

WOOLOOWARE PUBLIC SCHOOL

A community school providing learning for life in a caring environment

Anti Bullying Plan

August 2010

Anti-Bullying Plan

Related DET Policies and Documents

- Anti-bullying Plan for Schools
- Student Welfare, Good Discipline and Effective Learning: Student Welfare Policy
- Suspension and Expulsion of School Students – Procedures
- Occupational Health and Safety Policy
- Protecting and Supporting Children and Young People: Revised Procedures
- Complaints Handling Policy
- Code of Conduct

Related School Policies and Documents

- Student Discipline Policy
- Procedures for the Supervision and Care of Students

Plan Statement

- Schools exist in a society where intimidation, harassment and victimization occur. Bullying at Woollooware Public School is taken seriously and is not acceptable in any form. Students have the right to expect that they will spend the school day free from the fear of bullying, harassment, intimidation and victimisation. The Woollooware Public School community, including teachers, students and parents, have a responsibility to work together to address bullying.

Definition of Bullying

An action by one or more persons against others with the intent to hurt either verbally, physically, socially or emotionally which results in a feeling of power over the victim.

Bullying behaviour can be:

- **verbal** e.g. name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- **physical** e.g. hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- **social** e.g. ignoring, excluding, ostracising, alienating, making inappropriate gestures
- **psychological** e.g. spreading rumours, dirty looks, hiding or damaging possessions, malicious SMS and email messages, inappropriate use of camera phones.

Statement of Purpose

Addressing bullying is a shared responsibility as it damages many people; the target, the victim, bystanders and families.

Rights	Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All members of the school community have the right to feel safe at school.• All members of the school community have a right to enjoy positive relationships that respect and accept individual differences and diversity.• Students have the right to know their concerns will be heard.• Students have the right to appropriate support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All members of the school community have a responsibility not to take part in bullying in any of its forms.• All members of the school community have the responsibility to inform the teachers, Executive staff and/or the Principal about any bullying situations of which they are aware.• All members of the school community have the responsibility to actively work together to solve bullying incidents.

