staff delivering support to students with diverse needs.
Guidance Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides guidance support to students in classrooms or in school settings • provides guidance support to students individually or in groups with parental permission • provides guidance support to parents • liaises with government agencies, community groups and external agencies as part of the support process for students and families.
Chaplain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides pastoral care to the student body in classrooms, school activities or school events (camps) • provides pastoral care to students individually or in groups at school with parental permission • liaises with parents and provides support to families • liaises with community groups and external agencies as part of the support process for students and families.
Executive Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lead implementation of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) • monitor student attendance data • facilitate opportunities to support the successful transition to secondary for students moving from Year 6 to Year 7 • facilitate opportunities to support the successful transition of children into formal schooling in Prep • acknowledge successful behaviour and learning in a variety of ways
Wellbeing and Engagement Teacher and Aides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional behaviour assessments • Intensive behaviour support plan development • Social and friendship group support • Movement and activity breaks • Support Play, Charlie's Space and Reflection • Wellbeing check-ins
School Based Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive student support

It is also important for students and parents to understand there are regional and state-wide support services also available to supplement the school network. These include Principal Advisor Student Protection, Mental Health Coach, Autism Coach, Inclusion Coach, Success Coach, Advisory Visiting Teachers and Senior Guidance Officers.

Whole School Approach to Discipline

Kurwongbah State School uses Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) as the multi-tiered system of support for discipline in the school. This is a whole-school approach, used in all classrooms and programs offered through the school, including sporting activities and excursions.

PBL is an evidence-based framework used to:

- analyse and improve student behaviour and learning outcomes
- ensure that only evidence-based practices are used correctly by teachers to support students
- continually support staff members to maintain consistent school and classroom improvement practices.

At Kurwongbah State School we believe discipline is about more than consequences. It is a word that reflects our belief that student behaviour is a part of the overall teaching and learning approach in our school. Our staff take responsibility for making their expectations clear, for providing supportive instruction about how to meet these expectations and strive to use behavioural incidents as opportunities to re-teach.

The development of the Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct is an opportunity to explain the PBL framework with parents and students, and gain their support to implement a consistent approach to teaching behaviour. The language and expectations of PBL can be used in any environment, including the home setting for students. Doing everything we can do to set students up for success is a shared goal of every parent and school staff member.

Any students or parents who have questions or would like to discuss the Student Code of Conduct or PBL are encouraged to speak with the class teacher or make an appointment to meet with the principal.

Student of the Week

All class teachers should identify a member of their class eligible to receive the weekly 'Student of the Week' award on Parade. Teachers should refer directly to our school values when making the decision of which student to select. Student of the Week is not a matter or 'everyone gets a prize'. Some students may receive the award more than once.



Outstanding Student

The 'Outstanding Student' award is presented at the end of each term to students in each sector. One student from each class is selected. Common reference points in making the decision are how the child demonstrates our school values in classroom and non-classroom settings. Focus also on their attitude, effort, grit and general approach to school, staff and other students.

Top Kurwongbah Kid

Top Kurwongbah Kid tickets are issued to students during daily debrief or on a 'free and frequent' basis. Staff issue TKKs before school, during class time and at play/ eating times. Their name is written onto an orange TTK slip and then provided to students with a brief comment stating why it was issued. Students retain TKKs and then can redeem them for a reward after accumulating 60 (or 30 TKKs in Prep). Students select from a class based individual reward. Rewards can be accessed multiple times during each term.

The Charlie – School Community Service Award

This award recognises students who have made a positive difference to the wider community, whether inside or outside of school. The purpose of this award is to provide students with the opportunity to receive positive recognition for their acts of service to others, particularly those within the school community.



Morning Check-In

As part of our commitment to student and staff well-being a Morning Check-In is to be included as part of each class daily routine. The exact format may vary considerably depending on teacher preference and student age level. Teachers are strongly encouraged to liaise with colleagues to share ideas about Morning Check In.

Different ways to check-in

- 1. Poker Face**
Have students stand in their place. Explain to students that you are usually pretty good at reading people's faces and body language, and being able to tell what sort of mood they are in. Explain to students that you will try to 'read' what number they are just by looking at them (i.e. 'Have you look pretty relaxed, I'm going to say you are a 4'). After you have said what number you think a student is they are to either tell you that you got it right, or correct you and let you know what number they actually are at. Once a student has had their go they can sit back down.
Follow up: If a student indicates that they are a 1 or a 2 ask them 'What do you need? And how can I help?'
- 2. Express**
Explain to students that you have a lot to get through this lesson, but you would like to check in with them to see where they are at, and if there is anything you can do to help them if they are a 1 or a 2. Ask students to raise their hand if they are a 1 or 2.
Follow up: If a student indicates that they are a 1 or a 2 ask them 'What do you need? And how can I help?'
- 3. 5 Faces on desk**
On each student's desk attach either a 5 Faces sticker or a laminated visual of the 5 Faces. Provide each student with a 'counter'. At the beginning of each lesson students are to move their counter to the face they are currently at. Students can move their counter throughout the day when how they are feeling changes.
Follow up: If a student indicates that they are a 1 or a 2 ask them 'What do you need? And how can I help?'
- 4. Clapping your number**
Invite to students clapping to show what number you are (i.e. 4 claps = you are a 4). Go around the class and have students clap to show what number they currently are.
Follow up: If a student indicates that they are a 1 or a 2 ask them 'What do you need? And how can I help?'
- 5. 5 Faces on wall**
Place 5 Faces visuals on wall near front of classroom. As students enter have them place their own 'counter' (laminated image etc.) on the face they are currently at. If student's mood changes throughout the day they can move their counter to show how they are feeling.
Follow up: If a student indicates that they are a 1 or a 2 ask them 'What do you need? And how can I help?'
- 6. 5 Faces Charades**
Invite to students acting out what number you are 'charades' style (i.e. guessing and giving the thumbs up to say you are at a 5). Have students take turns acting out what number they are at so you're to guess.
Follow up: For students who identified as being either a 1 or a 2, ask 'What do you need? And how can I do to help?'
- 7. Vote with your feet**
Designate an area of the room for each of the 5 Faces. Have students walk to the part of the classroom that corresponds with which Face they currently are.
Follow up: Ask the students who identify as feeling a 1 as a group 'What do you need? And is there something you can do to help? Repeat the process for the 2's, 3's, 4's and 5's, ask what each team to need this way, and what can be done to help keep them feeling this way?'
- 8. Heads down, hands up**
Explain to students that sometimes you may not want to share how you are feeling with an entire group of people, and that's okay. Have students put their head down on the desk 'heads down, hands up' style, and keep up with their hand what number they are right now. Take note of students who are at a 1 or a 2.
Follow up: Once the class is running walk around the room to touch base with students who identified as being either a 1 or a 2, ask 'What do you need? And how can I do to help?'
- 9. 5 Faces cut-outs**
Place at the front of the classroom a bookcase with cut-outs of each of the 5 Faces. Students are to take a cut-out of the number they are currently at. If a student's mood changes during the lesson, they can return their current face and take a new one.
Follow up: Once the class is running walk around the room to touch base with students who identified as being either a 1 or a 2, ask 'What do you need? And how can I do to help?'

