

# Sacred Heart Catholic School Bullying Policy

Sacred Heart Catholic Community provides a safe environment. We have zero tolerance for all bullying as defined in our handbook.

Bullying includes but is not limited to repeated mean behavior, verbal, physical, emotional, and cyber-bullying of any kind.

Sacred Heart Catholic Community investigates all reports of bullying, in a safe environment. False accusations against the target or bully or retaliations will be reprimanded and reported to administration.

Disciplinary actions can include detention, suspension or expulsion.

All pupils, teachers and administration are protected under the policy and that bullying is equally prohibited without regard to its subject matter or motivation.

Teachers, principal and school counselor are responsible for ensuring that the policy is implemented.

This policy will be included in the Parent-Student Handbook.

Once a report of bullying is received by a teacher, principal or school counselor, the administration will speak to the students involved: the alleged bully, the victim and any by-standers who witnessed the alleged bullying incident. After gathering details of the incident a report will be made and the parents of the alleged bully and the victim will be contacted. If continued acts of bullying occur, a meeting will be held with teachers, principal, counselor, student and parents of the individuals involved.

Acts of bullying can be reported in good faith in writing, in person, by email or by phone to either a teacher, principal or school counselor. Any information received through these reports will be kept in confidence and will only be used to eliminate the cause of the bullying.

After receiving an accusation of alleged bullying, an investigation will begin during the school day within 48 hours of the complaint.

A school rubric will be followed that outlines behaviors and the consequences for the specific behavior.

A positive behavior support team will be established to deal with violations of the policy or related complaints.

Educational programs will be presented to pupils and parents on preventing, identifying, responding to and reporting incidents of bullying and cyber-bullying. Educational programs to show the negative effects of bullying will be presented.

Students are expected to be courteous and respectful to others, including administrators, teachers, parish and school employees, volunteers, parents and students, in all of their interactions. Students who engage in name-calling, threats, bullying, intimidation, or other abusive conduct or communication that

has the purpose or effect of creating a hostile, offensive or abusive atmosphere, including such activity as online postings on social-networks, such as Facebook, will be disciplined, up to and including expulsion.

Retaliation in any form, such as harassment, name-calling, ostracizing, intimidation, threats, etc. against an individual including all parish and school employees, volunteers, parents and students, for reporting or cooperating, in good faith, in a parish or school-sponsored or sanctioned investigation will not be tolerated. Anyone found to have engaged in retaliation will be subject to sanctions, up to and including termination from employment and/or exclusion from school.

At school means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. At school includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or the telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the school.

Bullying means any written, verbal, or physical act or any electronic communication, that is intended to or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more person(s) either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one or more person(s).

Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil or school staff to participate in or benefit from the school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil or school staff in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.

Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a person(s) physical or mental health.

Causing substantial disruption in or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

The above Sacred Heart Bullying Policy has been adapted from the Matt's Safe School Law.

Sacred Heart Catholic School Language  
for Students who are Experiencing  
Bullying or Unwelcomed Behavior

**STOP!!!!!!**

I feel .....

When you.....

Next time, I want you to .....

**WALK AWAY!!!!!!**

**TALK TO AN ADULT!!!!!!!!!!**