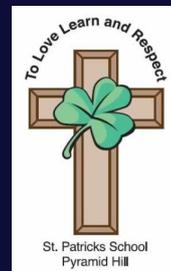


# ST. PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PYRAMID HILL



## Anti Bullying Policy

Anti Bullying Policy (inclusive of Cyber Bullying)

Rationale:

The pursuit of quality education is based upon on the human dignity of each person. The effective implementation of behavioural management practices at St. Patrick's should occur as a consequence of its Catholic Ethos and be in line with our School-wide positive behaviour framework. We acknowledge the necessity of creating an environment which is conducive to promoting the social and emotional wellbeing of the whole school community.

Aim:

At St Patrick's we aim to:

- Provide a positive environment that promotes safety, respect and dignity for all
- Model and promote Positive Behaviours at all times
- Foster the schools ethos as demonstrated in the Vision Statement

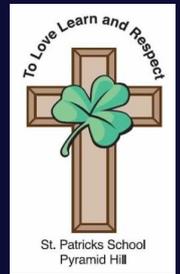
### DEFINITION OF BULLYING

Bullying is an ongoing act of aggression causing embarrassment, pain or discomfort to another. Element of bullying include - wanting to hurt someone, acting on this desire, the action is hurtful, an imbalance of power, no reason for the action, is persistent and the bully get pleasure from hurting the victim.

It can be planned and organised or it may be unintentional. Individuals or groups may be involved.

Bullying can take many forms. We consider the following behaviours to be bullying:

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## Physical:

hitting, kicking, punching  
pushing, shoving, spitting  
making rude gestures  
taking or damaging something which belongs to someone else  
forcing others to hand over food, money or something which belongs to them  
making someone do something they don't want to

## Verbal:

name calling  
teasing  
threatening  
make fun of someone because of their appearance, physical characteristics or cultural background  
making fun of someone's actions

## Indirect:

excluding others from the game or group  
spreading stories about others  
spreading untrue stories about others

## Cyber:

intention to hurt another using online or digital technology  
can occur 24 hours, 7 days a week  
hurtful emails, text messages  
rumours or images circulated on social media sites

## IF BULLYING OCCURS:

We may feel frightened, unsafe, embarrassed, angry or unfairly treated. Our work, sleep and ability to concentrate may suffer and our relationships with our families and friends may be affected. We may feel confused and not know what to do about the problem.

## STRATEGIES TO DEAL WITH BULLYING

At St Patrick's Primary School we will:

- Openly talk about bullying - what it is, how it affects us and what we can do about it.
- Teach our Learners the skills which will build their self-esteem and empower them to take responsibility for themselves - and give them the opportunity to practise these skills.
- Implement the policy, which clearly states what actions we take to deal with bullying behaviour.

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## Responsibilities of staff

be role models in a word and action at all times  
ensure that our classroom management practices support respect for self and others  
be observant to signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying  
be active listeners to our Learner's concerns  
deal with all reported and observed incidences of bullying as set out in this policy  
ensure that Learners are supervised at all times  
during yard duty make efforts to move occasions for bullying by actively patrolling  
report incidences of bullying to the Principal

## Responsibilities of Learners:

to 'tell' (e.g. parent, teacher, staff member) if they are being bullied or if they see someone else being bullied  
to help someone who is being bullied  
to not bully others

## Responsibilities of parents:

to watch signs that their child may be being bullied e.g. unwillingness to attend school, a pattern of headaches, missing equipment, requests for extra money, damaged clothes or bruising  
to speak to someone on staff at school (classroom teacher first) if their child is being bullied, or they suspect that this is happening  
to encourage their child to 'tell' if they are bullied

## REPORT BULLYING

Incidences of bullying can be reported to any teacher, or the Principal by Learners and their parents. Any bullying incidences that are dealt with will be recorded and this record will be kept.

## Procedures for reported incidence of bullying:

Steps to be followed upon report of bullying:

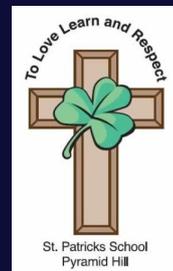
Incidents of bullying reported

Incidents relayed to appropriate person if necessary

Appropriate person interviews alleged perpetrator, victim and any bystanders to establish facts

Evidence copied for school file in the case of Cyber Bullying

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## Act of bullying verified:

Appropriate person counsels so that person who bullied is aware of the effect on victim  
Appropriate person ensures the perpetrator acts in responsible and constructive way to remedy the situation (written or verbal apology also needs to be given)  
Teacher puts appropriate steps from Behaviour Management Policy in place  
Teacher and Learner fill out a bullying incident form which is sent home for discussion and parent signature  
Administration files Bullying Incident Form

## Incidence of Bullying:

Appropriate person notifies parents and an interview is made  
Incident is recorded

## If further incidence of bullying cycle occurs:

Teacher, in collaboration with Principal, to interview Learner and their parents  
Principal to make clear consequences of repeat occurrence  
Counselling (on a private basis) is recommended for both the bully and the victim  
Further action (internal/ external suspension, termination of enrolment) is at the prerogative of the Principal and/ or School Leadership Team.

## Act of bullying not verified.

Teacher to record incident.

## Evaluation:

### Assessment & Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed annually and earlier should a need arise to do so.

Reviewed: March 2019

St. Patrick's School  
Pyramid Hill