Daily Debrief

A Daily Debrief is scheduled after 2nd Break eating time. This is a brief opportunity (approximately 5 minutes) to debrief, provide positive reinforcement and resolve any issues that may have arisen during the break. Daily Debrief locations are to be determined in consultation with your Sector Admin Representative. All classroom teachers are to attend and play an active role. The following general format applies:

DAILY DEBRIEF PROCESS

- Were there any issues or concerns during 2nd break (or earlier today) that need to be shared/ or that students need help with?
- Who saw/ noticed a student/s demonstrating our Focus of the Week ? Who?
- Who saw/ noticed students demonstrating a different Kurwongbah value? Acknowledge.
- Teachers/ students write a minimum 3 x Top Kurwongbah Kid slips, announce them and place them in a collection box. Teachers should make a specific reference to the focus school value/ PBL Lesson of the Week topic.

PBL Expectations

Our staff are committed to delivering a high quality of education for every student, and believe all adults in the school, whether visiting or working, should meet the same five Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) expectations, our school values, in place for students, being Caring, Honesty, Respect, Resilience and Excellence.

Students

Below are examples of what these PBL expectations look like for students across the school. In addition, each classroom will have their own set of examples to help students and visitors understand the expectations and meet the standards we hold for everyone at Kurwongbah State School.

Caring

- I use friendly words and actions only.
- I use good manners (please, thank you).
- I care for the school environment.
- I am considerate of others in the school.

Honesty

- I always tell the truth.
- I own my own behaviour.
- I accept the consequences of my actions / choices.

Respect

- I wear my school uniform.
- I walk through the school safely and quietly.
- I treat others with respect.
- I follow adult directions promptly.
- I am a positive role model.

Resilience

- I follow and use the High Five.
- I bounce back when things are difficult or challenging.
- I have a go at learning tasks.
- I learn from my mistakes.

Excellence

- I work towards achieving my goals.
- I always try my best.

Parents and staff

The table below explains the PBL expectations for parents when visiting our school and the standards we commit to as staff.

Caring

<i>What we expect to see from you</i>	<i>What you can expect from us</i>
You seek out opportunities to provide positive feedback to the classroom teacher about their work with the class, a student or colleagues.	We will work closely with families to accommodate their personal needs, including work commitments, finances and family structure.
You help your child to see the strengths and benefits in diversity and difference in their classmates.	We will promote every child's individuality and build a cohesive, inclusive classroom and school culture.
You notice when others need help, parents, staff and students, and ask if there is anything you do to assist.	We will check in with you about your child's needs or any support your family may require.

Honesty

<i>What we expect to see from you</i>	<i>What you can expect from us</i>
You share relevant information about your child's learning, social and behavioural needs with school staff.	We will share relevant information with you about your child's learning, social and behavioural progress at school.
You take a positive, solution-focused approach to resolving complaints.	We will nominate a contact person for you to work with to resolve a school related complaint.
You respect school, student and staff privacy in your online communications.	We will act quickly to address social media issues that affect staff, students or families.

Respect

<i>What we expect to see from you</i>	<i>What you can expect from us</i>
You make an appointment to speak with the class teacher or principal to discuss any matters relating to your child.	We will respond as soon as practicable to your request for an appointment and negotiate a mutually agreeable date and time with you.
You are respectful in your conversations at home about school staff.	We will ensure positive behaviours are role modelled for all students.

You approach the class teacher or principal if you are concerned about the behaviour of a staff member, another student or parent.	We will work with every family to quickly address any complaints or concerns about the behaviour of staff, students or other parents.
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Resilience

<i>What we expect to see from you</i>	<i>What you can expect from us</i>
You support your child to meet the learning and behavioural expectations at school.	We are clear about our learning and behavioural expectations, and contact you to provide regular feedback about your child's progress.
You stay informed about school news and activities by reading the school newsletter and other materials sent home by school staff.	We will use the electronic school newsletter as the primary means of notifying parents about school news, excursions or events.

Excellence

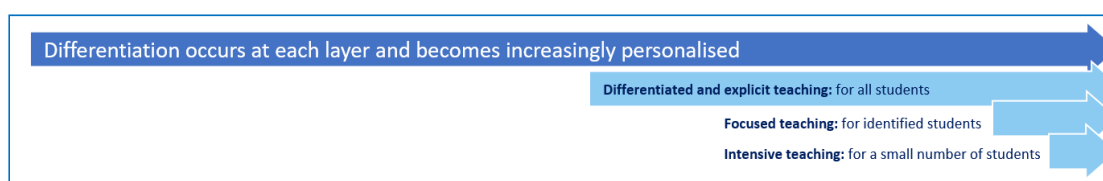
<i>What we expect to see from you</i>	<i>What you can expect from us</i>
You respect the obligation of staff to maintain student and family privacy.	We will maintain confidentiality about information relating to your child and family.
You ensure your children attend school every day and notify the school promptly of any absences or changes in contact details.	We will create a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for every student.
You recognise people are different and will be non-judgemental, fair and equitable to others in the school community.	We will welcome and celebrate a diverse school community with recognition of significant social, cultural and historical events.

Differentiated and Explicit Teaching

Kurwongbah State School is a disciplined school environment that provides differentiated teaching to respond to the learning needs of all students. This involves teaching expected behaviours and providing opportunities for students to practise these behaviours. Teachers reinforce expected behaviours, provide feedback and correction, and opportunities for practise.

Teachers at Kurwongbah State School vary what students are taught, how they are taught and how students can demonstrate what they know as part of this differentiated approach to behaviour. These decisions about differentiation are made in response to data and day-to-day monitoring that indicates the behavioural learning needs of students. This enables our teachers to purposefully plan a variety of ways to engage students; assist them to achieve the expected learning; and to demonstrate their learning.


There are three main layers to differentiation, as illustrated in the diagram below. This model is the same used for academic and pedagogical differentiation.



These three layers map directly to the tiered approach discussed earlier in the Learning and Behaviour section. For example, in the PBL framework, Tier 1 is differentiated and explicit teaching for all students, Tier 2 is focussed teaching for identified students and Tier 3 is intensive teaching for a small number of students. Each layer provides progressively more personalised supports for students.

Every classroom in our school uses the PBL Expectations Matrix, illustrated below, as a basis for developing their behaviour standards. Using this matrix, the class teacher works with all students to explain exactly what each of the expectations look, sound and feel like in their classroom. The completed matrix is on display in every classroom, used as the basis of teaching expectations throughout the year and revisited regularly to address any new or emerging issues.

Kurwongbah Schoolwide Expectations Matrix S2.2023

EXPECTATION	ALL SETTINGS	CLASSROOM SPACES (Direct Teaching Zones)	NON-CLASSROOM SPACES		
		TEACHING SPACES	PLAY AREAS (including hall)	TOILETS	WALKWAYS & EATING AREAS
<u>We are RESPECTFUL when</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> follow adult directions promptly respect school property are on time (Right Time, Right Place) wear our school uniform move through the school safely use equipment safely and correctly we wait for our turn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we respect the right of adults to teach (Right Job) we take turns to speak we allow others to learn we respect the ideas of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we play in the correct areas at the correct times wait safely for my teacher stop playing when the bell rings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we keep the area clean we use the toilets appropriately we respect others' privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we use the bins provided we follow adult directions we walk safely
<u>We are HONEST when</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we tell the truth we hand our mobile phones in to the office before school we understand there are consequences for my actions we follow the rules of games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we do our own work we use our own equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we follow the rules of games we report incidents to staff members promptly 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we eat our own food
<u>We are CARING when</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we look after property we care for the school environment we use kind words and kind actions we consider others' feelings we encourage others to.....? 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we take turns we ask others to play & join in we are sun safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we are quiet in the toilet we keep food/ drink out of the toilets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we walk safely
<u>We are RESILIENT when</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we use the High Five we wait our turn we persist when things are difficult we ask for help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we manage our emotions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we play fairly and safely we use kind words and actions 		
<u>We strive for EXCELLENCE when</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we try our best we work towards achieving our goals we learn from our mistakes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> we take pride in our learning 			

Focused Teaching

Approximately 15% of all students in any school or classroom may require additional support to meet behaviour expectations, even after being provided with differentiated and explicit teaching. These students may have difficulty meeting behavioural expectations in a particular period of the day or as part of a learning area/subject, and focused teaching is provided to help them achieve success.

