



# Connect and Respect Escalation

## Every student, staff member and parent or carer has the right to feel safe and be safe in our schools.

We all share a responsibility for providing a safe, supportive and productive environment, free from bullying, harassment, discrimination and violence. The School Education Act 1999 (the Act) and School Education Regulations 2000 (the Regulations) empower the principal to deal with persons disrupting school premises.

If the behaviour of a parent, carer or visitor is inappropriate, aggressive or violent, the principal can direct the individual to leave the school premises for a specified period of time, as outlined in [Visitors and Intruders on Public School Premises Policy](#).

You can contact the Connect and Respect support line by email [connectandrespect@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:connectandrespect@education.wa.edu.au) or on 1800 224 888 for assistance in the escalation process.

The following situations may occur if inappropriate or violent behaviour is exhibited by an individual:

### Escalation of inappropriate communication

If an individual communicates verbally, in writing or online (including social media) using harassment, threatening, abusive or insulting language, and the principal is satisfied that the person would likely cause harm, apprehension, fear or damage, then the principal may issue a Prohibition Order.

#### Step 1

##### Warning - Letter to individual

- Cease behaviour.

#### Step 2

##### Continued Behaviour - Issue Prohibition Order

- Issue a Prohibition Order for up to 60 days and include conditions with regards to accepted communication.
- Mediation between the school and individual, coordinated by the Parent Liaison Office.

#### Step 3

##### Behaviour continues - Breach of notice

- Breach of Prohibition Order, contact Legal Services to commence prosecution.

### Escalation of threats or violence on school sites

If an individual is physically abusive, and the principal is satisfied that the person would likely cause physical harm to, or apprehension or fear in, another person when that other person is on the school premises; or would cause damage to property on the school premises, then the principal may issue a Prohibition Order.

#### Step 1

##### Violent individual on school premises

- If there is perceived imminent risk, call police.
- Order the parent to leave the school premises immediately (s.120 Act) for 24 hours and keep a written record of the order.
- If breached, contact Legal Services to commence prosecution.

#### Step 2

##### Mediated re-entry

- Coordinated by the Parent Liaison Office.

#### Step 3

##### If after Step 1 and 2, further threats or violence have occurred

- Call police.
- Issue a Prohibition Order for up to 60 days. If breached, contact Legal Services to commence prosecution.
- Explore possibility of applying for Violence Restraining Order or Misconduct Restraining Order.
- Consider whether you would like to pursue criminal offences for police prosecution where school staff have been subjected to various forms of abuse including intimidation, harassment and threats.