

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

Quick Reference



Putting an end to bullying is a shared responsibility

Bullying is a covert activity that we all have a responsibility to stop. Reporting instances of bullying to the administrator in the school is the socially responsible thing to do. Intervention and support should be consistent with a progressive discipline approach that reflects the needs of all involved in a given situation.

Why Bullying Prevention?

Positive school climate is the sum total of all the personal relationships within a school. When these relationships are founded in mutual acceptance and inclusion, and modeled by all, a culture of respect becomes the norm. Promotion of a positive school climate means that all members of the school community are inclusive and accepting of all, including persons of any race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, marital status, family status or disability.

Staff

All staff who work directly with students have a duty to report all incidents of bullying to an administrator.

Students

Students are encouraged to report instances of bullying not only for themselves, but on behalf of those who bully, victims or bystanders to a teacher, Child Youth Worker, Principal, Vice-Principal, or other caring adult.

Parents

When a parent/guardian/caregiver suspects their child is being bullied or when their student discloses a bullying situation to them, they are encouraged to contact the school immediately.

Bullying Prevention Activities at Sandhills

Bullying Prevention is not a one time event, but an ongoing process of education and awareness. The following is an overview of some of the key pieces to our ongoing prevention activities.

Fall:

- Sharing Code of Conduct and policies regarding bullying with the school community
- Safe Caring Inclusive Schools (SCIS) Committee established, first meeting early October
- Bullying Awareness Assembly
- Bullying Awareness Week November 17-23

Winter:

- Maintain bullying prevention program
- SCIS committee meeting
- Publicly recognize what is taking place in classrooms regarding anti-bullying
- School community communication

Spring:

- SCIS surveys completed by students/ staff/ parents
- SCIS committee review of year's work, and planning for 2020/2021
- End of year assembly celebrating healthy relationships and safe schools initiatives



Sandhills' statement on bullying.

Bullying adversely affects a student's ability to learn. Bullying adversely affects the school climate, including healthy relationships. Bullying will not be accepted on school property, at school-related activities, on school buses, or in any other circumstances (e.g., online) where engaging in bullying will have a negative impact on the school climate.

WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying means aggressive and typically repeated behaviour by a pupil where,

- the behaviour is intended by the pupil to have the effect of, or the pupil ought to know that the behaviour would be likely to have the effect of,
 - causing harm, fear or distress to another individual, including physical, psychological, social or academic harm, harm to the individual's reputation or harm to the individual's property, or
 - creating a negative environment at a school for another individual, and
- the behaviour occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance between the pupil and the individual based on factors such as size, strength, age, intelligence, peer group power, economic status, social status, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, family circumstances, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race, disability or the receipt of special education; ("intimidation")

*For the purposes of the definition of "bullying" behaviour includes the use of any physical, verbal, electronic, written or other means.