Focused teaching involves revisiting key behavioural concepts and/or skills and using explicit and structured teaching strategies in particular aspects of a behaviour skill. Focused teaching provides students with more opportunities to practise skills and multiple opportunities to achieve the intended learning and expected behaviour.

Support staff, including teachers with specialist expertise in learning, language or development, work collaboratively with class teachers at Kurwongbah State School to provide focused teaching. Focused teaching is aligned to the PBL Expectations Matrix, and student progress is monitored by the classroom teacher/s to identify those who:

- no longer require the additional support
- require ongoing focussed teaching
- require intensive teaching.

Kurwongbah State School has a range of Student Support Network staff in place to help arrange and deliver focused teaching to students who need more support to meet expectations.

Intensive Teaching

Research evidence shows that even in an effective, well-functioning school there will always be approximately 5% of the student population who require intensive teaching to achieve behavioural expectations. Intensive teaching involves frequent and explicit instruction, with individuals or in small groups, to develop mastery of basic behavioural concepts, skills and knowledge.

Some students may require intensive teaching for a short period, for particular behaviour skills. Other students may require intensive teaching for a more prolonged period. Decisions about the approach will be made based on data collected from their teacher or teachers, and following consultation with the student's family.

For a small number of students who continue to display behaviours that are deemed complex and challenging, then individualised, function-based behaviour assessment and support plans and multi-agency collaboration may be provided to support the student. This approach will seek to address the acute impact of barriers to learning and participation faced by students who are negotiating a number of complex personal issues.

Legislative Delegations

Legislation

In this section of the Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct are links to legislation which influences form and content of Queensland state school discipline procedures.

- [Anti-Discrimination Act 1991 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Child Protection Act 1999 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#)
- [Commonwealth Disability Standards for Education 2005](#)
- [Criminal Code Act 1899 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Regulation 2017](#)
- [Human Rights Act 2019 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Information Privacy Act 2009 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Judicial Review Act 1991 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Right to Information Act 2009 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011 \(Qld\)](#)
- [Workplace Health and Safety Regulation 2011 \(Cwth\)](#)

Delegations

Under the Education (General Provisions) Act 2006, state school principals are responsible for “controlling and regulating student discipline in the school”. Principals are afforded a number of **non-delegable powers** to assist them to meet this obligation, including the authority to suspend, exclude or cancel the enrolment of a student at the school. These decision-making responsibilities cannot be delegated to other staff in the school, such as deputy principals.

The details of these responsibilities are outlined in the legislative instruments of delegation and instruments of authorisation provided below:

- [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 Director-General's delegations](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 Minister's delegations](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Act 2006 Director-General's authorisations](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Regulation 2006 Minister's delegations](#)
- [Education \(General Provisions\) Regulation 2017 Director-General's delegations](#)

Disciplinary Consequences

The disciplinary consequences model used at Kurwongbah State School follows the same differentiated approach used in the proactive teaching and support of student behavioural expectations. The majority of students will be confident and capable of meeting established expectations that are clear, explicitly taught and practised. In-class corrective feedback, sanctions and rule reminders may be used by teachers to respond to low-level or minor problem behaviours.

Some students will need additional support, time and opportunities to practise expected behaviours. Approximately 15% of the student population may experience difficulty with meeting the stated expectations, and even with focussed teaching, in-class corrective feedback, sanctions and rule reminders continue to display low-level problem behaviour. A continued pattern of low-level behaviour can interfere with teaching and learning for the whole class, and a decision may be needed by the class teacher to refer the student to the school administration team immediately for determination of a disciplinary consequence.

For a small number of students, approximately 2-5%, a high level of differentiated support or intensive teaching is required to enable them to meet the behavioural expectations. This may be needed throughout the school year on a continuous basis. The determination of the need will be made by the principal and / or Deputy Principals in consultation with staff and other relevant stakeholders. On occasion the behaviour of a student may be so serious, such as causing harm to other students or to staff, that the principal may determine that an out of school suspension or exclusion is necessary as a consequence for the student's behaviour. Usually, this course of action is only taken when the behaviour is either so serious as to warrant immediate removal of the student for the safety of others, and no other alternative discipline strategy is considered sufficient to deal with the problem behaviour.

The differentiated responses to problem behaviour can be organised into three tiers, with increasing intensity of support and consequences to address behaviour that endangers others or causes major, ongoing interference with class or school operations.

Differentiated

Class teacher provides in-class or in-school disciplinary responses to low-level or minor problem behaviour. This may include:

- Pre-correction (e.g. "Remember, walk quietly to your seat")
- Non-verbal and visual cues (e.g. posters, hand gestures)
- Whole class practising of routines
- Ratio of 5 positive to 1 negative commentary or feedback to class
- Corrective feedback (e.g. "Hand up when you want to ask a question")
- Rule reminders (e.g. "When the bell goes, stay seated until I dismiss you")
- Explicit behavioural instructions (e.g. "Pick up your pencil")
- Tactical ignoring of inappropriate behaviour (not student)
- Revised seating plan and relocation of student/s
- Individual positive reinforcement for appropriate behaviour
- Reminders of incentives or class goals
- Redirection
- Low voice and tone for individual instructions
- Give 30 second 'take-up' time for student/s to process instruction/s
- Reduce verbal language
- Break down tasks into smaller chunks
- Provide positive choice of task order (e.g. "Which one do you want to start with?")
- Prompt student to take a break or time away in class
- Model appropriate language, problem solving and verbalise thinking process (e.g. "I'm not sure what is the next step, who can help me?")
- Provide demonstration of expected behaviour
- Peer consequence (e.g. corrective feedback to influential peer demonstrating same problem behaviour)
- Private discussion with student about expected behaviour
- Warning of more serious consequences (e.g. removal from classroom)

Focussed

Class teacher is supported by other school-based staff to address in-class problem behaviour. This may include:

- Functional Behaviour Assessment
- Individual student behaviour support strategies
- Targeted skills teaching in small group
- Token economy
- Behavioural contract
- Counselling and guidance support
- Self-monitoring plan
- Check in Check Out strategy
- Teacher coaching and debriefing
- Stakeholder meeting with parents and external agencies

Reset Room

Purpose: A space that provides opportunity for calming, reflection and re-engagement into learning.

A student may be required to access the reset room if they have chosen not to engage in classroom routines after redirection and support from the classroom teacher. While in the reset room the student will work with a member of the Student Wellbeing and Engagement Team to:

- Reflect on their behaviour choices.
- Complete work that wasn't completed in the classroom.

Students will return to their classroom once they are ready to re-engage with the learning processes.

