

Workshop 3: Developing a bullying-prevention policy

NAG 5 responsibilities

Under National Administration Guideline 5 (NAG 5), each Board of Trustees is required to:

- a) provide a safe physical and emotional environment for students; and
- b) promote healthy food and nutrition for all students; and
- c) comply in full with any legislation currently in force or that may be developed to ensure the safety of students and employees.

NAG 5 covers a number of aspects of school life apart from bullying. However, developing and implementing a bullying policy will help schools ensure they are meeting their obligations in relation to providing a safe environment for students.

Schools are increasingly involved in incidents where the activities of students at home or in their own time have an impact on the life of the school. One example is a student creating inappropriate digital content on their own digital technology, whether at school or not. Schools have the responsibility and the power to act when any such content could reasonably be expected to impact negatively on the school learning environment.

Questions for Boards of Trustees, principals, senior leadership teams and teachers:

1. How well are we doing on NAG 5? How do we know?
2. Do we maintain a safe physical and emotional environment in our school?
3. Have we considered the role of digital technology in the learning environment?
4. Have we considered using the Education Review Office (ERO) wellbeing for success indicators?