In addressing the damage done by bullying, the school works to:

- Clearly state the expectations on staff in detecting and dealing with cases of bullying
- Positively and actively involve parents / caregivers in the remedial process
- Integrating an anti-bullying component into the existing curriculum areas
- Provide necessary support for the individual teacher so that they are able to maintain a safe classroom environment
- Ensure that staff refer events/behaviours causing concern on to the relevant Year Patrons, Co-ordinators, Tutors and/or others who may have an involvement
- Creating a ‘Telling Environment’ and opportunities for telling
- Provide support for the victim
- Change the behaviour of the bully

It is important that teachers recognise that a safe classroom is the most positive way of ensuring a positive learning environment. It needs to be the top priority, recognising that pupils learn best when they are part of a co-operative, enabling environment.

For further information on bullying the following websites are available:
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au
au.reachout.com
www.amf.org.au/

Parents and students can also send an email to the “No bullying” address at St Columba:

nobullying@scas.nsw.edu.au

or contact your Class Teacher or Year Patron

DON’T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP
Bullying is to be found in every school in the country. It is an inevitable part of growing up and it is important that our school takes steps to stop it happening.

Bullying is a form of anti-social behaviour that has no place at school.

It can include on-going physical or emotional intimidation that causes anxiety or stress to the victim. It is the responsibility of every member of the school community to ensure that bullying behaviour is actively rejected.

Our response to bullying is based on the construct that:

This is our place and it belongs to all of us!

These are our Rights:

1. We all have the right to learn without disruption.
2. We all have the right to aim for excellence and to do our personal best.
3. We all have the right to be safe.
4. We all have the right to expect our possessions to be safe.
5. We all have the right to a safe, clean environment.

These are our Responsibilities:

1. We will not interfere with the learning of others.
2. We will not stand in the way of those working to do their personal best.
3. We will not harm others either physically or emotionally, and we will not allow others to do so either.
4. We will not interfere with other people’s possessions.
5. We will care for our place and its environment.

At St Columba our response to the problem of bullying begins with a common understanding of what bullying is:

- It is deliberate, hurtful behaviour
- It is repeated often over a period of time
- It is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves
- A relationship rather than incidents of isolated violence

There are three main types of bullying:

- **Physical** - hitting, kicking, taking belongings
- **Verbal** - name-calling, insulting, racist remarks
- **Covert** - spreading nasty stories, excluding from groups

Our definition of bullying includes Cyberbullying which is using digital technologies to harass, exclude, defame or threaten another member of the school community.

There are three people/groups involved in bullying: the Bully, the Victim and the Bystander. And all are negatively affected by what happens.