Intensive

School leadership team work in consultation with Student Support Network to address persistent or ongoing serious problem behaviour. This may include:

- Functional Behaviour Assessment based individual support plan
- Complex case management and review
- Stakeholder meeting with parents and external agencies including regional specialists
- Temporary removal of student property (e.g. mobile phone)
- Short term suspension (up to 10 school days)
- Long term suspension (up to 20 school days)
- Charge related suspension
- Suspension pending exclusion
- Exclusion (student is excluded from a particular state school site, a group of state schools or all state schools in Queensland for a defined period of time or permanently)
- Cancellation of enrolment for students older than compulsory school age who refuse to participate in the educational program provided at the school.

School Disciplinary Absences

A School Disciplinary Absence (SDA) is an enforced period of absence from attending a Queensland state school, applied by the Principal as a consequence to address poor student behaviour. There are four types of SDA:

- Short suspension (1 to 10 school days)
- Long suspension (11 to 20 school days)
- Charge-related suspension
- Exclusion (period of not more than one year or permanently).

At Kurwongbah State School, the use of any SDA is considered a very serious decision. It is typically only used by the Principal when other options have been exhausted or the student's behaviour is so dangerous that continued attendance at the school is considered a risk to the safety or wellbeing of the school community.

Parents and students may appeal a long suspension, charge-related suspension or exclusion decision. A review will be conducted by the Director-General or their delegate, and a decision made within 40 school days to confirm, amend/vary or set aside the original SDA decision by the Principal.

The appeal process is a thorough review of all documentation associated with the SDA decision and provides an opportunity for both the school and the family to present their case in the matter. Time is afforded for collection, dissemination and response to the materials by both the school and the family. It is important that the purpose of the appeal is understood so that expectations are clear, and appropriate supports are in place to ensure students can continue to access their education while completing their SDA.

Re-entry following suspension

Students who are suspended from Kurwongbah State School may be invited to attend a re-entry meeting on the day of their scheduled return to school. The main purpose of this meeting is to welcome the student, with their parent/s, back to the school. It is **not a time** to review the student's behaviour or the decision to suspend, the student has already received a punishment through their disciplinary absence from school. The aim of the re-entry meeting is for school staff to set the student up for future success and strengthen home-school communication.

It is not mandatory for the student or their parents to attend a re-entry meeting. It may be offered as a support for the student to assist in their successful re-engagement in school following suspension.

Arrangements

The invitation to attend the re-entry meeting will be communicated via telephone and in writing, usually via email. Re-entry meetings are short, taking less than 10 minutes, and kept small with only the Principal or their delegate attending with the student and their parent/s.

A record of the meeting is saved in OneSchool, under the Contact tab, including any notes or discussions occurring during the meeting.

Structure

The structure of the re-meeting should follow a set agenda, shared in advance with the student and their family. If additional items are raised for discussion, a separate arrangement should be made to meet with the parent/s at a later date and time. This meeting should be narrowly focussed on making the student and their family feel welcome back into the school community.

Possible agenda:

- Welcome back to school
- Check in on student wellbeing
- Discuss any recent changes to school routine or staffing
- Offer information about supports available (e.g. guidance officer)
- Set a date for follow-up
- Thank student and parent/s for attending
- Walk with student to classroom

Reasonable adjustments

In planning the re-entry meeting, school staff will consider reasonable adjustments needed to support the attendance and engagement of the student. This includes selecting an appropriate and accessible meeting space, organising translation or interpretation services or supports (e.g. AUSLAN), provision of written and/or pictorial information and other relevant accommodations. The inclusion of support staff, such as guidance officer or HODL, may also offer important advice to ensure a successful outcome to the re-entry meeting.

School Policies

Kurwongbah State School has tailored school discipline policies designed to ensure students, staff and visitors work cooperatively to create and maintain a supportive and safe learning environment. Please ensure that you familiarise yourself with the responsibilities for students, staff and visitors outlined in the following policies:

- Temporary removal of student property
- Use of mobile phones and other devices by students
- Preventing and responding to bullying
- Appropriate use of social media

Temporary removal of student property

The removal of any property in a student's possession may be necessary to promote the caring, safe and supportive learning environment of the school, to maintain and foster mutual respect between all state school staff and students. The **Temporary removal of student property by school staff procedure** outlines the processes, conditions and responsibilities for state school principals and school staff when temporarily removing student property.

In determining what constitutes a reasonable time to retain student property, the principal or state school staff will consider:

- the condition, nature or value of the property
- the circumstances in which the property was removed
- the safety of the student from whom the property was removed, other students or staff members
- good management, administration and control of the school.

The Principal or state school staff determine when the temporarily removed student property can be returned, unless the property has been handed to the Queensland Police Service. The following items are explicitly prohibited at Kurwongbah State School and will be removed if found in a student's possession:

- illegal items or weapons (e.g. guns, knives*, throwing stars, brass knuckles, chains)
- imitation guns or weapons
- potentially dangerous items (e.g. blades, rope)
- drugs** (including tobacco)
- alcohol
- aerosol deodorants or cans (including spray paint)
- explosives (e.g. fireworks, flares, sparklers)
- flammable solids or liquids (e.g. fire starters, mothballs, lighters)
- poisons (e.g. weed killer, insecticides)
- inappropriate or offensive material (e.g. racist literature, pornography, extremist propaganda).

* No knives of any type are allowed at school, including flick knives, ballistic knives, sheath knives, push daggers, trench knives, butterfly knives, star knives, butter knives, fruit knives or craft knives, or any item that can be used as a weapon, for example a chisel. Knives needed for school activities will be provided by the school, and the use of them will be supervised by school staff. In circumstances where students are required to have their own knives or sharp tools for particular subjects or vocational courses, the school will provide information about the procedures for carrying and storing these items at school.

** The administration of medications to students by school staff is only considered when a prescribing health practitioner has determined that it is necessary or when there is no other alternative in relation to the treatment of a specific health need. Schools require medical authorisation to administer any medication to students (**including over-the-counter medications such as paracetamol or alternative medicines**).

Responsibilities

State school staff at Kurwongbah State School:

- do not require the student's consent to search school property such as desks or laptops that are supplied to the student through the school;
- may seize a student's bag where there is suspicion that the student has a dangerous item (for example, a knife) in their school bag, prior to seeking consent to search from a parent or calling the police;
- consent from the student or parent is required to examine or otherwise deal with the temporarily removed student property. For example, staff who temporarily remove a mobile phone from a student are not authorised to unlock the phone or to read, copy or delete messages stored on the phone;
- there may, however, be emergency circumstances where it is necessary to search a student's property without the student's consent or the consent of the student's parents (e.g. to access an EpiPen for an anaphylactic emergency);
- consent from the student or parent is required to search the person of a student (e.g. pockets or shoes). If consent is not provided and a search is considered necessary, the police and the student's parents should be called to make such a determination.

Parents of students at Kurwongbah State School

- ensure your children do not bring property onto school grounds or other settings used by the school (e.g. camp, sporting venues) that:
 - is prohibited according to the Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct
 - is illegal
 - puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk
 - does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment
 - does not maintain and foster mutual respect;
- collect temporarily removed student property as soon as possible after they have been notified by the Principal or state school staff that the property is available for collection.

Students of Kurwongbah State School

- do not bring property onto school grounds or other settings used by the school (e.g. camp, sporting venues) that:
 - is prohibited according to the Kurwongbah State School Code of Conduct
 - is illegal
 - puts the safety or wellbeing of others at risk
 - does not preserve a caring, safe, supportive or productive learning environment
 - does not maintain and foster mutual respect;
- collect their property as soon as possible when advised by the principal or state school staff it is available for collection.

