

ANTI-BULLYING

Reviewed 22.05.09 (Alan, Hine, Shirley and Maria H); Reviewed May 2014 (Tracy/Donal)

ACTION

1. To provide a school environment where all people feel safe.
2. To employ strategies to maintain a safe environment particularly for prevention and intervention.
3. To specify the aspects seen as crucial to the successful implementation of this policy.
4. To promote a positive and caring school ethos which actively negates any form of bullying.
5. To make provision for training, education, and social action requirements within the existing curriculum framework.

GUIDELINES

1. Successful implementation requires consultation with staff, students and parents, as well as the wider community.
2. The emphasis will be placed on prevention. It will be linked with other relevant policies, and the classroom and curriculum used as agents for change.
3. Once all procedural steps have been agreed to, they will be consistently applied and carried out, with a satisfactory outcome for major parties.
4. Support for bullies and victims are a priority. Care should be taken with punishment, lest results become punitive, e.g. as in gang bullying.
5. Information about dealing with Bullying and Behaviour Management Procedures is detailed within the Fruitvale Staff Administration Guidelines and the Fruitvale Discipline Policy.

DEFINITION

Bullying usually has four common features:

- It is deliberate
- It is repeated over a period of time
- It is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves
- It is difficult for those who bully to learn new social behaviours

There are three main types of bullying:

- Physical: hitting, kicking, taking belongings
- Verbal: name-calling, teasing, insulting and racist remarks
- Indirect: e.g. spreading nasty stories, excluding from groups, text / email intimidation, targeted thieving

We define bullying as the "wilful conscious actions which hurt, threaten, or frighten someone else". We believe all children have the right to feel secure and happy at school, therefore we actively seek to provide an environment that is safe from all forms of intimidation.