



Research Directions

Office of Research Services

Breaking Up Primary School Bullying

Professor Rhonda Craven, Dr Martin Dowson, and Linda Finger (PhD Candidate), SELF Research Centre, are continuing their research into primary school bullying in partnership with the Catholic Education Office. This ARC Linkage project will aim to reduce bullying via processes that educate the school community as a whole.



'Teachers, parents and students will be provided with the necessary tools to manage and arrest bullying' said Professor Craven. 'For example, school policy on bullying will be developed and teachers trained to intervene directly in different types and intensities of bullying situations. Parents will be trained to assist in reinforcing pro-social behaviours of students and attitude change. Techniques in the classroom, including curriculum activities, self-concept enhancement, peer mediation programs, and problem-solving skills training will also be provided'.

By introducing early, effective intervention to combat bullying in primary schools, long-term detrimental effects to the self-concept and mental health of students involved will be minimised. The researchers hope the outcomes will provide improved school safety and contribute positively to the wellbeing of individuals, the local and greater community as a whole.

Project title: *Beyond Bullying in Primary Schools: Explicating Psychosocial Antecedents and Implementing an Effective Intervention to Enhance Pro-Social Behaviour, Wellbeing and Academic Engagement.*

Funding has been set at: \$418,107

Research Partner: *Catholic Education Office, Parramatta Diocese.*

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