SAMPLE ANTI-BULLYING POLICY FOR SCHOOLS

Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly school environment for all of our students so they can learn in a safe and secure learning atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school. If bullying does occur, all students should be able to speak up and know that their bullying incident report 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.

What Is Bullying?

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

Bullying can be:

- Emotional being unfriendly, excluding, 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, or focussing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing
- Cyber All areas of internet ,such as email & internet chat room misuse
  Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
  Misuse of associated technology , i.e. camera &video facilities

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

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. Also bullies need to be taught that bad behavior is not exceptable at your school.

Schools have a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

- All principals and vice principals as well as teaching and non-teaching staff, studnets and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is.
- All principals and vice principals as well as teaching and non-teaching staff should know what the school policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported.
- All students and parents should know what the school policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises.
- As a school we take bullying seriously. Students and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

- Bullying will not be tolerated.

Procedures (RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT)

1. Students who report bullying incidents to school staff must follow through regardless of the report.
2. In all cases of bullying, the incidents will be recorded by staff. One copy is kept in teachers book and 2 other copies(photo copied) are given to the principal or whom ever is in charge of bullying.
3. In serious cases parents should be informed and will be asked to come in to a meeting to discuss the problem
4. If necessary and appropriate, police will be consulted
5. The bullying behaviour or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped quickly
6. An attempt will be made to help the bully (bullies) change their behaviour

Examples of Consequences

- Admonishment
- Temporary removal from the classroom
- Loss of privileges
- Classroom or administrative detention
- Referral to disciplinarian
- In-school suspension during the school week or the weekend, for students
- Out-of-school suspension
- Legal action
- Expulsion or termination