



GATEWAY SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Everyone at Gateway School is committed to making our school a safe and caring place for all students. We will treat each other with respect, and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form.

We define *bullying* as follows:

Bullying is unfair and one-sided. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, or leaving someone out on purpose.

Examples of bullying include:

- Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping, pushing, and so on.
- Stealing or damaging another person's things.
- Ganging up on someone.
- Teasing someone in a hurtful way-including "just kidding" remarks or supposed jokes.
- Using put-downs, such as insulting someone's race or making fun of someone for being a girl or boy.
- Touching or showing private body parts.
- Spreading gossip or rumors about someone. (Verbally, written, or on line)
- Leaving someone out on purpose or trying to get other kids not to play with someone.

Staff at Gateway will do the following things to prevent bullying and help children feel safe at school:

- Closely supervise students in all areas of the school and playground.
- Watch for signs of bullying and stop it when it happens.
- Teach character traits, universal expectations, and anti-bullying units from health curriculum in grades 3-5.
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports.
- Take seriously parents' concerns about bullying.
- Look into all reported bullying incidents.
- Assign consequences for bullying based on the school discipline code.
- Provide immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying.

Students at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying:

- Treat each other respectfully.
- Refuse to bully others.
- Refuse to let others be bullies.
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied. Be an advocate.
- Try to include everyone in play, especially those who are often left out.
- Report bullying to an adult.

Consequences:

- Low level referral or office referral
- Conference with teacher
- Conference with principal
- Notification to parent
- Meeting with parents
- Corrective learning lesson (essay, apology, discipline plan)
- Social skills groups
- Service project to school
- Suspension/expulsion

