

#### A Parent's Guide to

# BULLYING

What it is and what it isn't

### What is Bullying?

"an ongoing misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that causes physical and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power over one or more persons. Bullying can happen in person or online, and it can be obvious or hidden" - 'Bullying No Way', the National Australian definition.

#### What Isn't Bullying?

"Single incidents and conflict or fights between equals, whether in person or online" - 'Bullying No Way', the National Australian definition.

## Some Examples...



| Bullying                                   | Not Bullying                                |
|--|---|
| Teasing and taunting                       | Excluding someone                           |
| Making inappropriate sexual comments       | Disliking someone                           |
| Deliberately hurting someone's reputation  | Accidental physical harm – bumping into etc |
| Hitting                                    | Being "bossy"                               |
| Threatening and intimidating               | Telling a joke about someone (once)         |
| Stealing or damaging belongings            | Arguments                                   |
| Cyber bullying – spreading rumours/insults | Sharing unpleasant thoughts of others       |

## Know your child's warning signs

- Disconnects from people and isolates self
- Physical problems such as headaches and stomach aches
- Difficulty concentrating
- Difficulty falling/stying asleep or experiences frequent nightmares
- Seems listless, unenthusiastic and disinterested in many aspects of life
- Hyper vigilant, extremely nervous, depressed or emotionally explosive