Student use of mobile devices

Kurwongbah State School's Student use of mobile devices procedure is based on the Department of Education's [Student use of mobile devices procedure](#).

Digital literacy refers to the skills needed to live, learn and work in a society where communication and access to information is dominated by digital technologies like mobile phones. However, the benefits brought about through these diverse technologies can be easily overshadowed by deliberate misuse which harms others or disrupts learning.

In consultation with the broader school community, Kurwongbah State School has determined that explicit teaching of responsible use of mobile phones and other devices is a critical component of digital literacy. The knowledge and confidence to navigate and use these technologies safely while developing digital literacy is a responsibility shared between parents, school staff and students.

It is also agreed that time and space should be provided at school where technology is not permitted, and students are encouraged to engage in other social learning and development activities.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities for students using mobile phones or other devices at school or during school activities, are outlined below.

Mobile phones should not be brought to school. In the event parents perceive there may be an emergent situation requiring the use of a mobile phone after school, then the mobile phone must be presented at the office immediately upon arrival at school and collected at 3pm. Students are not to use mobile phones in the school grounds. Watches with phone and camera capability are also covered under this procedure as they pose the same risk to students as a mobile phone.

It is **unacceptable** for students at Kurwongbah State School to:

- use a mobile phone or other devices in an unlawful manner
- use a mobile phone in technology-free designated spaces or times
- download, distribute or publish offensive messages or pictures
- use obscene, inflammatory, racist, discriminatory or derogatory language
- use language and/or threats of violence that may amount to bullying and/or harassment, or even stalking
- insult, harass or attack others or use obscene or abusive language
- deliberately waste printing and internet resources
- damage computers, printers or network equipment
- commit plagiarism or violate copyright laws
- ignore teacher directions for the use of social media, online email and internet chat
- send chain letters or spam email (junk mail)
- knowingly download viruses or any other programs capable of breaching the department's network security
- use in-phone cameras anywhere a normal camera would be considered inappropriate, such as in change rooms or toilets
- invade someone's privacy by recording personal conversations or daily activities and/or the further distribution (e.g. forwarding, texting, uploading, Bluetooth use etc.) of such material
- use a mobile phone (including those with Bluetooth functionality) to cheat during assessments
- take into or use mobile devices during class assessment unless expressly permitted by school staff.
- access cellular capabilities via any smart device during the school day

At all times students, while using ICT facilities and devices supplied by the school, will be required to act in line with the requirements of the Kurwongbah State School Student Code of Conduct. In addition, students and their parents should:

- understand the responsibility and behaviour requirements (as outlined by the school) that come with accessing the department's ICT network facilities
- ensure they have the skills to report and discontinue access to harmful information if presented via the internet or email
- be aware that:
 - access to ICT facilities and devices provides valuable learning experiences for students and supports the school's teaching and learning programs
 - the school is not responsible for safeguarding information stored by students on departmentally-owned student computers or mobile devices
 - schools may remotely access departmentally-owned student computers or mobile devices for management purposes
 - students who use a school's ICT facilities and devices in a manner that is not appropriate may be subject to disciplinary action by the school, which could include restricting network access

- despite internal departmental controls to manage content on the internet, illegal, dangerous or offensive information may be accessed or accidentally displayed
- teachers will always exercise their duty of care, but avoiding or reducing access to harmful information also requires responsible use by the student.

Preventing and responding to bullying

Kurwongbah State School uses the [Australian Student Wellbeing Framework](#) to promote positive relationships and the wellbeing of all students, staff and visitors at the school.

Our staff know student learning is optimised when they feel connected to others and experience safe and trusting relationships. Students who feel secure are more likely to be active participants in their learning and to achieve better physical, emotional, social and educational outcomes. Teachers who feel valued and supported are more likely to engage positively with students and build stronger connections within the school community. Parents who are positively engaged with their child's education leads to improved student self-esteem, attendance and behaviour at school. Enhancing the wellbeing of students and their educators delivers overall long-term social, health and economic benefits to the Australian community.



- 1. Leadership**
Principals and school leaders playing an active role in building a positive learning environment where the whole school community feels included, connected, safe and respected.
- 2. Inclusion**
All members of the school community actively participating in building a welcoming school culture that values diversity, and fosters positive, respectful relationships.
- 3. Student voice**
Students actively participate in their own learning and wellbeing, feel connected and use their social and emotional skills to be respectful, resilient and safe.
- 4. Partnerships**
Families and communities collaborating as partners with the school to support student learning, safety and wellbeing.
- 5. Support**
School staff, students and families sharing and cultivating an understanding of wellbeing and positive behaviour and how this supports effective teaching and learning.

Bullying

The agreed national definition for Australian schools describes bullying as: the ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Bullying of any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

However, these conflicts are still considered serious and need to be addressed and resolved. At Kurwongbah State School our staff will work to quickly respond to any matters raised of this nature in collaboration with students and parents.

The following flowchart explains the actions Kurwongbah State School teachers will take when they receive a report about student bullying, including bullying which may have occurred online or outside of the school setting. Please note that the indicative timeframes will vary depending on the professional judgment of teachers who receive the bullying complaint and their assessment of immediate risk to student/s.

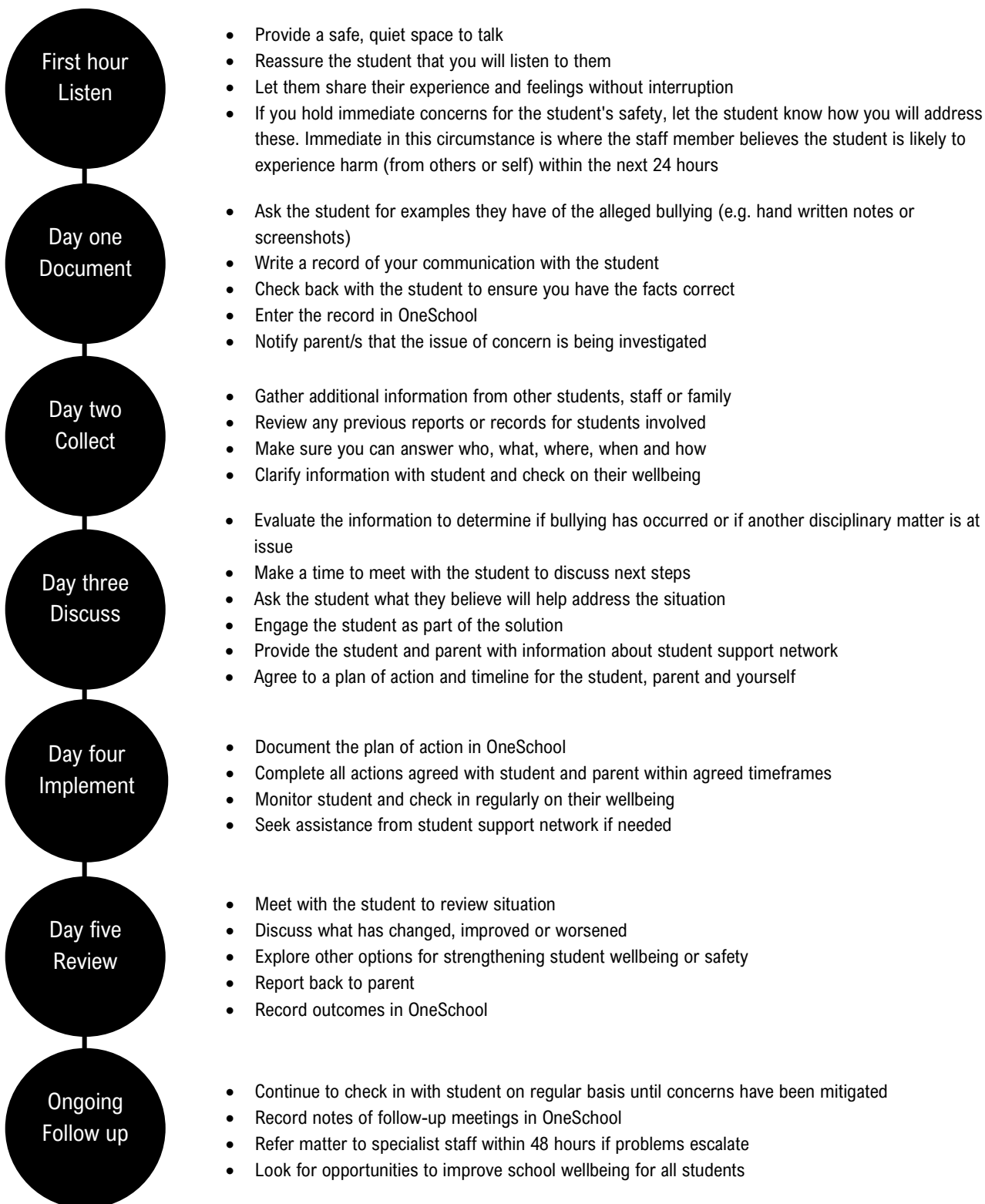
Kurwongbah State School - Bullying response flowchart for teachers

