

Solana Beach School District

Bullying Prevention Policy

The Our School Community is committed to making our school a safe and caring environment for all students. We will treat each other with respect and refuse to tolerate bullying of any kind.

Definition: Bullying is unfair and one-sided. Bullying behavior happens when someone keeps hurting, harassing, intimidating, threatening, or causing substantial emotional distress to a person. Cyberbullying is the use of electronic communication media (cell phones, text messages, instant messaging, social networks, etc.) to bully another student in the ways described above. Bullying and cyberbullying interfere with a student's educational opportunities and can substantially disrupt the orderly operations of the school.

Bullying behaviors include the following:

- Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping, or pushing
- Stealing or damaging another person's things
- Ganging up on someone
- Teasing someone in a hurtful way
- Using put-downs (i.e., insulting or making fun of someone)
- Name calling
- Spreading rumors or untruths about someone
- Leaving someone out on purpose, or trying to get other kids not to play with someone
- Using any electronic communication device (texting, cell phones, social networks, etc.) to insult, threaten, or post untrue information or embarrassing photos about another student

Students at Our School will do the following things to prevent bullying:

- Treat everyone with respect and kindness
- Refuse to bully others
- Refuse to let others be bullied
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied
- Try to include everyone in play, especially those who are often left out
- Report bullying behavior to an adult

Teachers and staff at Our School will do the following things to prevent bullying and help children feel safe at school:

- Closely supervise students in all areas of the school and playground
- Watch for signs of bullying behavior and stop it when it happens
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports using the Four-A-Response Process (**A**ffirm Feelings, **A**sk Questions, **A**ssess Safety, and **A**ct by coaching the child on what to do in the future)
- Look into all reported bullying incidents
- Assign consequences for bullying based on the school discipline code
- Assign immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying

Consequences for Violation of the Anti-Bullying Policy

Bully behavior, including cyberbullying, will not be tolerated. If cyberbullying occurs outside of school hours, but the repercussions are brought to school and disrupt the school and/or interfere with a student's emotional/social well being, consequences will be given. Depending on the severity and nature of the incident, the principal or designee will take one or more steps on the following page when bullying occurs:

- Intervention, Warning, and Redirection
A teacher, principal, or staff member will ensure that the immediate behavior stops and reinforce to the student who is doing the bullying that bullying will not be tolerated. During this meeting with the student, the staff member will redirect the student and come up with a plan for success should they find themselves in a similar situation in the future.
- Notification of Parents
School staff will notify the parents of involved students. The parents might be asked to meet with the principal or other members of the school staff, including the student’s teacher and/or the school guidance counselor.
- Resolution with the Target of the Bullying
The student who is bullying may be required to write a letter of apology to the student who was bullied. Depending upon the nature of the incident, the students involved may meet to help resolve the problem and ensure it does not happen again.
- Referral to School Support Staff
The student who is bullying may meet with the school psychologist or guidance counselor to help prevent future violations.
- Consequences
The student who is bullying may be assigned detention and/or lose school privileges (i.e., serving on student council, school newspaper, school performances, yearbook, etc). In cases of serious or repeated bullying, the student may be subject to suspension and/or expulsion. If serious circumstances warrant, law enforcement may also be contacted.

Solana Beach School District Anti-Bullying Parent/Student Pledge

For Student:	For Parent:
<p>I, _____, have reviewed this contract with my teacher and promise that I will do my best to keep our school a safe and caring place. This means that I will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treat <i>everyone</i> with kindness and respect. 2. Refuse to bully others. 3. Refuse to let others be bullied. 4. Not use electronic devices to bully others. 5. Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied. 6. Try to include everyone in play, especially those who are often left out. 7. Report bullying to an adult. <p>_____</p> <p align="center"><i>Student Signature</i> <i>Date</i></p>	<p>I, _____, have reviewed this contract and support my child in keeping our school a safe and caring place. This means that I will model and reinforce the following with my child:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Treat <i>everyone</i> with kindness and respect. 2. Refuse to bully others. 3. Refuse to let others be bullied. 4. Not use electronic devices to bully others. 5. Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied. 6. Try to include everyone in play, especially those who are often left out. 7. Report bullying to an adult. <p>_____</p> <p align="center"><i>Parent Signature</i> <i>Date</i></p>

Please return to your classroom teacher. This document will be kept in the classroom.