



## Cranbourne Secondary College

WHILE WE LIVE WE GROW

# **BULLYING AND HARASSMENT POLICY**

### **Statement of Belief:**

Everyone in the College community has the right to feel safe and secure and to be able to learn or teach, grow, socialise and improve their self-esteem in a happy, healthy environment.

Any form of repeated verbal, physical, social or psychological aggressive behaviour by a person or group directed towards a less powerful person or group that is intended to cause harm, distress or fear is considered bullying and is unacceptable. This includes instances of cyber-bullying.

### **Guiding Principles**

1. All teaching staff will be responsible for ensuring that the College environment is safe and secure and that any bullying or harassment is acted upon. All students will be responsible for respecting their peers and their rights, and to take appropriate action if bullied or see someone else being bullied.
2. The College is responsible for the development of procedures for dealing with bullying incidents. These procedures will be conveyed to students annually and displayed for students, parents and teachers. Information for teachers will be included in the Staff Handbook.
3. Students will be provided with information about bullying, harassment and cyber-bullying each year to emphasise the unacceptability of the behaviour and outlining what should occur when bullying behaviour occurs.
4. The Student Support Services Team will be available to support students affected by bullying, harassment or cyber-bullying.
5. All students are required to have a signed College Internet User Agreement, which indicates the college position on cyber-bullying, before having access to the computers at school.
6. All claims of harassment will be treated confidentially and constructively addressed. The rights and sensitivities of all individuals will be protected.

7. The college uses the DET online “bully buster” resources as appropriate to access those involved in bullying or harassment or cyber-bullying.
8. The school is a member of the safe schools coalition and supports the rights of students with additional educational needs and holds a diversity policy.