

LIKILENG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

1. Preface

Bullying of any kind is not tolerated at Likileng International School in any way. We have included this in our Code of Conduct. It is every student's right to go to school free from bullying, and our goal is to create a welcoming, safe, and caring atmosphere that supports efficient teaching and learning. We will not tolerate any form of bullying and will take all necessary steps to address any issues that arise. We will support our students by providing resources and guidance to ensure that every student feels safe and respected. We are fully committed to ensuring that our school is free from bullying.

Objectives:

- To educate students about bullying and provide them with the tools to resist it;
- To deal with bullying consistently and effectively, in accordance with the Code of Conduct;
- To enhance the Code of Conduct and School Rules in order to create a caring, friendly, and safe environment in which effective teaching and learning can occur.
- Educate staff and parents about their role in promoting a respectful attitude towards others and developing self-confidence and self-esteem in order to combat bullying.
- Ensure that students, staff, and parents are fully informed about the school's anti-bullying policy.
- Reassure students and parents that they will receive support when they report bullying.

Definition

Bullying is characterized as persistent, deliberate behavior intended to cause harm, fear, or humiliation to another individual. Bullying can take many forms, such as verbal, physical, social, or online. It is a serious problem that can have long-lasting effects on victims, including anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, and even suicide. It is important to take proactive steps to prevent bullying and to provide support to those who have been affected.

Forms of bullying include, but are not limited to:

- ❖ Physical bullying includes shoving, hitting, and other physical acts of violence.
- ❖ Verbal bullying includes insults, name-calling, and verbal abuse.
- ❖ Spreading rumors, excluding someone from a group, or making them feel uncomfortable in public are examples of social bullying.
- ❖ Cyberbullying is the term for bullying that takes place on digital platforms including emails, texts, and social media.
- ❖ Emotional: exclusion, tormenting (e.g. hiding bags or books), influencing others to dislike someone, making a fool of someone, trying to dominate someone
- ❖ Bullying can also include racial and homophobic bullying, and bullying based on disability, ability, gender, appearance, or circumstance.

Signs of bullying.

Being able to spot the warning signs of bullying is essential for prompt assistance and intervention. Bullying can take many different forms, including verbal, physical, social, and cyberbullying.

Typical indicators that someone is being bullied include the following:**Behavioral signs**

- ❖ Withdrawal from Activities: Steering clear of social interactions and past interests in activities.
- ❖ Isolation: Avoiding social connections with peers or spending a lot of time **alone** .
- ❖ Declining Academic Performance: Sudden drop in grades or lack of interest in education.
- ❖ Modifications in Eating Behavior: Missing meals, overindulging, or unexplained weight gain or loss.

- ❖ Being absent frequently refers to skipping classes or other events without a good explanation.

Emotional Signs

- ❖ Mood swings: Displaying abrupt or severe shifts in feeling.
- ❖ Low Self-Esteem: Showing a lack of self-worth or confidence.
- ❖ Anxiety or depression symptoms include trepidation, excessive anxiety, or persistent unhappiness.
- ❖ Fearfulness: The fear of attending school or engaging in specific activities.
- ❖ Unknown Outbursts: Angry or tearful moments that do not seem to have a purpose.

Physical Signs

- ❖ Unaccounted-For Injuries: Wounds, lacerations, or additional wounds that the patient refuses to describe.
- ❖ Regular Illness: Self-reported bodily complaints, such as headaches, stomachaches, or other maladies, that do not have a medical explanation.
- ❖ Sleep Pattern Modifications: Excessive sleep, nightmares, or insomnia.

Social Signs

- ❖ Loss of Friends: Social marginalization or an abrupt loss of friends.
- ❖ Change in Friendship Dynamics: A change in the way peers relate to the individual, frequently in a bad way.
- ❖ Avoiding Social Situations: Being reluctant or unwilling to participate in social events or group activities.

Digital Signs

- ❖ Distress after Online Activities: Feeling angry or disturbed following a mobile phone or internet session.
- ❖ Secrecy Regarding Online Activity: Closing their screen or acting reticently when interacting with others online.

- ❖ Abrupt Alteration in Device Utilization: A notable rise or fall in the amount of time spent on their gadgets.