Please note these timelines may be adjusted depending on the unique circumstances and risk associated with each situation. This is at the professional judgment of the staff involved. Timeframes should be clearly discussed and agreed with student and family.

Key contacts for students and parents to report bullying:

Prep to Year 6 – Class teacher

School Administration – 3481 4333



Cyberbullying

Cyberbullying is treated at Kurwongbah State School with the same level of seriousness as in-person bullying. The major difference with cyberbullying however, is that unlike in-person bullying, cyberbullying follows students into their community, their homes and their bedrooms, giving them no opportunity to escape the harassment or abuse during the evening, weekends or holidays.

In the first instance, students or parents who wish to make a report about cyberbullying should approach the regular class teacher.

It is important for students, parents and staff to know that state school principals have the authority to take disciplinary action to address student behaviours that occur outside of school hours or school grounds. This includes cyberbullying. Parents and students who have concerns about cyberbullying incidents occurring during school holidays should immediately seek assistance through the [Office of the e-Safety Commissioner](#) or the Queensland Police Service.

Students enrolled at Kurwongbah State School may face in-school disciplinary action, such as detention or removing of privileges, or more serious consequences such as suspension or exclusion from school for engaging in behaviour that adversely affects, or is likely to adversely affect, other students or the good order and management of the school. This includes behaviour such as cyberbullying which occurs outside of school hours or settings, for example on the weekend or during school holidays. It also applies to inappropriate online behaviour of enrolled students that is directed towards other community members or students from other school sites.

Parents or other stakeholders who engage in inappropriate online behaviour towards students, staff or other parents may be referred to the Office of the e-Safety Commissioner and/or the Queensland Police Service. State school staff will be referred for investigation to the Integrity and Employee Relations team in the Department of Education. Any questions or concerns about the school process for managing or responding to cyberbullying should be directed to the Principal, Peter Davey.

Kurwongbah State School - Cyberbullying response flowchart for school staff

How to manage online incidents that impact your school

Student protection

If at any point the principal forms a reasonable suspicion that a student has been harmed or is at risk of harm, they have a responsibility to respond in accordance with the [Student protection procedure](#).

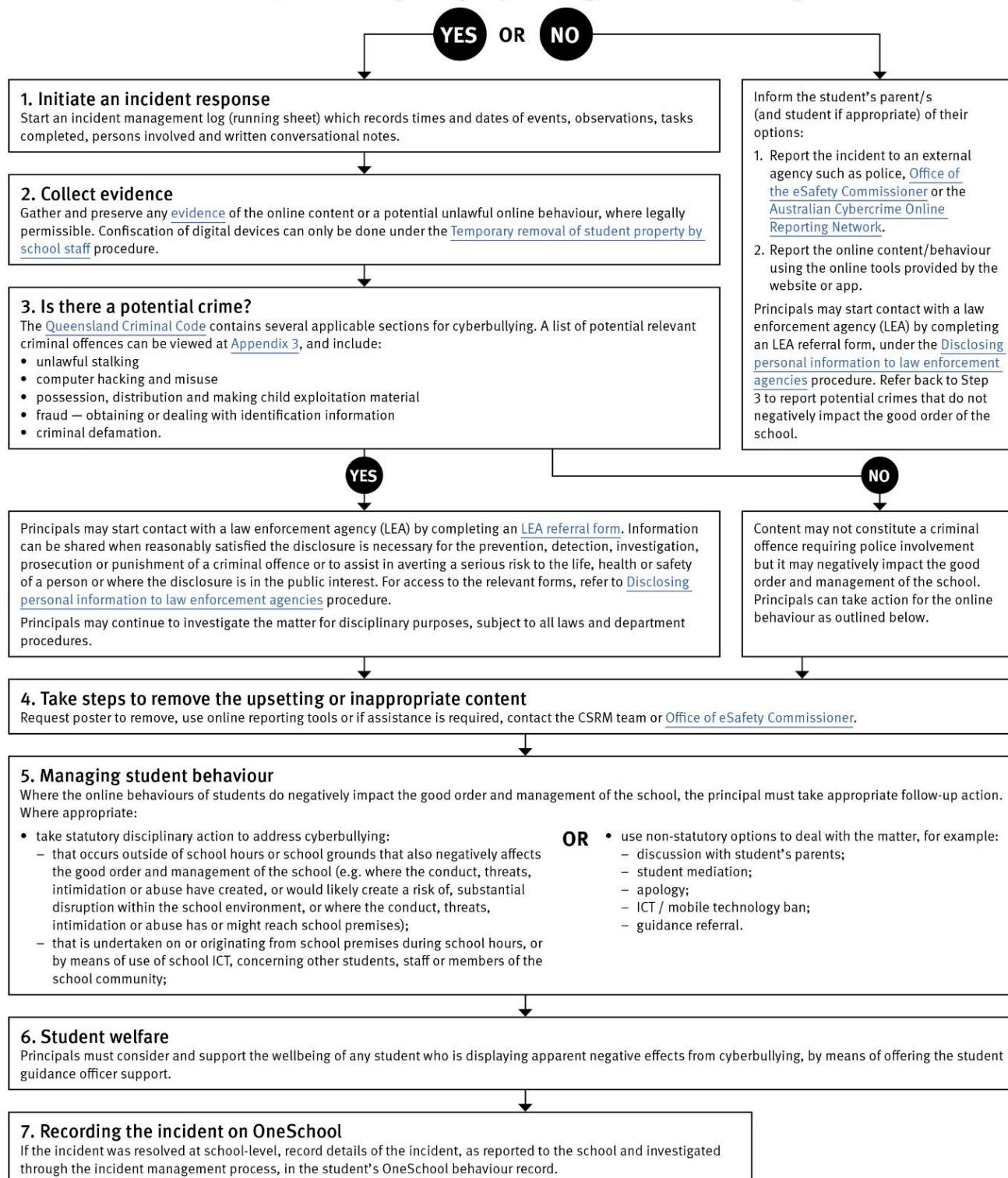
Explicit images

If the investigation involves naked or explicit images of children, staff should not save, copy, forward or otherwise deal with the content, as per the [Temporary removal of student property by school staff procedure](#). This includes onto OneSchool records. Refer to the [investigative process outlined in 'Responding to incidents involving naked or explicit images of children'](#) from the [Online Incident management guidelines](#).

