

# PROVIDENCE ENGLISH PRIVATE SCHOOL

**Anti-Bullying Policy** 

2024 - 2025

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## 1. Aims & Objectives:

At Providence English Private School (PEPS), we believe that all children and young people have the right to an educational environment where they feel safe and which is free from harassment and bullying.

This policy is implemented in partnership with the school's behavior policies and serves the entire school from KG1 to Grade 12.

- To inform students and parents of our expectations in order to ensure a productive partnership, where each and everyone has a role to play in eradicating bullying;
- To maintain a community in which everyone feels valued and safe and where individual differences are appreciated, understood and accepted;
- To promote a secure and happy, caring environment where kindness and helpfulness are expected and respected;
- To praise and reward positive behavior which benefits others and the community as a whole;
- To teach students to respect themselves and others, promoting crucial selfesteem;
- To reduce the emotional and mental distress of any bullying enabling all students the right to enjoy their time at school.

**2.** Bullying:

Bullying is any behavior which is deliberately intended to hurt, threaten, frighten or

discriminate against another individual or group. It is usually unprovoked, happens

again and again as part of a pattern of behavior and can continue for a long period of

time.

**Bullying includes:** 

Physical: Pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching, hair-pulling and other forms of violence or

threats of violence

Verbal: Name-calling and sarcasm

Innuendo: Spreading rumours, persistent teasing

Emotional: Excluding, ridicule, humiliation

Intrusive: Email, text messaging, use of Facebook and other social media, designed

to upset or abuse

Racist: Racial taunts, graffiti, gestures

**Sexual:** Unwanted physical contact or abusive comments

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## 3. Strategies

- a. To have a school wide programme regarding anti-bullying, covering assemblies and presentations that informs and educates pupils and students about the issues related to bullying and gives them strategies to deal with situations they might encounter
- b. To help students through advice and counseling, to make the right choices and not succumb to peer pressure;
- c. To listen to all parties involved in incidents and always take allegations from victims seriously;
- d. To reassure students that the school will do all in its power to protect and support all parties involved while the issues are being resolved;
- e. To foster, by example, the values in which we, as a school, believe;
- f. To investigate all incidents as fully as possible;
- g. To use a range of strategies which challenge bullying behavior;
- h. To include within the curriculum, opportunities to discuss and consider bullying and other forms of anti-social behavior;
- i. To identify bullying behavior at the early stages and work towards behavior modification before the problem becomes more serious.

# 4. Reporting Bullying

#### As a school we will:

- Encourage victims and witnesses to speak up;
- Treat incidents seriously however trivial they might seem at first;
- Be alert, as a whole staff, to changes in behavior, attitude and well-being, reporting these immediately to the appropriate members of staff.

# 5. Responding to Bullying

As a school, we will endeavor to:

- take all bullying problems seriously;
- deal with each incident individually and to access the needs of each student separately;
- regard all incidents as potentially serious and investigate themthoroughly;
- ensure that bullies and victims are interviewed separately;
- obtain witness information;
- keep a written record of the incident, investigation and outcomes which should be recorded on e1 and copied to therelevant staff;
- Ensure that action is taken to prevent further incidents. Suchaction may include:
- Imposition of sanctions such as detention andremoval of privileges;
- Obtaining a sincere apology;
- Informing parents of both bully and bullied;
- Provide support for both victim and bully.

## This policy links to

- Behavior & Discipline Policy
- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Wellbeing Policy

# **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Safeguarding & Child Protection lead is responsible to monitor & evaluate regularly. This policy will be reviewed annually by Senior Leadership Team & Wellness Team.

# **Appendices / Annexures:**

- 1.Incident Reporting
- 2.Conflict Resolution
- 3.Behavior Memo

| Policy Reviewed By   | Social Worker & Senior Leadership Team |
|----------------------|--|
| Policy Reviewed Date | October 2024                           |
| Policy Approved By   | School Principal                       |