



Anti-bullying & Anti-Cyber Bullying Policy

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Reviewed by: J Kingham, Primary Deputy Head of Pastoral

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1. Rationale

Bullying and cyberbullying are an unacceptable form of behaviour in Newton International School. They are destructive in that they interfere with the education of students and also affect parents and staff. As a school community we must ensure that school is a safe and secure environment for **every** individual student.

The anti-bullying and anti-cyber bullying policy has close links to the Behaviour, Safe guarding, Code of conduct and PHSE policies of the school.

2. Purpose

- To define bullying and cyberbullying.
- To provide a learning environment free from threat or fear.
- To make children aware of the differences between accidental harm and bullying.
- To raise awareness of the issue within the school community and parents.
- To put in place procedures that will deal with bullying effectively.
- To encourage all children to report instances of bullying.
- To put in place a programme of support for children affected by bullying.
- To monitor the extent of bullying in school.

3. What is Bullying?

At Newton International School we believe that bullying is a repeated series of deliberate actions which causes another person harm or distress.

4. Bullying can take place in school, out of school or on school transport.

Bullying can be:

- Emotional – being unfriendly, excluding or tormenting.
- Physical –any use of physical contact or intimidation.
- Racist – racial taunts, graffiti or gestures.
- Sexual – immoral physical contact or abusive comments.
- Verbal – name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours or teasing.



5. What is Cyber Bullying?

We acknowledge cyberbullying can take place anywhere, especially outside of school hours, and can target pupils or school staff. There are many types of cyber bullying such as text messages, picture/video clips, mobile phone calls, emails, chat room bullying, instant messaging and the use of social networking websites to convey threats, intimidation, harassment etc. We understand cyber bullying is highly intrusive and the hurt it causes can be very severe. As it leaves no physical scars cyber bullying is not easy to detect by a parent or a teacher. As teachers we have a responsibility to confront cyber bullying to lessen its impact upon others.

6. Guidelines

When a Student Reports Bullying in Newton International School, all staff should:

- Deal with it immediately and inform Senior Management.
- SMT (DHOP-P) or the School Counsellor will collect information about the incident from both parties and witnesses if necessary.
- With the consent of both parties a meeting should be arranged to try and resolve the problem.
- Both sets of parents are to be informed and invited to come to the school if necessary.
- Students will be monitored on a regular basis and given the opportunity to express how they are feeling.

Bullying a student at NIS Lagoon will result in the following:

- A meeting with a member of the Senior Management Team.
- Being given a Minor or Major Discipline Referral depending upon the severity and/or the repeated nature of the offense, in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.
- Consequences such as internal detentions or suspensions for more serious or repeated cases.
- Restitution through verbal or written apologies to the victim/s.

Note: Teachers are to respond to parent concerns about cyberbullying as they would about bullying. Parents are asked not to approach children concerned, nor their parents, about these as this may put parents in breach of child protection requirements, and will take matters out of the hands of the school.

Appendix 1: Detection of Possible Bullying

The following are some types of behaviour a teacher should be aware of, which could help to detect if a child is being bullied.

- A sudden dislike of certain places or journeys
- Starts having nightmares or interrupted sleep
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Begins truanting



- School performance starts to suffer
- Feels ill at certain times of the week
- 'Loses' valuable possessions
- Has unexplained bruises or cuts
- Asks for extra pocket money, sweets etc.
- Be unwilling to go to school
- Is bullying other children or siblings
- Asks to be driven to school rather than use school bus
- Refusing, or too frightened, to say what is wrong

Appendix 2: Raising awareness of bullying within the NIS Lagoon community

At Newton International School students are encouraged to:

- refuse to be involved in any bullying situation and to report bullying incidents to their class teachers or teachers supervising play times as soon as possible
- take appropriate preventative action such as speaking out (not physical action) and making it clear to their peers that bullying is not accepted

At Newton International School, staff are expected to:

- Be role models of respectful behaviour to all.
- Be observant of signs of distress or suspected incidents of bullying and to remove occasions for bullying, especially through active patrolling during playground supervision.
- Take some positive action to stop the bullying when they observe an incident by addressing any incidents observed or reported.
- Ensure all students are aware of the school's policy on bullying by conducting whole class lessons each term.
- The Senior Leadership Team should be advised of bullying behaviour and serious or repeated incidents and may then contact parents seeking their cooperation in resolving issues.

At Newton International School, parents are encouraged to:

- Listen to their child and encourage them to speak to their teacher at school
- Encourage children to develop resilience in dealing with minor conflicts and assist them to distinguish serious concerns from everyday events.
- Contact the school if they have a concern.

Cyberbullying: Parents and Staff should remind pupils of:

- The safe use of the internet at home and in the school's ICT Suite
- The school's Acceptable Use of ICT policy
- The need to report any incident of cyber bullying to a class teacher
- Inform pupils of the dangers of cyberbullying through P4C, PSHE, assemblies.
- The importance of privacy settings on social networking sites

7. To prevent bullying in Newton International School:

Newton International School, Lagoon

"An International community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success"



- All members of the school community must know what bullying is and the consequences of bullying someone.
- All staff will deal with complaints seriously - no matter how trivial they may seem.
- Students will be given the opportunity to take part in programmes such as P4C enquiries, PSHE lessons and Anti-bullying weeks.
- Active supervision throughout the school day particularly at lunchtime.
- Provision will be made for children who are bullying in school to be excluded from the playground and/or temporarily removed from classes and placed under the supervision of a member of the Senior Management Team.
- The School Counsellor will provide support for children who have been bullied.