



Anti-Bullying Policy

Current Review Date: November, 2023

Next Review Date: November, 2024

Start-Rite Schools Anti-Bullying Policy

Policy Statement

Start-Rite Schools is committed to providing a supportive, caring, and safe learning environment, free from the detrimental effects of bullying. Bullying is deemed as anti-social behaviour, affecting everyone in the school community. It is deemed unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The implementation of effective anti-bullying measures is geared towards promoting a culture where all students can benefit fully from the educational opportunities offered at Start-Rite Schools.

Bullying Definition and Types

Bullying is defined as deliberately hurtful behaviour repeated over time, making it challenging for victims to defend themselves. The three main types of bullying include physical (e.g., hitting, kicking, theft), verbal (name-calling, racist remarks), and indirect (e.g., spreading rumors, exclusion, including cyberbullying).

Identification and Reporting

Students experiencing bullying may exhibit behavioural changes, such as shyness, nervousness, feigned illness, unusual absences, or seeking solace in adults. Start-Rite Schools emphasises the importance of reporting bullying promptly. Teaching and support staff are trained to recognise signs of bullying and are mandated to address incidents promptly and firmly in accordance with school policy.

Prevention of Bystander Behaviour

Start-Rite Schools acknowledges the role of bystanders in preventing and addressing bullying incidents. Students (and staff) are encouraged not to be bystanders but upstanders, actively intervening and reporting incidents. Creating a culture where students take responsibility for the well-being of their peers contributes to a positive and inclusive school environment.

Implementation Steps

- Immediate action by the involved staff member upon suspicion or report
- Detailed incident recording provided to the Head of School
- Headteacher conducts interviews and records incidents
- Class teachers/form tutors kept informed, with further advice to subject teachers if needed
- Ongoing communication with parents to keep them informed
- Appropriate punitive measures, determined in consultation with all parties concerned

Support for Involved Students

Students who have been bullied receive immediate support, including the opportunity to discuss the experience, continuous reassurance, and restoration of self-esteem and confidence. Students engaged in bullying behaviour undergo a process of understanding, acknowledgment of wrongdoing, and involvement of parents or guardians to facilitate attitude change.

Disciplinary Measures

In line with school's code of conduct, disciplinary steps may include official warnings, detention, exclusion from specific school areas, minor fixed-term exclusion, major fixed-term exclusion, or permanent exclusion.

Education Within the Curriculum

The school integrates anti-bullying awareness into the curriculum, incorporating it into PSHE, form tutorial time, assemblies, and relevant subject areas. This proactive approach aims to eradicate bullying behaviour.

Monitoring, Evaluation, and Review

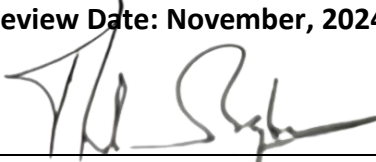
Start-Rite Schools commits to an annual review of this policy, assessing its implementation and effectiveness. The ongoing promotion and implementation of the policy throughout the school ensure a consistent and vigilant approach to preventing and addressing bullying.

Conclusion

Start-Rite Schools Abuja is dedicated to fostering a safe and inclusive environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. By implementing this anti-bullying policy, we aim to prevent and address bullying incidents, promote responsible behaviour, and uphold the well-being and dignity of all members of our school community.

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Senator Victor Ndoma-Egba *OFR, CON, SAN*
Chairman, Advisory Board



Femi Akinlade
Principal