

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School

Anti-Bullying Policy

We at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School in teaching as Jesus did with love, care, and discipline believe that all students are entitled to :

- 1) A safe and civil environment
- 2) A loving and caring environment
- 3) An environment that recognizes the individuality and dignity of each child
- 4) An environment that fosters life-giving relationships within the school community

A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Bullying, along with harassment, and intimidation are violent behaviors that disrupt both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment.

We at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School prohibit acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of any student, teacher, administrator, classroom aides, other school employees, or volunteers.

Expected Behavior of Students

All students are expected to act with integrity, civility, responsibility and self-control. This expectation is directly related to our educational objectives for students to learn to be responsible for and accept the consequences of their behavior. Integrity, civility, responsibility and self control are necessary for establishing and maintaining a safe, orderly and inviting environment.

Bullying Defined

“Harassment, intimidation or bullying “means any gesture or written, verbal or physical act that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic, such as race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory handicap, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property and/or at any school-sponsored functions.

Types of Bullying

- 1) **Physical** - hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, taking and/or damaging personal property, extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, or unwelcome physical contact.
- 2) **Psychological** – Name calling, rumor spreading, (verbal/written/text messaging), gossip, manipulating social relationships-engaging in social exclusion/shunning or intimidation.
- 3) **Verbal** – Taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling, or making threats.
- 4) **Any form of abuse** (Physical, emotional, ethnic, racial, or sexual advances)
- 5) **Internet bullying** – (cyber bullying)

Reasons for Bullying

- a. Feelings of superiority
- b. Feelings of inferiority
- c. Family problems
- d. Abuse at Home

Prevention of Bullying

1. Parents and school community working together will promote a caring school community
2. Children will be given the opportunity to discuss issues surrounding bullying.
3. Children will be taught anger management and conflict resolution.
4. Promote a “non-violent” policy in the home and local community.
5. Listen to and report any concerns regarding bullying so appropriate action can be taken.
6. Methods of dealing with and responding to bullying.

All members of our school community have the right and responsibility to report any known cases of bullying or negative social behaviors in order to keep our school safe. Everyone has the right to be respected, therefore, students who practice bullying need to know that it is unacceptable in school and must be reprimanded. This policy encourages all to be aware of bullying and to report it. Students, parents, teachers and staff, and school

administration are encouraged to report and help prevent bullying from happening or continuing.

Reporting Bullying

Incidents of bullying should be reported immediately to teachers, staff, and school administration. Reports of bullying will be documented and investigated promptly by school administrators. Parents will be notified by telephone, e-mail, or written report of acts of bullying. Included in this policy are forms appropriate for documentation and reporting acts of bullying as well as a detailed list of consequences for actions that are determined by the investigating administration to be deemed legitimate acts of bullying.

Anonymous accounts of bullying will be permitted in the form of a written document that can be filled out detailing the incident of an act of bullying and placed in an anonymous bullying receptacle. However formal disciplinary action will not be based solely on the basis of an anonymous report.

Retaliation

Retaliation or reprisal of any sort against any person who reports an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying is prohibited and will be dealt with in an appropriate manner.

False Reports

Any person found to have falsely reported or accused another as a means of retaliation or as a means of harassment; intimidation or bullying will be dealt with in an appropriate manner.

Consequences of Bullying

See attached Bullying Behavior Chart.

See also attached Student Bullying Report and Student Anti-Bullying Agreement.

Once it is determined through an investigation that a student has bullied, harassed, or intimidated another, then counseling, corrective discipline and/or notification to law enforcement officials will be enforced. Age appropriate intervention will take place, and the one who was victim to the bullying will be supported and will be helped to feel safe again. There are other consequences based on age that will also be enforced.

Consequences

Grades 4-8

First Offense will result in speaking with the principal and the meeting and the incident will be reported. Parents of child/children will be notified as well as teachers. Students will fill out a Student Report for Bullying along with signing an Anti-Bullying Agreement Form. Student may receive point deductions or detention as a consequence of his/her actions.

Second Offense will result in a meeting with not only the principal, but the parents and teachers as well. The meeting will be documented again and the child will receive a punishment such as more detentions on separate days.