Report

Refer to the [Online incident management guidelines](#) for more details, or if assistance is required, contact the Cybersecurity and Reputation Management (CSRM) team on 3034 5035 or Cybersafety.ReputationManagement@qed.qld.gov.au.

Does the online behaviour/incident **negatively impact the good order and management of the school?**



Cybersafety and Reputation Management (CRM)

The Department of Education employs a dedicated team of experts to assist in maintaining the integrity of the department's reputation with regards to cybersafety and reputation management issues, effectively leading the development and implementation of departmental cybersafety processes.

This team provides **direct support for schools** to respond to concerns of inappropriate online behaviour and misuse of information and communication technology.

The team provides a [guide for parents](#) with important information about cybersafety and cyberbullying, and suggestions about what you can do if your child is a target or responsible for inappropriate online behaviour.

The team has also developed a [Cyberbullying and reputation management](#) (Department employees only) resource to assist principals in incident management.

For more information about cybersafety sessions at your school, or for assistance with issues relating to online behaviour, contact the [team](#) (Department employees only).

Student Intervention and Support Services

Kurwongbah State School recognises the need to provide intervention and support to all students involved in incidents of bullying, including cyberbullying.

Students who have been subject or witness to bullying have access to a range of internal support staff, as identified in the Student Support Network section earlier in this document. Students are, however, also encouraged to approach any staff member with whom they feel comfortable sharing their concerns, regardless of their role in the school. All staff at Kurwongbah State School are familiar with the response expectations to reports of bullying, and will act quickly to ensure students' concerns are addressed. Depending on the nature of the reported bullying incident, a formal plan of action may be developed and documented to support the implementation of strategies to assist the student.

Students who engage in bullying behaviours towards others will also be provided with support to assist them to use more socially acceptable and appropriate behaviours in their interactions. This includes counselling, social development programs, referral to mental health services or involvement in a restorative justice strategy. School disciplinary measures may also be used to reinforce the seriousness with which the community takes all incidents of bullying. These measures may include internal school suspension, withdrawal from social events or celebrations or more severe punishments such as suspension or exclusion from school.

Kurwongbah State School – Anti-Bullying Compact

The Anti-Bullying Compact provides a clear outline of the way our community at Kurwongbah State School works together to establish a safe, supportive and disciplined school environment. This compact is provided to all students and their parents upon enrolment, and may be revisited with individual students if particular problems around bullying arise.

Kurwongbah State School – Anti Bullying Compact

We agree to work together to improve the quality of relationships in our community at Kurwongbah State School. It is through intentional consideration of our behaviour and communication that we can reduce the occurrence of bullying, and improve the quality of the schooling experience for everyone.

The agreed national definition for Australian schools describes bullying as

- ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm;
- involving an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening;
- happening in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records);
- having immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders. Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online, are not defined as bullying.

We believe that no one deserves to be mistreated and that everyone regardless of race, colour, religion, immigration status, nationality, size, gender, popularity, athletic capability, academic outcomes, social ability, or intelligence has the right to feel safe, secure, and respected.

I agree to:

- Treat everyone with kindness and respect.
- Abide by the school's anti-bullying policies and procedures.
- Support individuals who have been bullied.
- Speak out against verbal, relational, physical bullying and cyber bullying.
- Notify a parent, teacher, or school administrator when bullying does occur.

Student's signature

Parent's signature

School representative signature

Date

Appropriate use of social media

The internet, mobile phones and social media provide wonderful opportunities for students to network and socialise online. While these technologies provide positive platforms for sharing ideas, they also have the potential to cause pain and suffering to individuals, groups or even whole communities.

It's important to remember that sometimes negative comments posted about the school community have a greater impact than expected. This guide offers some information about how to use social media in relation to comments or posts about the school community. Reputations of students, teachers, schools, principals and even parents can be permanently damaged — and in some cases, serious instances of inappropriate online behaviour are dealt with by police and the court system.

Being aware of a few simple strategies can help keep the use of social media positive and constructive:

- Before you post something online, ask yourself if the community or individual really need to know. Is it relevant, positive and helpful?
- Remember that what you post online is a direct reflection of who you are. People will potentially form lasting opinions of you based on what you post online.
- Be a good role model. If things get heated online consider logging out and taking a few moments to relax and think. Hasty, emotive responses could inflame situations unnecessarily.
- Be mindful when commenting, try to keep general and avoid posting anything that could identify individuals.
- A few years ago parents may have discussed concerns or issues with their friends at the school gate. Today with the use of social media, online discussions between you and your close friends can very quickly be shared with a much wider audience, potentially far larger than intended.
- Taking a few moments to think about the content you are about to post could save upset, embarrassment, and possible legal action.
- As a parent you have a role in supervising and regulating your child's online activities at home and its impact on the reputation and privacy of others. Parents are their child's first teachers — so they will learn online behaviours from you.

Is it appropriate to comment or post about schools, staff or students?

Parental and community feedback is important for schools and the department. If you have a compliment, complaint or enquiry about an issue at school, the best approach is to speak directly to the school about the matter, rather than discussing it in a public forum.

While many schools use social media to update parents of school notices, the department prefers that parents contact schools directly with a compliment, complaint or enquiry due to privacy considerations. Imagine if your doctor, accountant or banking institution tried to contact you to discuss important matters via Facebook.

If you have raised an issue with a school or know that another person has, consider refraining from discussing those details on social media, particularly the names of anyone involved.

Keep comments calm and polite, just as you would over the telephone or by email. If you encounter negative or derogatory content online which involves the school, hinders a child's learning and/or affects the school community at large, contact the school principal.

Possible civil or criminal ramifications of online commentary

A serious instance of inappropriate online behaviour may constitute a criminal offence and become a police matter. For example, online content may substantiate the offence of 'using a carriage service to menace, harass or cause offence' (Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth) s. 474.17). School staff may contact their union or obtain personal legal advice if they feel that online content seriously impacts their reputation. Defamatory online content may give rise to litigation under the Defamation Act 2005 (Qld).

What about other people's privacy?

If you upload photos of your children, be mindful of who might be in the background. You might be happy to share your child's successes with your friends and family via social media, but some parents are not. If you are tagging or naming students, consider that other parents may not want their child's name attached to images online.

What if I encounter problem content?

Taking the following steps may help resolve the issue in a constructive way:

- refrain from responding
- take a screen capture or print a copy of the concerning online content
- if you consider problem content to be explicit, pornographic or exploitative of minors, you should keep a record of the URL of the page containing that content but NOT print or share it. The URL can be provided to the school principal, or police, as needed for escalation of serious concerns
- block the offending user
- report the content to the social media provider.

