

chaseterracetechnologycollege

Anti - Bullying Policy

Affirmation

Chase Terrace Technology College recognises that bullying is a serious issue for the entire school community. We recognise the damage it can cause to the education of the victim, the perpetrator and the student body as a whole. We are committed to challenging the assumption that bullying is inevitable and are working towards its prevention.

Aims

The aim of this policy is to provide a definition of bullying and to establish some basic guidelines for :

- The prevention of bullying
- The reporting of bullying
- The recording of incidents of bullying
- Supporting the victim
- Supporting the bully
- Sanctions

Chase Terrace's definition of bullying

Bullying is wrong. There are no exceptions to this statement.

Bullying is any action which hurts or threatens another person, either physically or mentally.

Bullying is done with the intention of causing distress and usually takes place over a period of time.

Prevention

Chase Terrace Technology College is committed to the prevention of bullying. In order to do this the school will:

- Have an Anti-Bullying Week every year to promote the school's anti-bullying policy

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- Deliver anti-bullying lessons in Citizenship and other relevant subject areas
- Deliver training to staff on the Anti-bullying policy and other associated issues
- Have relevant Anti-Bullying information available for students in Student Support
- Ensure that all parents have a copy of the Anti-Bullying Policy sent to them on request
- Offer parent events where Anti Bullying support can be shared - these will cover school policy and procedures as well as CEOP support and how to stay safe on the Internet

Reporting

Chase Terrace is committed to removing the culture of secrecy from bullying. We recognise that many young people will be put off reporting bullying because they fear that it will make matters worse.

In order to promote the reporting of bullying the school will:

- Carry out surveys on bullying at least once a year, allowing students to disclose if they are being bullied anonymously
- Provide training for staff and peer mediators in how to deal with a disclosure about bullying
- Deal with each disclosure about bullying sensitively and with a guarantee about anonymity if this is required
- Use CCTV footage to provide evidence of behaviours that have been a cause for concern

In order to ensure the accuracy of reporting written testimony will be taken from the victim, the perpetrator and any witnesses. These will be treated sensitively and kept confidential.

Recording

In order to monitor the frequency with which incidents of bullying take place the Student Support Officers for each year group will ensure incidents are correctly recorded and these will be discussed at each Student support meeting. The following information will be recorded:

- The student's name
- Their form
- Whether or not they wish to remain anonymous
- Brief details about the alleged incident
- Who dealt with it
- What action was taken

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A bullying diary will also be issued to the students so they can monitor and record any incidents.

CCTV footage will always be sought in support of the victim and placement of potential new cameras will be prioritised around reducing incidents (based on student feedback)

Support for the victim

Chase Terrace Technology College recognises how traumatic being the victim of bullying can be. We are committed to providing each victim with the support they need to continue with their education in an environment free from the fear of bullying. In order to do this the school will:

- Discuss with the student what support they feel they need
- Discuss with the parent/s what support they feel their child needs
- Supervised break and lunchtimes should they feel it is necessary
- Utilise internal support mechanisms - Bullying diaries, peer mediators, youth counsellors, circle time, circle of friends, involvement in school clubs and activities
- Make referrals to external agencies if necessary - CAMHS
- Offer a meeting with the perpetrator of the bullying

Support for the perpetrator

Chase Terrace Technology College recognises that bullying can damage the education of the perpetrator as well as the victim. Students that bully will be offered a range of support. This will include one or more of the following:

- Supervised break and lunch times
- A report card
- An Agreed Behaviour Contract (ABC)
- A Pastoral Support Programme
- Time in the Focus Room
- A Managed Move to another school
- A referral to an external agency - Connexions, CAMHS, The Bridge (Improving Behaviour Programme), YISP, Positive Futures, Police

Sanctions

It is important for the victim of bullying, the perpetrator, and the school community as a whole, that alongside the support that is put in place to prevent further behaviours/incidents, there are clearly defined consequences for any act of bullying. Each case will be dealt with individually, but the types of sanctions available to the school are:

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- Verbal warning
- Parental contact and interview
- Withdrawal of break times and lunchtimes
- Detentions - including Head's detention
- A period of inclusion in the Focus Room
- For persistent offenders alternative school day timings
- Fixed term exclusions
- Permanent exclusions

It is important to note that although we will do our very best to deal with any incidents of bullying that occur within school, many incidents occur on the way home, via mobile phones and also via the internet. We have advice leaflets and web addresses in school that students may pick up at any point giving useful information and support. This information will also be made available to parents at consultation evenings and New Intake evening, or on request. The increased usage of Facebook and other social Networking sites will be regularly raised with parents and advice given as to how they too can support school in reducing incidents of bullying and malicious behaviour. Using CEOP and "Safer Internet" materials information evenings will be offered that highlight the concerns of unrestricted internet usage and advice for parents as to how they can take a proactive stance in supporting school and their children.