

POLICY ON PROMOTING RESPECT, DEVELOPING FRIENDSHIP (ANTI-BULLYING)

KISC VALUES

KISC recognises the importance of promoting respect and developing friendships in order to build a cohesive, supportive community in which everyone, irrespective of their differences, seeks to care for one another and build the common good.

Make every effort to live in peace with everyone.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

KISC values require us to place great importance on the right of each individual to develop uniquely in an atmosphere of complete safety, enjoying respect and free from all forms of speech and action which cause fear. Bullying in all its forms is contrary to the ethos of KISC, as defined in its foundation document, and will not be tolerated.

We define bullying as:

Any form of behaviour, whether a single act or repeated over time, which isolates, humiliates, belittles or which mentally or physically hurts any other person.

We consider examples of bullying to include:

Name calling, teasing, stalking, intimidation, extortion, physical aggression, acts of violence, damage to property and any unkind action or comment (this includes any malicious activity using electronic means such as e-mail, text, postings on social media).

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The school's anti-bullying policy is both rigorous and simple: bullying will not be tolerated.

This message is delivered in assemblies, by Homeroom teachers/Class Teachers and as part of the PSHE curriculum. All staff work to provide support for students by counselling students and restoring relationships led by the ALT, Homeroom teachers and the Pastoral Team. Senior students give their time in establishing friendships with Grade 6/Year 7 students, and are also available to offer informal counselling to any student during the lunch hour. All students are asked to alert staff if they suspect bullying is taking place, including on journeys to and from school.

STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH BULLYING

This school will always deal seriously with any and every incident of bullying. All students are encouraged to be open about such incidents and to accept their corporate responsibilities which have been reinforced through a range of activities. Students,

Homeroom Teachers and ALT members are encouraged to use assemblies to address the topic.

Once an incident has been brought to the attention of an adult, directly or indirectly, it will be dealt with appropriately. The most serious incidents will be dealt with by a senior member of staff using the standard options of discipline open to him/her as outlined in the KISC Director's Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

SCHOOL CURRICULUM LINKS

Students are taught positive participative citizenship through PSHE in all Grades/Year Groups.

PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Parents are encouraged to take an active interest in their child's social life and to talk about friends and their activities in and out of school. Parents are advised to look for signs of stress in their child or reluctance to attend school. If a problem is perceived parents are encouraged to contact school immediately. Students too are given clear advice on how to deal with bullying, whether as a victim or onlooker. KISC will provide information sessions for parents to enable them to identify how to protect their children from bullying as appropriate, such as cyber bullying, sexting, etc. KISC will provide information through its weekly update to support parents in dealing with bullying.

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