b) **If you are being harassed at school**

Stick up for yourself - be assertive

Tell them you don’t like that behaviour and ask them to stop. Use “I” statements!

Ignore the harasser

Ask another person to come with you to witness you telling the harasser that you don’t like their behaviour and ask them to stop it

Request that the person harassing meets with you and an impartial person who will mediate and help both you and the other person reach an agreement

If none of these strategies work then it is okay to do the following:

Talk it over with friends or parents. Tell the harasser that you are going to talk to these people.

Tell the student to contact people or contact a teacher (who they feel comfortable with) to get advice

Talk to the student counsellor (Kallie Eglinton) or email her on ebb@ardas.sa.edu.au

**What if a teacher harasses a student?**

Ask them to stop harassing you. If it continues, tell parents or contact a teacher.

**IF YOU FIND IT EASY TO HARASS OTHERS AND WOULD LIKE HELP TO CHANGE THIS BEHAVIOUR THEN YOU CAN ASK FRIENDS, PARENTS, TEACHERS OR THE STUDENT COUNSELLOR FOR SOME STRATEGIES AND FOR SUPPORT.**

**Who Else Can Help?**

**Outside School Hours**

⇒ Police Ph: 88373017, 000 or 131444
⇒ Women’s Health Line Ph: 1800 182098
⇒ Family and Community Services Ph: 86211300
⇒ Kids Help Line Ph: 1800 551 800 (24hrs)
⇒ Commission for Equal Opportunity Ph: 1800 188163
⇒ Student Safety Hotline Ph: 1800 822 020
⇒ Medical Services Ph: 88373837
⇒ Minister of Religion
⇒ DECS Equal Opportunity Officer Ph: 82261059
⇒ Domestic Violence Crisis Service Ph: 82232200
⇒ Crisis Care (5pm—9am) Ph: 131611

**Vision:** Ardrossan Area School will provide a challenging learning environment in which all students’ talents can be fostered. Students will strive to be productive learners who are well equipped to meet future challenges in the local and global community.
What Is Harassment?

Persistent, unwanted behaviour against a person or a group of people.

Harassment is classified as:

**Verbal:** Comments/gestures, nicknames, put downs, name calling, derisive laughing, threats, slander (putting people down behind their backs)

**Physical:** Bullying, pushing, letters, drawings, touching, invasion of personal space, taking/damaging possessions, deliberate exclusion of an individual or individuals

**Racial:** Racist comments, Religious comments, picking on people because of their race or religion

**Sexual:** Touching or rubbing against you in a sexual manner, sexual jokes, obscene drawings, smutty comments, nasty phone calls, whistling, commenting on the size and shape of your body, ogling, rumours about private life/comments on your morals, threats.

**Technology based:** Email, chat rooms, Instant messaging (MSN), Websites/Blogs, text messages, sending threatening messages or images

What form can harassment take?

- Nasty comments
- Graffiti
- Put down jokes
- Threats of violence
- Unwanted touching or brushing up against someone often and deliberately
- Calling you by a rude name and suggesting that you have no morals
- Commenting on the size or shape of your body
- Ridicule
- Gossiping or spreading rumours

What can I do if I see others being harassed?

Even if you are not being hassled or hassling others, if you are aware of other students who have problems in the area — DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

What can you do about it?

a) If you are aware of harassment occurring to someone else:

Talk privately with the harasser and explain that you think their treatment of someone else is wrong.

Gather a group of students and together ask the person/people doing the harassment to stop it.

Talk with the person being harassed and ask how you can support them (but don’t gang up on or harass in return those who have been harassing) and encourage them to deal with the problem using the process outlined in this policy.

HARASSMENT IS HURTFUL, DAMAGING AND ILLEGAL

This form of abuse will not be tolerated at Ardrossan Area School

What are the effects of harassment on individuals?

- Poor study habits
- Unhappiness at school therefore low achievement
- Withdrawal from school
- Loss of confidence and self esteem
- Poor health

Ardrossan Area School