

Policy: Sexual, Physical and Verbal Harassment/Abuse (Students)

Policy Statement

Manurewa High School recognises as part of the Health and Safety requirements, that it operates an environment which is free, as far as possible, from harassment/abuse, its responsibility in regard to a report of verbal, physical and/or sexual harassment/abuse of a student enrolled at the school; and will endeavour to ensure that the student will be provided with the necessary support, guidance and help to ensure their safety and welfare.

Procedural Guidelines

- Suspected cases of verbal, physical and/or sexual abuse of students will be brought to the attention of the Guidance/Student Support Services network.
- Guidance Counsellor/Social Worker will implement best practice guidelines for cases of suspected current or historical abuse.
- All suspected cases will operate within the applicable legal framework of the Privacy Act (1993), Young Persons & Family Act, the NZAC Code of Ethics, and the NZ Social Workers Code of Ethics.
- Liaison with appropriate external agencies (if appropriate) will be instigated through the referral procedures established.
- The school will have in place an appropriate complaints procedure to deal with allegations of sexual, physical and verbal harassment/abuse that has occurred in school.
- The School will provide preventative education for the students through the delivery of the relevant part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum.
- A key worker among the Student Support Services will be allocated to each case.
- Where the Principal is the alleged offender the matter will be referred directly to the Board of Trustees.

Review schedule: November 2019

ADOPTED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES			
Date	21 June 2002	Chairperson	M J Bailey

AMENDED	Date	17 September 2003	Chairperson	M J Bailey
AMENDED	Date	24 August 2005	Chairperson	S Smith
AMENDED	Date	30 October 2008	Chairperson	S Smith
AMENDED	Date	31 October 2011	Chairperson	S Smith
REVIEWED	Date	28 November 2016	Chairperson	S Smith
REVIEWED/AMENDED	Date	Chairperson