

Newton International
School D Ring



Strategy

Anti Bullying Strategy

An International Community of Learners Striving for Excellence and Celebrating Success

May 2025

Review Annually

Prepared by
Deputy Head of
Primary

A large, circular graphic with a yellow border. Inside the circle, a hand is holding a torn piece of white paper. The word 'BULLY' is written in large, black, hand-drawn capital letters on the paper. The background of the circle is black.

Our Vision

An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

Our Mission

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for our students of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

To achieve this, we will provide a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation. We will provide and maintain a calm, trusting and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning are meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents and wider community to achieve our vision.

Aim of Strategy

To reduce and eradicate instances in which pupils are subjected to bullying in any form.
To establish appropriate means of providing aftercare should an incident of bullying occur

Objectives:

These aims will be achieved through:
-Ensuring that all members of our school community are aware of the policy and fulfil their obligations to it.
-Ensuring that issues concerning bullying and relationships within school are dealt with as part of the character development and Qatar Values curriculum.

Newton Group Values



Support



Honesty



Respect



Transparent Communication



Social Responsibility



Personal Accountability



Environmental Awareness



Empathy



Diversity

Newton International School D Ring Values



Definition of Bullying:

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour, repeated over a period of time, where it is difficult for those being bullied to defend themselves. It can take many forms, but the three main types are physical (e.g. hitting, kicking, theft), verbal (e.g. name calling, racist remarks, gender remarks) or indirect (e.g. spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups). Single incidences of verbal or physical attack, and behaviour which is hurtful but not intentional should also be taken seriously and dealt with accordingly. D-Ring staff will act - and importantly be seen to act - firmly against bullying wherever and whenever it appears. Individual members of staff will be alert to signs of bullying and act promptly and firmly against it. Failure to respond to incidents may be interpreted as condoning the behaviour.

Newton International School D-Ring Children:

It is important that our children should:

- Be involved in the development and reviewing of anti—bullying policies and practice.
- Learn about what constitutes bullying and what to do about it.
- Have opportunities to develop the skills to resist bullying and to deal with bullying.
- Be aware that knowing about bullying by or to others and doing nothing is unacceptable. (The onlooker or bystander).

Newton International School D-Ring Parents:

D-Ring parents' role is to help the school to deal with bullying.

Parents should:

- Discourage their children from using bullying behaviour at school, at home or elsewhere.
- Take an active interest in their children's school life, especially with regard to friendships, playtime and the journey to and from school.
- Watch out for signs that their children are being bullied, or are bullying others.
- Contact the school at the first sign if they are worried that their children are being bullied or are bullying others.

Leadership and Management:

Part of Leadership and managements' role is to ensure that the school has a policy and that the policy is operated by all staff effectively. To ensure this, they should:

- Review the school's bullying policy regularly.
- Consult all interested parties in revising the policy as necessary.
- Help to explain the policy to all interested parties.
- Ask for information to enable it to monitor the implementation and evaluate the effectiveness of the policy.

All members of the Newton International School D-Ring school community are encouraged to:

- Treat everyone with consideration and respect.
- Be polite and helpful at all times.
- Be friendly.
- Be honest and cooperative.
- Treat property with respect

Newton International School DRing accepts the responsibility to take steps to prevent any member of the school community from:

- Making unkind or offensive comments (including comments about people's appearance or ability/disability).
- Behaving in a racist or sexist manner.
- Using foul or unacceptable language.
- Being rude, aggressive or behaving unacceptably.
- Shouting.
- Using verbal or physical aggression.

Victims and witnesses of bullying will know that it is 'OK to tell' and that they will receive practical help if they do so. Anyone who bullies will be made aware of the effect of their actions. It will be made clear to them that they are bullying, that their behaviour is unacceptable and that it will not be tolerated. It will also be recognised, however, that some bullies themselves need help and support and that the school has a responsibility to ensure that all incidents of bullying will be recorded and monitored. The record includes details about the nature of the incident, a note of the action taken and a list of people who were notified. This includes incidents of a racist nature.