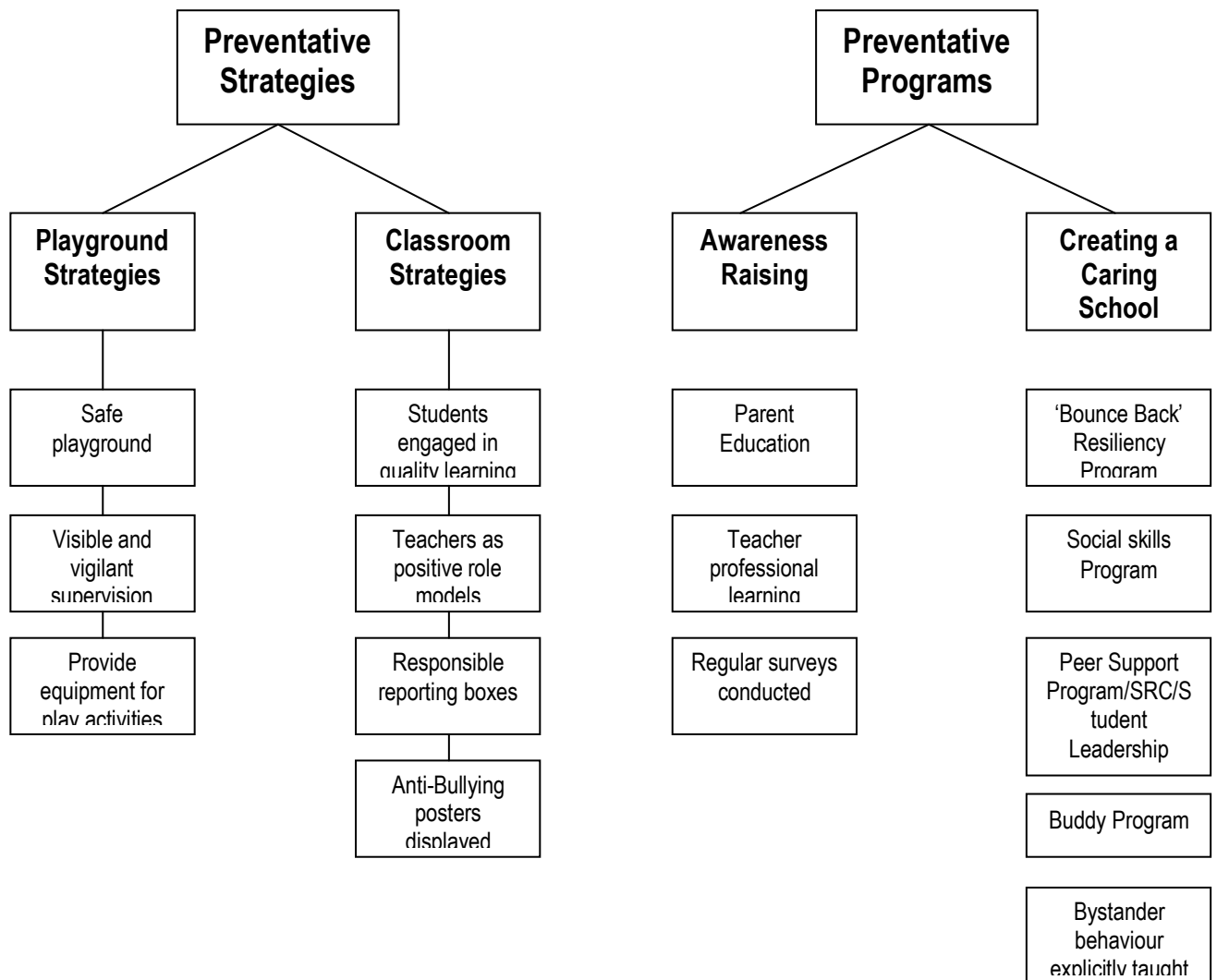
Identifying Bullying

Indicators for a possible victim

[NB these factors may have other explanations and therefore should be investigated carefully.]

- Sudden absences from school
- Unexplained changes in student's personality
- Student stops doing previously enjoyed activities
- Change in student's progress and levels of attainment
- Student becomes withdrawn
- Physical pains (real or unreal)
- Appearance of bruises or marks
- Wanting to be near an adult
- Nightmares
- Attention seeking
- Misbehaviour
- Parental concern.

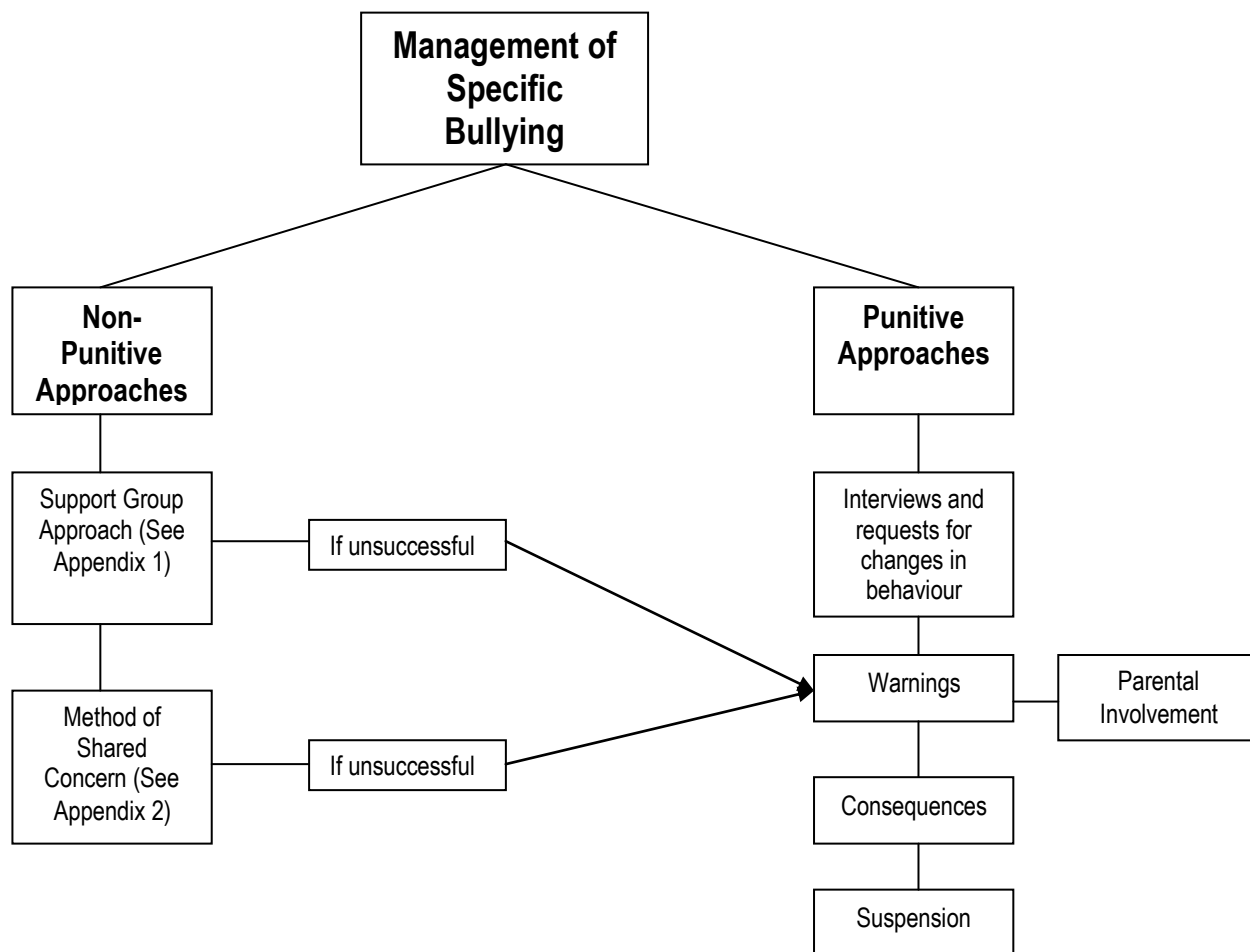
Strategies to Prevent and Minimise Bullying



