



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

YOUR SAFETY IN SCHOOL

This fact sheet has information from the Department of Education about how your school can help if you are subject to violent behaviour.

Feeling safe and being safe is very important

You have the right to be safe at school. Promoting good behaviour and positive relationships is a priority for schools. Schools have policies to ensure students behave well and respect each other.

Most students go through school without any safety issues. Unfortunately, on rare occasions, some students are aggressive and anti-social towards others. Schools have consequences for those who breach school's policies. Schools can suspend or exclude students who are engaged in violent behaviour.

What should you do if you are feeling unsafe at school?

If you are subject to violent behaviour, you should bring it to the attention of your principal, teacher, or another staff member. This is so the school can support you and manage the situation.

Your parents (or carers) should be involved in the process so they can also support you. They are welcome at the school, play an important role in your education and have a responsibility to the school to assist in resolving issues you are experiencing at school.

How can the school help you?

The school can help you:

- to feel safer at school by developing a safety plan,
- by working with you and your parents (or carer) about ways to resolve the situation,
- to cope with the situation, and

- by providing you with someone to support you through the situation.

Schools are experienced in addressing aggressive behaviour. The Department of Education provides staff with training and support to know how to manage aggressive students. The Department of Education also provides staff with access to many resources which are available for parents and students on the Department's website.

Violence restraining orders are a last resort and reserved for the most extreme cases. If you do apply for a violence restraining order, it is important that you let your school know. While the school cannot enforce the order, it will do what it can to help you and the other student comply with the order. If this is not possible, then

you or the other student will need to contact the Children's Court or the police.

Where can I find out more information?

If you would like more information on this topic, please visit the Department of Education's website at: www.education.wa.edu.au.

Legal Aid WA contacts: Website + Chat www.legalaid.wa.gov.au
Infoline 1300 650 579, Legal Yarn 1800 319 803.

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