

Bullying and Harassment Policy

Respect for others is an essential part of the Catholic School discipline code. Unfortunately, much of our culture promotes aggressive behavior. Creating a peaceful school community requires much diligence and guidance. As you may know, it has always been part of our belief that any form of demeaning or disrespectful behavior towards others is unacceptable and should not be allowed. **Bullying/harassment is an intentional, repeated, hurtful act (verbal, nonverbal or physical) committed by one or more persons towards others.**

Bullying/harassment are characterized by:

1) Aggressive behavior towards others 2) Repeated over a period of time 3) An imbalance of power

It is important for you to understand that all allegations and threats of bullying/harassment are taken seriously, promptly investigated and dealt with appropriately.

Direct bullying/harassment can take many forms including, but not limited to:

biting	hitting	pinching	stealing
cruel jokes	tricks	teasing	spitting
destroying personal property	ganging up on someone	name calling	taunting
pushing	hurtful words	picking on others	threats

Indirect bullying/harassment can take many forms including but not limited to:

crank phone calls	text messaging, etc.	writing cruel
rude gestures	individual/group exclusion	threatening notes
spreading gossip/rumors	Internet bullying	misusing e-mails

Sometimes children are unable to eliminate acts of bullying or harassment on their own.

If it is determined that a child is bullying, he/she will be placed on an In-School suspension immediately and will be required to complete the day's assignments. In addition, any student participating on an athletic team and who is found guilty of bullying another student will be suspended from the team indefinitely.

Please know that we as parents, administrators and the community must work together to eliminate bullying/harassment. As adults we must take the lead in confronting bullying behavior. We will not tolerate this behavior and are currently reviewing Anti-Bullying programs that can be implemented here at St. John The Evangelist. The cooperation of all is imperative in addressing this issue. If you have any questions, please call us directly.