Rights and responsibilities

Rights

- ❖ Right to Education: Students have the right to access quality education without discrimination.
- ❖ Right to Safety: Students should feel safe at school, free from bullying, harassment, and violence.
- ❖ Right to Respect: Students are entitled to be treated with dignity and respect by peers, teachers, and school staff.
- ❖ Right to Free Expression: Students can express their opinions, beliefs, and ideas within the bounds of respectful and non-disruptive behavior.
- ❖ Right to Privacy: Students have the right to privacy regarding their personal information and belongings.
- ❖ Right to Participate: Students can participate in school activities, including clubs, sports, and governance (e.g., student council).
- ❖ Right to Fair Treatment: Students should receive fair and unbiased treatment in academic evaluations and disciplinary actions.
- ❖ Right to Due Process: In disciplinary situations, students have the right to understand the accusations against them, present their side of the story, and appeal decisions.
- ❖ Right to Special Services: Students with disabilities have the right to appropriate accommodations and support services to ensure equal access to education.
- ❖ Right to Equal Opportunity: All students should have equal access to school resources, programs, and activities.

Responsibilities

- ❖ Respect for Others: Students must respect the rights, property, and opinions of others.
- ❖ Adherence to School Rules: Students are responsible for following the rules and regulations set by the school.
- ❖ Academic Integrity: Students should complete their own work and avoid cheating, plagiarism, or any form of academic dishonesty.
- ❖ Attendance and Punctuality: Students are expected to attend classes regularly and be on time.
- ❖ Personal information disclosure: Students should not share their personal information with any other person except the concerned party and also other students are not expected to reveal any confidential information about other students.
- ❖ Effort and Engagement: Students should make a genuine effort to engage in their studies and participate actively in the learning process.
- ❖ Responsibility for Actions: Students must take responsibility for their behavior and accept the consequences of their actions.
- ❖ Respect for School Property: Students should care for and respect school property and resources.
- ❖ Promotion of a Safe Environment: Students are responsible for contributing to a safe and positive school environment by not engaging in bullying, violence, or harassment.
- ❖ Collaboration and Teamwork: Students should work collaboratively with peers and teachers and contribute positively to group activities and projects.
- ❖ Advocacy and Reporting: Students have the responsibility to report any instances of bullying, discrimination, or unsafe conditions to school authorities.

Strategies to underpin Likileng International School stand on Bullying.

- ❖ Gatherings aimed at drawing attention to and discouraging bullying
- ❖ Motivating pupils to speak out against bullying
- ❖ Encouraging students to report bullying occurrences or suspicions of bullying so that swift action can be taken
- ❖ Handling bullying incidents in compliance with the Code of Conduct
- ❖ Providing counselling services to the impacted student

- ❖ Seeking ways to assist the bully in assuming proper behaviors

Procedures

Before School, After School and at Break time.

Any of the teachers who are on duty are available to talk to students who feel like they are being bullied. In order to support pupils, the teacher will mediate disputes between the accused bully and the student. If more action is needed, the issue will be brought before the chairperson for that particular phase. The school has a clear policy on bullying, and it is enforced with disciplinary action if necessary. The school also encourages students to speak up if they feel they are being bullied. An anonymous reporting system is also available for students to report any incidents of bullying.

In the classroom,

The class instructor will handle bullying that occurs in the classroom. The instructor will submit the incident to the or the disciplinary **chairperson** for the applicable phase if they believe that more intervention is necessary.

On the Athletic Field **or** the sports pitch, bullying will be dealt with by the team management or coach. If the manager or coach believes that more action is needed, the problem will be brought to the attention of the secretary or the **chairperson** for that particular phase.

Handling the Parties in Conflict :Every incident of bullying shall be handled with tact and in accordance with the Code of Conduct. **The culprit/perpetrator** may get a verbal warning or be **caused to make an** apology, suspension, or expulsion as consequences.

Interviews will typically be conducted with each of the involved kids. We shall always uphold the rights of the victim and the bully. The issue will be looked at in great detail, and the parents or guardians of the pupils concerned will be contacted. If there is a need for a disciplinary hearing, it will be conducted in accordance with the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct. Counselling may be recommended for both the bully and the victim.

