

Policy Title:

ANTI-BULLYING

PAST: 1

Rationale

At the **British International School of Tunis** we aim to provide a quality of care to all those who work and learn in our school. We create a happy, secure and safe learning community by developing the following moral values:

- Citizenship
- Mutual Respect
- Responsibility
- Love and Compassion

For the purposes of this policy **bullying** is defined as:

'The prolonged oppression or dominance over one pupil by another or others'. This definition includes **physical** and **verbal** bullying, the destruction of belongings, defacing of work and social isolation. We understand as a school, that bullying behaviour can sometimes be a reaction to the behaviour of another child.

We teach children the STOP definition of bullying (Several Times On Purpose)

Systems to prevent bullying

We aim to have no instances of bullying in school. The school is a positive environment for staff, visitors and learners. In addition to the positive relationships, the school also:

- Embeds relationship education into its teaching and learning practice (e.g. SEAL)
- Follows its Equal Opportunities Policy
- Ensures staff complete an appropriate training course
- Encourages the 'Pupil Voice' i.e. in regular class circle time, or PSHCE
- Has a clear set of expectations for behaviour
- Uses teaching time and Assembly to ensure children know:
- a. What behaviour is bullying and what is not (i.e. S.T.O.P) and what to do if they (or someone they know) is being bullied.
- b. That reporting incidents of bullying (i.e. someone is getting hurt) is not 'telling tales'
- c. That all children have the right to feel safe and to say if something is happening that they do not like.

Procedures for children who feel they are being bullied

- Tell the child who is making you unhappy to stop and explain that what they are doing is making you feel sad. Tell them that if they don't stop you will have to tell an adult.
- If it continues you must always tell an adult a class teacher, teaching assistant, lunchtime assistant, caretaker or an older, responsible child.
- If you don't tell someone at school, tell someone at home and they will help you.
- Action can and will be taken if someone is making you unhappy.

Procedures for parents

If a parent suspects that their child is being bullied, then the following procedure should be followed:

- Listen to your child. Consider whether this is 'Several Times on Purpose' or whether it is a single incident.
- Encourage your child to tell the child who is upsetting them that what they
 are doing is not making them feel good and if they don't stop they will tell
 an adult.
- Encourage your child to inform their class teacher or inform the class teacher directly who will discuss the issue with you and record the key information.
- Allow time for the class teacher to investigate and initiate support activities for the children.
- The bully will be given a chance to stop.

If the situation continues the class teacher will inform the Head teacher who will:

- Keep a record any future action.
- Consider all the relevant information and involve parents in developing strategies to improve the situation for the bully and your child
- All staff, including lunchtime assistants, follow the same procedure when an incident of suspected bullying is reported or witnessed.
- Reassure the child/parent that they have done the right thing by telling someone.
- Ensure the child knows that the best thing is not to retaliate.
- Listen to the child/parent and make a record of any key information with names, dates and times.
- Is there any evidence (written for example) or a witness. (In the case of cyber bullying help the person to keep evidence such as screen capture or not deleting emails or texts and help the child to understand how to prevent a repeat i.e. changing contact details, leaving a chatroom etc.)
- Share the information with the Headmaster or Deputy Head and consider subsequent action and support. NB: For incidents of cyber bullying this may include content being removed or disciplinary powers being used to confiscate ICT equipment eg mobile phones. In cases of illegal content, the police will be informed.
- Inform both sets of parents of action to be taken.
- If bullying persists the Headmaster will involve the parents in improving the situation.

Cyber bullying

The experience of being cyber bullied can be very painful for those who are the targets. Adults need to help children and young people prepare for the hazards of using technology while promoting learning and social opportunities. Some forms of cyber bullying are different from other forms:

- Through various media children can be cyber bullied 24 hours a day.
- People who cyber bully may attempt to remain anonymous.
- Anyone of any age can cyber bully.

on "Key Safety Advice – Cyber Bullying (DCSF 2007)

• Some instances of cyber bullying may be unintentional – such as a text sent as a joke or an email to the wrong recipient.

We recognize that the best way to deal with cyber bullying is to prevent it from happening in the first place. By embedding good, safe ICT practice into all our teaching and learning, incidents can be avoided. Our community's principals of e-safety are based

Prevention

Anti-Bullying Policy - September 2014

Responsibility

We recognize we have a shared responsibility to prevent incidents of cyber bullying but the Headmaster has the responsibility for coordinating and monitoring the implementation of anti-cyber bullying strategies.

The school community is aware of the definition of cyber bullying and the impact cyber bullying has.

Understanding Cyber bullying

- Staff receive guidance and review the Anti-Bullying regularly.
- Children are taught how to recognize cyber bullying and their responsibilities to
 use ICT safely. ICT safety is integral to teaching and learning practice in the
 school.
- Parents are also taught how to recognize cyber bullying and their responsibilities for supporting safe ICT. The school will be running regular parental updates on e-safety.

Record Keeping & Monitoring Safe Practice

As with other forms of bullying, the Headmaster keeps records of cyber bullying. Incidents of cyber bullying will be followed up using the same procedures as other forms of bullying. However, we recognize to monitor internet use on a regular basis as a disincentive for bullies misusing school equipment and systems. The ICT technician will conduct regular use checks, log any concerns and inform the Headmaster.

Links to other Policies	Policy: Health & Safety of Pupils at School		
Staff Responsible	Headmaster	Governors' Committee Responsible	Policies Working Group
Date approved by GB		Review Date	September 2015

Signed:	
Chair of Governors	Date
Name in Full	DRAFT: Awaiting GB's Approval