



Violence Policy

Revision Date	GB Approval Date	Changes Made	Author of Changes
July 2017		No changes	Laura Nicholls

VIOLENCE POLICY

Rationale

MRIS is a Peace Zone and is committed to ensuring all members of the school community are safe.

Definition

Violence is considered to be any occurrence with physically threatening behaviour. This may be hitting, biting, kicking, pulling hair, pushing, punching, attacking with implement, stomping on foot etc. at any school function, event, activity, excursion or during bus travel.

Implementation

First Offence – Minor (eg. frustration)

1. The child is immediately removed from the situation - room/playground/area.
2. The child remains in the care of the Principal/Senior Teacher until an appropriate system is set up for safe return to class.
3. The Principal/Senior Teacher informs child of the non-violence stance of the school. The child is guided to make reparation to the hurt party and is to give an Assertive Apology.
4. Restorative justice, PATHS, Virtues Study to be utilized (see Behaviour Management Policy Appendix F).
5. Possible removal from playground if warranted.
6. Parents are informed of the situation by phone.
7. Teacher to complete Incident Report Form.

Second Offence

1. Steps 1-4 are followed and the child is issued with a Violence Notification Form that is to be signed by the parents. See attached form.
2. Parents are to pick the child up at the end of the day for discussion with the Principal/Senior teacher.
3. Teacher to complete Incident Report Form.

Third Offence

1. Child is removed from the school immediately by the parents.
2. When the child returns there will be a supervised re entry and restricted access to the playground and classroom. Social stories program for children who need the remodeling.
 - Week 1 – time out on the PATHS Problem Solving Step
 - Week 2 – limited to undercover area only – where visible to duty staff
 - Week 3 – access to playground only with roster teacher
 - Week 4 – the child may try to enter playground unsupervised
3. Teacher to complete Incident Report Form.

Other Considerations

1. MRIS follows Restorative Justice Principles (see below).
2. The child will be allocated a seat on the bus or may be refused access to bus due to the Duty of Care requirements.
3. Parents will be asked to seek professional help for their child if required.
4. Train the child to use an Assertive Apology format (see Behaviour Management Policy App. E).
5. Parents are requested to use the STEP Principles and Virtue Program to assist their child.

6. Care for the child/ren who have been hurt is paramount and the parents will be notified about the issue.
7. The Principal/Senior Teacher will oversee all interactions when reparation is made to the hurt party.
8. MRIS may be unable to cater for ongoing violence issues and may therefore advise parents to seek an alternative place of schooling if the required changes in behaviour are not demonstrated.
9. If a child does not comply with the ethos of the school or is violent on a regular basis then the school reserves the right to expel the child.
10. Serious injury may result in contact with police or authorities.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRINCIPLES

Purpose

At MRIS we believe 'true discipline' happens 'inside out' instead of 'outside in'. It does not need to be imposed from without, but awakened from within, thus building self-esteem and promoting respectful behavior.

Aim

- To use the Virtues Program and STEP Principles to guide all discussions
- To follow the 5 R's of Restorative Justice
 1. Reparation – to make amends, to compensate for something lost
 2. Responsibility – to respond ably to be accountable
 3. Restitution – to give back something that has been lost or taken, to restore, to reimburse
 4. Restoration – to give back, to restore health and consciousness, to rebuild
 5. Reconciliation – to make friendly again, to settle quarrel, to make content

Assertive Apology Format

- a) "I am sorry/I regret for the (what I did-be specific)
- b) "I usually (what do you do)
- c) "I will for the future (try to)

MRIS Violence Notification Form

Name of child: _____ Date _____

On this date the following incident occurred:

This is an official first warning.

If this behaviour is repeated we will request that your child be taken home in accordance with our Violence Policy.

The School has explained to your child what is acceptable behaviour and we look forward to appropriate changes in their behaviour.

Please take this opportunity to discuss this matter with your child.

Our school is a Peace Zone.

An Assertive apology is requested on return to school.

Amends must be made to the offended party.

Thank you for your support. Please sign and return this form immediately to the Office.

Signed by Parents _____ Date _____

Signed by Principal _____ Date _____

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MRIS Continued/ Repeat Violence Procedure

If MRIS cannot trust the word of a student and violent activities are still occurring, then the following format is to be followed.

Student’s name _____ Date _____

1. We cannot trust what you say yet.
2. If anyone gets hurt accidentally or purposefully by you – you will go home immediately.
3. All work will be completed at home.
4. On return to school there will be provisional entry to classrooms and playground- in line with our school policy.
5. You will be placed in an allotted seat in the bus for a given time.
6. You may be removed from classroom and playground for a certain number of weeks.
7. Professional help on an ongoing basis is required for continued enrolment at MRIS. The family of the child is to pay for this service.
8. MRIS may not be able to cater for ongoing violence.

Signed by:

Student _____ Date _____

Parent _____ Date _____

Principal _____ Date _____

