

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY FOR STUDENTS

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intent of hurting another person.
Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, and tormenting (e.g. hiding books, threatening gestures)
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
 - Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic - because of/focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing



WHY IS BULLYING WRONG?

- Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying.
 - Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.
- Students who are bullying need to learn different ways of behaving.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OR WITNESS BULLYING

- Report bullying incidents to a Student Welfare Officer.
- If they are not available, another member of staff, for example a teacher or the Centre Director.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?

1. In cases of serious bullying, the incidents will be recorded by Staff.
2. In serious cases, parents will be informed and will be asked to discuss the problem.
3. Bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and stopped quickly.
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted.
5. All attempts will be made to help the bully/bullies change their behaviour.



OUR POLICY STATEMENT:

"We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all of our students so they can learn in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a TELLING school. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the staff. Bullying will NOT be tolerated."