Newton International School DRing procedure for responding to incidents of bullying is as follows:

- Opposition to such behaviour is made clear.
- The reasons for the objections to such behaviour are explained.
- Steps are taken to ensure that such behaviour is not repeated.
(This will include the use of playground sanctions, during which time senior staff will work with the offender to understand the seriousness of their words and actions).
- The School Councillor may speak to the offender to convey their peers' views on such behaviour.
- The parents of the offender are reminded of the school's policy not to tolerate such behaviour.
- Children who have been bullied, and their parents, are supported.
- Children are given the opportunity to report after each session to a senior member of staff to update them on the situation.
- The nature and response to an incident is made known to other staff

Cyberbullying at Newton International School D-Ring:

Tackling cyberbullying - directly links to the D-Ring Internet Safety Policy. Mobile, Internet and wireless technologies have increased the pace of communication and brought benefits to users worldwide but their popularity provides increasing opportunities for misuse through 'cyberbullying'. It's crucial that children and young people, who are particularly skilful at adapting to new technology, use their mobiles and the Internet safely and positively, and that they are aware of the consequences of misuse. School staff, parents and pupils at D-Ring have to be constantly vigilant and work together to prevent this form of bullying and tackle it wherever it appears. The advent of cyberbullying adds new dimensions to the problem of bullying. Unlike other forms of bullying, cyberbullying can follow children and young people into their private spaces and outside school hour. Cyberbullies can communicate their messages to a wide audience with remarkable speed, and can often remain unseen and unidentifiable.

What is cyberbullying?

- Text message bullying involves sending unwelcome texts that are threatening or cause discomfort.
- Picture/video—clip bullying via mobile phone cameras is used to make the person being bullied feel threatened or embarrassed, with images usually sent to other people. 'Happy slapping' involves filming and sharing physical attacks.
- Phone call bullying via mobile phone uses silent calls or abusive messages. Sometimes the bullied person's phone is stolen and used to harass others, who then think the phone owner is responsible. As with all mobile phone bullying, the perpetrators often disguise their numbers, sometimes using someone else's phone to avoid being identified.
- Email bullying uses email to send bullying or threatening messages, often using a pseudonym for anonymity or using someone else's name to pin the blame on them.
- Chat room bullying involves sending menacing or upsetting responses to children or young people when they are in a web-based chat room.
- Bullying through Instant messaging (IM) is an Internet-based form of bullying where children and young people are sent unpleasant messages as they conduct real-time conversations online.
- Bullying via websites includes the use of defamatory blogs (web logs), personal websites and online personal polling sites. There has also been a significant increase in social networking sites for young people, which can provide new opportunities for cyberbullying. School staff, parents and pupils at D-Ring need to work together to prevent this and to tackle it whenever it occurs.

D-Ring has a duty to ensure that:

- Teachers have sufficient knowledge to deal with cyberbullying in school.
- The curriculum teaches pupils about the risks of new communications technologies, the consequences of their misuse, and how to use them safely.
- All e-communications used on the school site or as part of school activities off-site are monitored.
- Internet blocking technologies are continually updated and harmful sites blocked.
- They work with pupils and parents to make sure new communications technologies are used safely, taking account of local and national guidance and good practice.
- Security systems are in place to prevent images and information about pupils and staff being accessed improperly from outside school.
- They work with police and other partners on managing cyberbullying.

Newton International School D-Ring Staff have responsibilities in:

- Teaching children safe Internet etiquette.
- Applying school policy in monitoring electronic messages and images on school computer programmes and applications children use as part of the curriculum.
- 1. personal privacy rights
- 2. material posted on any electronic platform
- 3. photographic images
- 4. taking action if a pupil is being cyber bullied or is bullying someone else
- 5. teaching pupils the value of e-communications and the risks and consequences of improper use, including the legal implications.

Newton International School D-Ring will help parents by providing briefings for parents on:

- e-communication standards and practices in schools
- What to do if problems arise.
- What's being taught in the curriculum.
- If the problem continues, think about changing your phone number. If you receive calls that scare or trouble you, make a note of the times and dates and report them to the police. If your mobile can record calls, take the recording too.
- Emails
- Never reply to unpleasant or unwanted emails — the sender wants a response, so don't give them that satisfaction.
- Keep the emails as evidence and tell an adult about them.
- Never reply to someone you don't know, even if there's an option to 'unsubscribe'. Replying simply confirms your email address as a real one.
- Chat rooms and instant messaging - Never give out your name, address, phone number, school name or password online. It's a good idea to use a nickname. And don't give out photos of yourself.
- Don't accept emails or open files from people you don't know.
- Remember it might not just be people your own age in a chat room.
- Stick to public areas in chat rooms and get out if you feel uncomfortable.
- Tell your parents or carers if you feel uncomfortable or worried about anything that happens in a chat room.
- Think carefully about what you write; don't leave yourself open to bullying.

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