



مدرستنا الثانوية الانجليزية، الشارقة - البنين
OUR OWN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL, SHARJAH - BOYS



ANTI-BULLYING POLICY



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Verified & Signed

Principal & CEO



مدرستنا الثانوية الإنجليزية الشارقة - البنين
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ANTI-BULLYING STATEMENT

The school follows a zero- tolerance policy towards bullying. The school is built on mutual respect, understanding and equality and that bullying of any kind will not be tolerated. Bullying is unacceptable and damages the well-being of children. Our Own English High School Sharjah, Boys therefore does all it can to prevent it, by developing a school ethos promoting individual self- esteem and wellness.

What is bullying?

Bullying is *"the intentional hurting of one person by another, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It is usually repetitive or persistent, although some one-off attacks can have a continuing harmful effect on the victim."*

There are three types of bullying:

Verbal bullying is saying, or writing mean things. Verbal bullying includes:

- Teasing.
- Name-calling.
- Inappropriate comments.
- Taunting.
- Threatening to cause harm.

Social bullying, sometimes referred to as relational bullying, involves hurting someone's reputation or relationships. Social bullying includes:

- Leaving someone out on purpose.
- Telling other children not to be friends with someone.
- Spreading rumors about someone.
- Embarrassing someone in public.

Physical bullying involves hurting a person's body or possessions. Physical bullying includes:

- Hitting/kicking/pinching.
- Spitting.

- Tripping/pushing.
- Taking or breaking someone's things.
- Making mean or rude hand gestures.

Cyberbullying – all areas of internet such as email misuse, mobile threats by text/calls, misuse of associated technology such as cameras.

What happens if a pupil reports an incident of bullying to you?

Explain that all reports of bullying will be treated seriously and privately.

Explain to the pupil that you need to share this information with the relevant Supervisor, Head of Section, DSL/ DDSL as bullying is not tolerated at OOB and any instance of bullying will be taken serious cognizance of and re-educated in order for the bullying to stop.

Ask the pupil to write an incident statement (you can write this for them if they are too young or are unable to write the statement themselves). Tell them to add as much information as possible but at the same time be factual and be specific in terms of what they have seen, what they know and what they think.

Ask the pupil not to discuss your conversation with others.

An investigation will be fully conducted.

Roles and Responsibilities

The role of pupils:

- Pupils are expected to treat others fairly and with respect.
- Pupils are encouraged to tell anybody they trust if they are being bullied, and if the bullying continues, they must continue to let people know.
- Pupils must report any incidents that they witness of bullying, even if they observe as a bystander.
- Pupils are encouraged to stand up assertively and safely to a bully and are provided with a range of strategies on how to do this, whether they are being bullied or are a bystander.

The role of parents and families:

- Parents should set a positive example to all pupils at all times.
- Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should contact the school where appropriate action will be taken and the situation monitored. Parents will be informed of the outcome of an investigation and their support may be necessary.
- Parents have a responsibility to support the school's Anti-Bullying Policy, actively encouraging their child to be a positive member of the school.

The role of the DSL/ DDSL team:

- It is the responsibility of the DSL & DDSL to implement the school anti-bullying strategy and to ensure that all staff (both teaching and non-teaching) are aware of the school policy and know how to deal with incidents of bullying.
- The team ensures that all children know that bullying is wrong, and that it is unacceptable behaviour in this school. Anti-bullying events and promotions throughout the year will highlight and support why this behaviour is wrong.

- A school climate of mutual support and praise for success is created to reduce the likelihood of bullying. When pupils feel they are important and belong to a friendly and welcoming school, bullying is far less likely to be part of their behavior

The role of the teacher:

- Teachers take all forms of bullying seriously, and intervene to prevent incidents from taking place.
- If, teachers, become aware of any bullying taking place between members of a class, deal with the issue immediately. This may involve counselling and support for the victim of the bullying, spending time talking to the child who has bullied 'explain why the action of the bully was wrong, endeavouring to help the child change their behaviour in future. If a child is repeatedly involved in bullying other children, the child's parents are asked to attend the school to discuss the situation. (refer to Behavioural by law of the Ministry)

The role of the ABC (Anti- bullying Committee)

The Anti bullying Committee members with their motto 'Take a stand, lend a helping hand' propagate the message of being upstanders not bystanders to any incident of bullying.

The Committee with the team of representative teachers and students contribute to the well-being of the student community through varied activities highlighting the underlying message of zero tolerance of bullying of any kind.

Consequences :

Opportunity is given for both victim and bully to express their point of view and time taken to find out what motivates the behaviour. Parents of both the victim and the bully will be kept informed and any actions taken by the school should be explained to them. At all times it is stressed that bullying is not acceptable and that action will always be taken. Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis .

The School aims to re-educate pupils who are found to be bullying.