Restrictive Practices

School staff at Kurwongbah State School need to respond to student behaviour that presents a risk of physical harm to the student themselves or others. It is anticipated that most instances of risky behaviour can be de-escalated and resolved quickly. On some rarer occasions, a student's behaviour may continue to escalate and staff need to engage immediately with positive and proactive strategies aimed at supporting the student to manage their emotional arousal and behaviour.

In some very rare situations, where there is immediate risk of physical harm to the student or other people, and when all other alternative strategies have failed to reduce the risk, it may be necessary for staff to use restrictive practices.

The use of restrictive practices will always be as a last resort, when there is no other available option for reducing immediate risk to the student, staff or other people. Restrictive practices are not used for punishment or as a disciplinary measure.

The department's **Restrictive practices procedure** is written with consideration for the protection of everyone's human rights, health, safety and welfare. There are six fundamental principles:

1. Regard to the human rights of those students
2. Safeguards students, staff and others from harm
3. Ensures transparency and accountability
4. Places importance on communication and consultation with parents and carers
5. Maximises the opportunity for positive outcomes, and
6. Aims to reduce or eliminate the use of restrictive practices.

Very rarely restrictive practices will be planned and staff will employ, when necessary, pre-arranged strategies and methods (of physical restraint/ mechanical restraint/ clinical holding) which are based upon behaviour risk assessment or clinical health need and are recorded in advance. The use of planned strategies will only be where there is foreseeable immediate risk consistent with the **Restrictive practices procedure**.

Seclusion will not be used as a planned response and will only be used in serious circumstances for managing an unforeseeable situation in an emergency. It will be used for the shortest time possible and in a safe area that presents no additional foreseeable risk to the student. In such emergencies, a staff member will observe the student at all times and seclusion will cease as soon as possible.

Following the use of any restrictive practice, a focused review will help staff to understand how they responded to the risk in any incident that involved the use of a restrictive practice. Staff will consider whether there are other options for managing a similar situation in the future. This strategy works well for reducing the use of restrictive practices.

All incidents of restrictive practices will be recorded and reported in line with departmental procedures.

Critical Incidents

It is important that all school staff have a consistent understanding of how to respond in emergencies involving student behaviour that seriously endangers the student or others. This consistency ensures that appropriate actions are taken to ensure that both students and staff are kept safe.

A critical incident is defined as an occurrence that is sudden, urgent, and usually unexpected, or an occasion requiring immediate action (e.g. in the community, on the road). The aim in these situations is to bring the behaviour of the student under rapid and safe control. It is not a time to try and to punish or discipline the student; it is a crisis management period only.

Staff should follow the documented plan for any student involved in regular critical incidents, which should be saved and available for staff to review in OneSchool.

For unexpected critical incidents, staff should use basic defusing techniques:

1. **Avoid escalating the problem behaviour:** Avoid shouting, cornering the student, moving into the student's space, touching or grabbing the student, sudden responses, sarcasm, becoming defensive, communicating anger and frustration through body language.
2. **Maintain calmness, respect and detachment:** Model the behaviour you want students to adopt, stay calm and controlled, use a serious measured tone, choose your language carefully, avoid humiliating the student, be matter of fact and avoid responding emotionally.
3. **Approach the student in a non-threatening manner:** Move slowly and deliberately toward the problem situation, speak privately to the student/s where possible, speak calmly and respectfully, minimise body language, keep a reasonable distance, establish eye level position, be brief, stay with the agenda, acknowledge cooperation, withdraw if the situation escalates.
4. **Follow through:** If the student starts displaying the appropriate behaviour briefly acknowledge their choice and re-direct other students' attention towards their usual work/activity. If the student continues with the problem behaviour, then remind them of the expected school behaviour and identify consequences of continued unacceptable behaviour.
5. **Debrief:** At an appropriate time when there is low risk of re-escalation, help the student to identify the sequence of events that led to the unacceptable behaviour, pinpoint decision moments during the sequence of events, evaluate decisions made, and identify acceptable decision options for future situations.

Related Procedures and Guidelines

These are related procedures or guidelines which school staff use to inform decisions and actions around matters associated with students wellbeing, behaviour and learning.

- Cancellation of enrolment
- Complex case management
- Customer complaints management policy and procedure
- Disclosing personal information to law enforcement agencies
- Enrolment in state primary, secondary and special schools
- Hostile people on school premises, wilful disturbance and trespass
- Inclusive education
- Police and Child Safety Officer interviews and searches with students
- Restrictive practices
- Refusal to enrol – Risk to safety or wellbeing
- Student discipline
- Student dress code
- Student protection
- Supporting students' mental health and wellbeing
- Temporary removal of student property by school staff
- Use of ICT systems
- Using mobile devices

Resources

- [Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#)
- [Behaviour Foundations professional development package](#) (school employees only)
- [Bullying. No Way!](#)
- [eheadspace](#)
- [Kids Helpline](#)
- [Office of the eSafety Commissioner](#)
- [Parent and community engagement framework](#)
- [Parentline](#)
- [Queensland Department of Education School Discipline](#)
- [Raising Children Network](#)
- [Student Wellbeing Hub](#)

Conclusion

Kurwongbah State School staff are committed to ensuring every student is supported to feel safe, welcome and valued in our school. There may, however, be occasions where parents need to raise a concern or make a complaint about an issue you feel is adversely affecting their child's education.

All Queensland state schools are committed to ensuring that all complaints - whether they relate to a school staff member or a school's operations - are dealt with in a fair and equitable manner. As a parent or carer, you can express dissatisfaction with the service or action of the Department of Education or its staff, including decisions made or actions taken in a school and/or by the local regional office.

As a complainant, it is your responsibility to:

- give us a clear idea of the issue or concern and your desired solution
- provide all the relevant information when making the complaint
- understand that addressing a complaint can take time
- cooperate respectfully and understand that unreasonable, abusive, or disrespectful conduct will not be tolerated
- let us know if something changes, including if help is no longer needed.

The Department of Education may not proceed with your complaint if your conduct is unreasonable.

In most instances, staff members are told of complaints made about them and offered the right of reply. A complainant also has the right to have a support person throughout the process. The following three-step approach assists parents and school staff in reaching an outcome that is in the best interests of the student:

1. **Early resolution:** discuss your complaint with the school
The best place to raise any concerns is at the point where the problem or issue arose. You can make an appointment at the school to discuss your complaint with your child's teacher or the Principal or Deputy Principals. You are also welcome to lodge your complaint in writing or over the phone. You can also make a complaint through [QGov](#). Complaints may be lodged by telephone, writing or in electronic format. Email addresses can be accessed through the [schools directory](#).
2. **Internal review:** [contact the local Regional Office](#)
If, after taking the early resolution step, you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint or how the complaint was handled, you can ask the local [regional office](#) to conduct a review. You need to submit a [Request for internal review form](#) within 28 days of receiving the complaint outcome.
3. **External review:** contact a review authority
if you are dissatisfied after the internal review, you may wish to contact a review authority, such as the Queensland Ombudsman, and request an independent, external review. More information about external review options is available at www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au.

Some matters need to be handled in a different way to school matters and will be referred to other areas in the department. These include:

- issues about harm, or risk of harm, to a student attending a state school, which must be managed in accordance with the [Student protection procedure](#).
- complaints about corrupt conduct, public interest disclosures; or certain decisions made under legislation, which will be dealt with as outlined in the [Excluded complaints factsheet](#).