Procedures for Reporting Bullying

- Report directly to teacher on playground or in the classroom.
- Report to parent/caregiver who then makes a report to the school.
- Report in the 'Responsible Reporting Box' located in all classrooms.
- Identification through teacher observation
- Bystanders to report to a teacher.

Strategies for Dealing With Incidents of Bullying

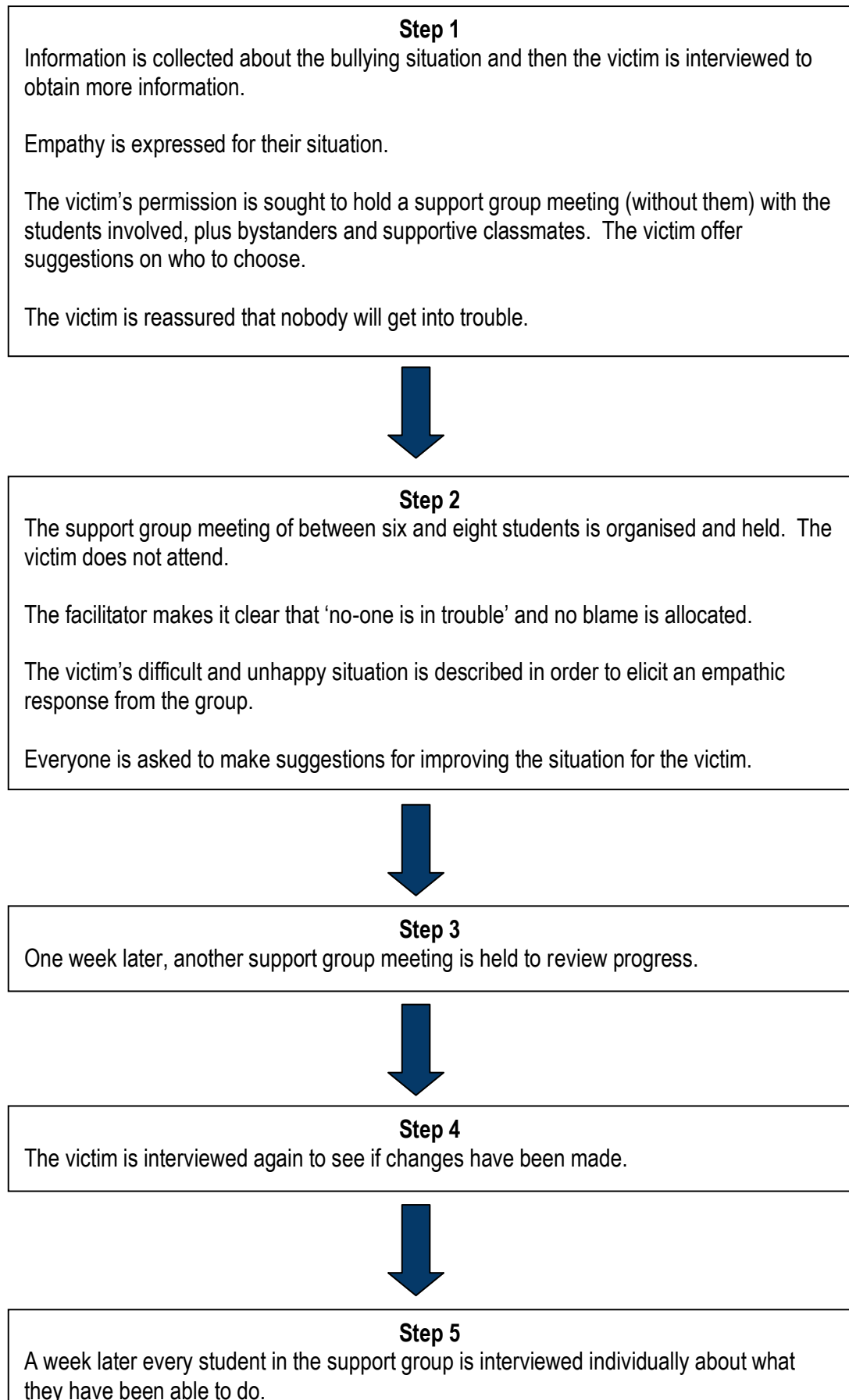


Monitoring and Evaluating the Plan

- Ongoing collection of data on prevalence of bullying incidents, reported incidents and the effectiveness of strategies in dealing with bullying incidents.
- Data used to provide feedback and to direct changes.
- Policy changes made as necessary and reported to staff students and parents.

