

Combatting Bullying at KSS Factsheet

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Bullying? Bullying of any kind is not tolerated at KSS. Bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Online bullying refers to bullying through information and communication technologies, e.g. the internet or mobile devices. Bullying of any form or for any reason can have long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

In short, bullying is an ongoing misuse of power in relationships involving a pattern of harmful verbal, physical or social behaviour.

Not all aggressive or harmful behaviour between people is defined as bullying. While conflicts and aggressive behaviour are serious and need to be addressed, it is important to be clear when these behaviours are not actually bullying. The definition of bullying has three critical aspects: it is a misuse of power within relationships, it is repeated and ongoing, and it involves behaviours which can cause harm. All three aspects need to be present in order for behaviour to be called bullying.

Where do we go for help if my child is being bullied? If your child experiences any form of bullying please contact your child's teacher, an executive teacher, Deputy Principal or Principal.