

'HANDS OFF' RULE AND GUIDELINES

Rationale

Feeling physically safe and being in good physical health contributes to wellbeing. Environments that provide for safety, and support good health, optimise learning experiences. (*The Wellbeing Framework for Schools*).

As a multicultural comprehensive public high school, we have a responsibility to promote peace and harmony within our school community. All members of the Marsden High School community realise the importance of respecting the rights of others. The purpose of this school rule is to provide an atmosphere and expectation of general conduct that discourages/limits the opportunities for bullying and harassment and promotes student/staff safety and security.

Guidelines

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. Bullying or any other kind of stand-over tactics will not be tolerated.
4. 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.
5. Teachers will remind students of the Hands-Off Rule.
6. School leaders and senior students are to model these guidelines at all times.
7. School leaders should be involved in reinforcing this rule in their dealings with other students at school, sporting venues and on buses to and from school.
8. Students who are observed inappropriately touching another student will be instructed to stop. If he or she does not, he or she will be referred to the Deputy Principal who will take action to modify the inappropriate behaviour.

Basis of Discretion

The Principal may use his discretionary powers in dealing with students who do not adhere to these guidelines or the 'Hands Off' Rule.

Supporting Documents

- [The Wellbeing Framework for Schools](#)
- [Bullying of Students – Prevention and Response Policy](#)
- [Student Welfare Policy](#)
- [Student Behaviour Policy](#)