



Anti-Bullying Policy at Immaculate Heart Primary School

At Immaculate Heart Primary School, we want to make sure every student feels safe and supported. We believe that school should be a place where everyone can talk openly, be respected, and have good relationships. We also think that working together with families is important to make sure students are happy, safe, and ready to learn.

Our School Vision

We are a community that follows the example of Mary, our Mother, and our motto is “Learning with Heart.” We welcome everyone, include them, and help them grow spiritually, personally, and academically.

Our School Mission

- We live by our Catholic faith and teach the Christian story.
- We have strong, respectful relationships based on trust.
- We care about kindness, compassion, and respect.
- We work closely with parents, caregivers, and the church.
- We focus on the wellbeing of everyone in our community.
- We help students grow and do their best.
- We expect high standards from our staff and students.

Our School Values

- **Faith:** Live our faith.
- **Hope:** Shine our light.
- **Love:** Act with grace.

What We Believe About Bullying

We believe bullying can hurt people and damage our school community. We want a safe and supportive environment where everyone feels included. Bullying, including online bullying, is not acceptable, and we will take it seriously.

Why We Have This Policy

- We want teachers to be able to teach without interruptions.
- We want students to learn without fear of being bullied.
- We want to help students make good choices about their behaviour.
- We want everyone to understand the school’s expectations and work together to create a positive environment.

What Happens If Bullying Occurs

- Bullying can be physical, verbal, or emotional.
- Bullying behaviour will lead to consequences. This might include things like counselling, detention, or suspension at the Principal’s discretion.
- We take all reports of bullying seriously. A victim or a witness, needs to tell an adult at school.



What Is Bullying?

- **Bullying** is when someone keeps doing something that hurts or upsets someone else, on purpose. It could be by hitting, name-calling, spreading rumours, or leaving someone out.
- **Harassment** is when someone is treated badly because of reasons such as who they are, race, religion, ability, gender or looks.
- **Discrimination** is treating someone unfairly because of things like their background, Religion, economic status, ability or appearance.
- **Violence** is when someone uses force intentionally to hurt another person.
- **Sexual harassment** is unwelcome sexual behaviour that makes someone feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

Examples Of Bullying (but are not limited to);

- **Physical:** Hitting, pushing, damaging property.
- **Verbal:** Calling names, making threats, spreading lies.
- **Indirect:** Leaving someone out, gossiping.
- **Cyber:** Sending hurtful messages or pictures, online or through text.
- **Graffiti:** Using pictures, tags or words.
- **Social:** Encouraging others to ignore or bully someone.

What Happens If A Student is Accused of Bullying:

- The school will look into every case of reported bullying and take it seriously.
- If a student is found to have bullied someone, they will need to apologise and face consequences.
- If the bullying keeps occurring, the student could be suspended or even expelled.
- Extra external support is recommended for the student bullying.

What A Student Can Do If They See Bullying:

- Tell an adult if they are being bullied or if they see someone else being bullied.
- Don't join in with bullying and try to help those who are being bullied.

What Parents Can Do:

- Look for signs that your child might be bullied, like avoiding school or acting upset.
- Talk to school staff (class teacher first) if you think your child is being bullied.
- Encourage your child to speak up if they're being bullied.

Reporting Bullying:

- Students or parents can report bullying to any teacher or staff member.
- The school will look further into any reports and take the necessary actions in line with the student behaviour support plan.
- Reported incidents of bullying will be recorded.

Steps To Handle Bullying:

1. If bullying happens, tell a teacher or the Principal.
2. The person who bullied will be counselled to understand the impact on other people.
3. Restorative practices will be implemented to support the students involved.
4. If necessary, if bullying keeps occurring, the student may be suspended or even expelled.



Suspension & Expulsion:

If bullying or other serious behaviour happens, a student might be suspended or expelled to protect everyone's safety.

	Updated:	March, 2025
Audience target	Immaculate Heart School – Staff and Community	
Content Type	Policy	
Keywords	NA	
Creator/Owner	B. O'Reilly	
Developed by	Principal	
Next Review Date	March, 2027	