

Star Hill Bully Prevention Policy

The purpose of the Star Hill Elementary School Bully Free School Policy is to heighten awareness around the issue of bullying and to promote a safe learning environment for all students. The initiative includes information and activities for students during classroom lessons and school wide assemblies as well as proactive interventions to stop bullying before it begins and address bullying situations should they arise.

What is Bullying?

- Aggressive behavior that is intentional, intimidating, and occurs repeatedly over a period of time
- Bullying can be direct
- Bullying can be indirect

The Four Types of Bullying

- **Physical Bullying (Direct Bullying)**
 - Hitting, Kicking or Pushing Someone
 - Stealing, Hiding or ruining someone's things
 - Making someone do something he or she doesn't want to do
- **Verbal Bullying (Direct Bullying)**
 - Name calling
 - Taunting
 - Insulting
- **Emotional Bullying (Indirect Bullying)**
 - Refusing to talk to someone
 - Spreading lies and rumors about someone
 - Making someone feel left out or rejected
- **Cyber-Bullying (Can be Direct or Indirect)**
 - Emails
 - Instant Messaging
 - Texting
 - Blogs
 - Chat Rooms
 - Communication Technologies

Where Can Bullying Occur?

Bullying can occur anywhere, but tends to be more prominent in places where there is no direct teacher supervision, like hallways, busses, the cafeteria, and playground. At Star Hill we will work together to ensure that students feel safe during all times of the day and across all school situations.

Who Can Be a Bully?

- Boys are most often overt bullies
- Girls are most often indirect bullies
- There is no such thing as an "innocent bystander"; At Star Hill we believe that everyone has a responsibility to keep the school safe and Bully Free by reporting any suspicion of bullying behavior to an adult.

What Procedures are Followed?

- All incidents of reported bullying, regardless of whether the school could substantiate the incident, are required to be reported to the Delaware Department of Education within five working days.

- The school is required to notify a parent, guardian, or relative caregiver pursuant to 14 Del Code section 202 (f), or the legal guardian of any person who is a target of bullying or person who bullies another as defined by 14 Del Code section 4112D.