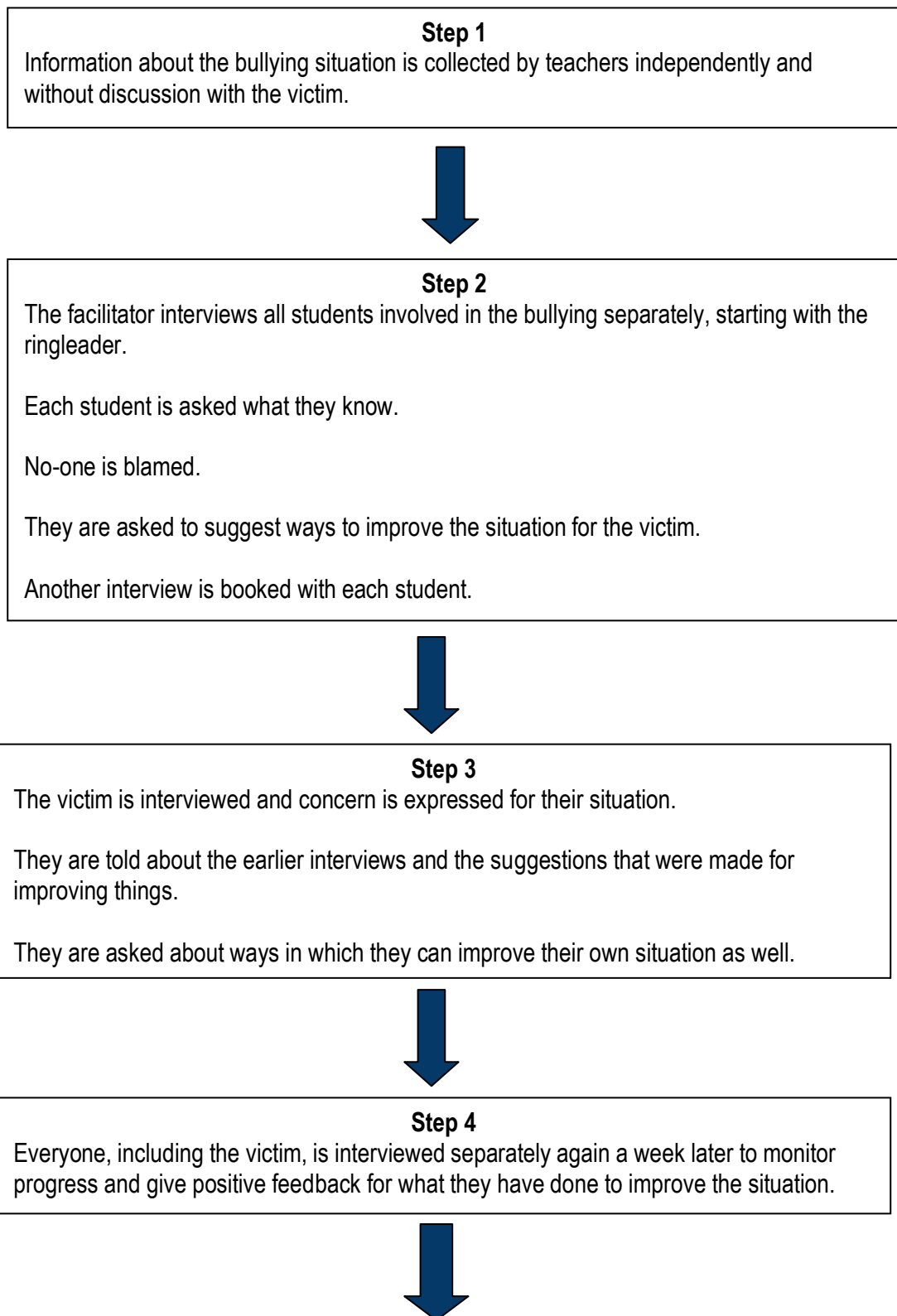
Appendix 1

The Support Group Approach (based on the No-Blame Approach)



Appendix 2

The Method of Shared Concern





Step 5

After two weeks, and if there has been positive change, a group meeting, without the victim, is held to celebrate progress.

At the meeting it is suggested that another group meeting be held, which includes the victim, in order to show that the bullying has problem has been solved.



Step 6

The victim is interviewed separately again to check for improvements in the situation.

Their permission is sought for a group meeting which would include them.



Step 7

If permission has been given by the victim, a group meeting is held which includes the victim.

Positive feedback is given to the students for their cooperation and the improvements they have made to the situation.