

GLEN HEAD SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

Mission Statement:

Everyone at Glen Head School is committed to making our school a safe and caring place for all students. We will treat each other with respect, and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form.

It is our belief that “Bullying is participation in any intentional behavior that causes physical, emotional or social damage through the abuse of power.” This can be done either through physical size, social status, intelligence, or other factors that make the bully powerful.

Our school defines bullying as follows:

Bullying is unfair and one-sided. It happens when someone keeps hurting, frightening, threatening, teasing or leaving someone out on purpose.

Examples of bullying include:

- Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping, pushing and so on.
- Stealing or damaging another person’s things.
- Ganging up on someone.
- Teasing someone in a hurtful way.
- Using put-downs, such as insulting someone’s race or making fun of someone for being a boy or girl, tall, short, heavy, thin, wearing glasses, etc.
- Touching, showing, or making reference to private body parts.
- Spreading rumors about someone.
- Leaving someone out on purpose or trying to get other kids not to play with someone.

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 and stop it when it happens.
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports using the following coaching model(The Four A-Response Process):
 1. Affirm the child’s feelings.
 2. Ask questions.
 3. Assess the child’s safety.
 4. Act.
- Take seriously students and parents’ concerns about bullying.
- Look into all reported bullying incidents.
- Assign appropriate consequences for bullying based on the **school discipline code**.
- Provide immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying.

Students at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying:

- Treat each other respectfully.
- Refuse to bully others.
- Refuse to let others be bullied.
- Bystanders have a responsibility to assist victims in a variety of ways, including but not limited to the following:
 - 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 to an adult.
 - Remove victim from bullying situation by inviting him/her to join a different activity with you.
 - Distract bully by inviting him/her to join you in a positive activity.

Parents at our school will do the following to prevent or address bullying:

A. Parents will become integral members of the process in order to ensure a bully-free environment. When a child reports bullying, utilize the following coaching model (Four A-Response):

1. Affirm the child's feelings

Ideas:

- "You were right to report/get help from an adult."
- "I'm glad you asked for help with this."

2. Ask questions.

Ideas:

- "Tell me more about what happened."
- "Has this happened before?"
- "Did anyone try to help you?"
- "Are you telling me this to get someone in trouble or to keep someone safe?"

3. Assess the child's safety.

- *Determine what the child needs to feel safe now.*

4. Act.

- *Refer the child to school personnel for coaching.*
- *Be sure to contact school personnel to report the situation.*
- *Tell the child what will happen next.*

B. *In the event the school becomes aware that a child has engaged in bullying behaviors:*

- *The parent of the child will be notified by school personnel.*
- *Parental assistance will be sought to address the situation.*