Third Offense will result in In-School suspension and loss of privileges such as field trips, tag days and social functions.

Fourth Offense will result in possible expulsion from school.

Grades 1-3

First Offense will result in teacher and student conference and a warning to be signed by the parent or guardian. The child will also apologize to student/students targeted.

Second Offense will result in a meeting with the teacher(s), student(s) and parent(s) to discuss ways to prevent this behavior. This will result in loss of recess or some kind of free time, and point deductions. Another apology will be asked to be given.

Third Offense will result in a meeting with the teacher, parent, child, and principal. This will also result in a loss of some free time, point deductions and detention.

Fourth Offense will call for In-School suspension and a discussion of possible expulsion from school.

Kindergarten/Pre-Kindergarten

After a period of acclimation (one to two months) to school and an understanding of appropriate school behavior, the following consequences will apply:

First Offense, Second Offense, and Third Offense will result in the same consequences as Grades 1-3. With the exception of point deductions.

Fourth Offense will result in calling the parent to pick up their child and take him/her home for the day.

We require every parent and student to read this policy, understand, and sign an acceptance form. Any student violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. We ask students to immediately report incidents of bullying to the teacher, principal or authority figure in charge at the time.

Please sit down with your child/children and read the policy together, discuss it, sign it and return to the homeroom teacher. Parental signatures and date must be included.



Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School

MSH—Growing in Mind, Spirit, and Heart

Consequences for Bullying at Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School

Kindergarten/ Pre K (after a period of acclimation to school) (1 to 2 months)	
First Offense	Teacher and Student Conference A Warning to be Signed by Parent or Guardian Student Apology to Targeted Student(s)
Second Offense	Meeting with Teacher, Student, and Parent- Discussion of Ways to Prevent Bullying Behavior Loss of Recess or Some Type of Free Time
Third Offense	Student Apology to Targeted Student(s) Meeting with Teacher, Parent, Student, and Principal Loss of Recess or Some Type of Free Time
Fourth Offense	Parent will be Called to Have the Student Taken Home for the Day
Grades 1-3	
First Offense	Teacher and Student Conference A Warning to be Signed by Parent or Guardian Student Apology to Targeted Student(s)
Second Offense	Meeting with Teacher, Student, and Parent- Discussion of Ways to Prevent Bullying Behavior Loss of Recess or Some Type of Free Time Point Deductions Student Apology to Targeted Student(s)
Third Offense	Meeting with Teacher, Parent, Student, and Principal Loss of Recess or Some Type of Free Time Point Deductions and Detention
Fourth Offense	In-School Suspension Discussion of Possible Expulsion from School
Grades 4-8	
First Offense	Meet with Principal, Incident Reported
Second Offense	Meeting with Principal, Parents, and Teachers Detention(s)
Third Offense	In-School Suspension Loss of Privileges, such as Field Trips, Tag Days, and Social Functions
Fourth Offense	Possible Expulsion from School

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Student Report For Bullying

Name _____ Date _____

I am writing to inform you that I participated in a Bullying Incident today at school. The details are as follows:

What I did:

What was wrong with what I did:

The reason I was a bully was because:

How I will handle the situation next time without hurting anyone:

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Bullying Behavior Report

Student Name _____

Date _____ Grade _____

Offense: _____

Teasing

Hitting/Fighting

Name Calling

Pushing

Gossip

Slapping

Insulting

Severe Hitting/Punching

Rumors

Physical Injury to Another

Social Exclusion

Harassment (ethnic, sexual, racial)

Hurting Feelings

Intimidation

Identify Bullying

Behavior _____

Identify Students

Involved _____

Describe incident in detail _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Principal Signature _____

Consequence/Action Taken _____

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Student Anti-Bullying Agreement

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus School is committed to a safe and Christ-like environment for its students, free from Bullying.

I, along with my parent(s) have read the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Anti-Bullying Policy. I understand what constitutes bullying and the consequences of such actions on my part.

I agree:

- Never to engage in bullying of any type
- To respect all students, teachers, and school personnel
- To immediately report any incident of bullying to the principal or my teacher

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____