



## **Hands Off Policy**

### **Rationale**

At Narre Warren North Primary School, our core values of respect, resilience, honesty, responsibility and persistence form the foundation of our educational ethos. These values guide our interactions and decision-making processes, shaping a community where positive and respectful relationships thrive. In alignment with these values, our 'Hands Off Policy' serves to cultivate an atmosphere of mutual respect and safety by discouraging and limiting opportunities for bullying and harassment. This policy encompasses both consensual and aggressive behaviours among students, underscoring our commitment to promoting staff and student safety and security.

### **Implementation**

1. No student is to touch another student in a manner judged inappropriate by staff.
2. No student is to use any form of physical violence against other students, even in 'fun' or as a 'practical joke'.
3. Play fighting is not acceptable behaviour in the school environment.
4. It is expected that a child seeks the assistance of a Yard Duty teacher if the 'Hands Off' rule has been breached.
4. Bullying, harassment or any other kind of stand-over tactics will not be tolerated.
5. These principles and/or guidelines will be espoused by the Principal and other school leaders and staff at school assemblies, in the classroom and around the school.
6. School leaders and senior students are to model these guidelines at all times.
7. Wellbeing leaders and teachers should be involved in reinforcing this policy in their dealings with students at school before during and after school.
8. Students who are observed inappropriately touching another student will be instructed to stop. Consequences from the Behaviour Matrix will be implemented. Further continuation of inappropriate physical contact may result in the implementation of behaviour management plans or suspensions as per the Behaviour Matrix.

**This policy is to be read in conjunction with:**

- Bullying Policy
- Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy
- Child Safety Policy

Created: 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

Ratified by School Council: 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024