

# **Anti-Bullying Policy**

# **Purpose**

- To provide a safe, respectful, inclusive, and supportive environment where all students can learn without fear of bullying.
- To prevent bullying in all its forms, to respond quickly and appropriately if it occurs, and to support both victims and those who bully to change their behavior.
- To promote values of respect, empathy, kindness, and responsibility among students, staff, and parents.

# Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students at DPS Modern Indian School (all grades).
- All staff (teaching, non-teaching), volunteers, and visitors.
- Conduct
  - On school premises
  - On school buses
  - During school-sponsored activities (off-site or online)
  - Outside school hours, including via electronic means (e.g., social media, messaging) when actions affect the school community.

# **Definition of Bullying**

Bullying is repeated, deliberate behavior intended to hurt, intimidate, or humiliate another person physically, verbally, socially or online. Key features include:

- Intentionality the behavior is meant to harm.
- Repetition the behavior happens more than once or has the potential to recur.
- **Power imbalance** the bully has more power (social status, physical strength, numbers, etc.) over the victim.

Forms of bullying include, but are not limited to:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, pushing, theft, damage to property)
- Verbal (name-calling, teasing, insults, taunts)
- Social / Relational (excluding, spreading rumors, humiliating in public)
- Cyberbullying (via SMS, social media, messaging, email, etc.)
- Other kinds of discriminatory bullying (on basis of race, religion, gender, ability, appearance, etc.)



# **Policy Statement**

- DPS Modern Indian School does not tolerate bullying in any form.
- All members of the school community share responsibility for preventing bullying.
- The school will respond promptly and fairly to any incident of bullying, making sure that victims are supported and perpetrators are held accountable.

# **Roles & Responsibilities**

Role	Responsibilities
School Leadership (Principal / Management)	Ensure policy implementation; provide resources (training, counselling); monitor and review policy; uphold accountability.
Teachers & Staff	Be vigilant; model respectful behavior; intervene in bullying incidents; report and record incidents; support both victim and perpetrator.
Students	Treat others with respect; report bullying; act as positive bystanders; follow school code of conduct.
Parents / Guardians	Support this policy; encourage children to talk about issues; cooperate with the school when bullying is reported; help promote respectful behaviour at home.
Counsellors / Pastoral Care	Provide support to victims and perpetrators; advise on intervention / restorative practices; participate in awareness / prevention programs.

#### **Prevention Strategies**

- Incorporate awareness in curriculum: moral education, character building, social & emotional learning.
- Regular school assembly / class discussions on bullying, empathy, diversity.
- Workshops for students and staff, including training to identify, respond to bullying.
- Promote positive behavior: recognition of kindness, peer support, student leadership in anti-bullying.
- Clear rules, expectations, code of conduct that show what's acceptable behavior.
- Safe reporting mechanisms (anonymous option possible) so students feel safe to come forward.



# **Reporting and Handling Incidents**

# 1. Reporting

- Any student, staff or parent can report bullying.
- Reports should go to a designated staff member (teacher, counselor, or specifically assigned anti-bullying officer).
- Can be verbal or written.

#### 2. Investigation

- The report is acknowledged, and a confidential preliminary inquiry is made.
- Gather information from victim, those accused, and any witnesses.
- Maintain confidentiality as far as possible.

#### 3. Determination

- \* Assess whether behavior meets the school's definition of bullying.
- Consider severity, frequency, and power dynamics.

#### 4. Action & Consequences

- ❖ Depending on seriousness: warnings; loss of privileges; counselling; behavior contracts; detention; suspension or other discipline, consistent with school rules.
- Restore safety for victim.
- Provide support for the bully to change behavior (e.g. counseling, mentoring).

#### 5. Notification

- Inform parents / guardians of both victim and perpetrator.
- Keep records of all incidents and actions taken.

# 6. Follow-up

- Monitor the situation to ensure bullying has stopped.
- Check in with students involved to ensure wellbeing.
- Review and reflect on what was done: are there ways to prevent recurrence?



# **Support for Students**

- Victims: counselling, protection, peer support.
- Perpetrators: help them understand impact of their actions, behavioral interventions, restorative practices.
- Bystanders: encourage them to act positively (report or intervene safely).

# **Training & Professional Development**

- Regular training for staff on recognizing bullying, dealing with cyberbullying, handling disclosures.
- Workshops for students about empathy, digital citizenship, respectful relationships.
- Parent awareness sessions.

# **Monitoring, Evaluation & Review**

- Maintain a bullying-incident log with details (date, persons involved, action taken, outcomes).
- Analyse data periodically to spot patterns (time, place, group).
- Survey students, parents and staff for feedback on how safe students feel.
- Review policy annually (or sooner if required) and update based on experience and any changes in legislation or best practice.

#### **Confidentiality & Protection**

- All reports handled sensitively and confidentially.
- Students reporting bullying will be protected from retaliation.