

What are the consequences of bullying?

When bullying is suspected the school conducts an investigation. If the investigation finds that bullying did occur, it will result in prompt and appropriate disciplinary action. This may include but is not limited to social probation, detention, and parent conference.

RESOURCES

NOVA
(Network of Victims Assistance)
1-800-675-6900

Center for Safe Schools
www.center-school.org/bullyingprevention

US Department of Health and Human Services
www.stopbullying.gov

Teaching Tolerance
www.tolerance.org

Cyber Bullying
www.cyberbullying.us

It Gets Better
www.itgetsbetter.org

The Central Bucks School District has developed a Bullying Prevention Curriculum for all levels that includes:

- Definition of Bullying
- Types of Bullying
- Roles within the bullying cycle
- Response strategies
- Reporting



CONFIDENTIALITY

The Central Bucks School District respects and maintains confidentiality throughout the Bullying Prevention process.



CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEADING THE WAY

Bullying Prevention and Intervention Program

Central Bucks School District addresses the issues of bullying and cyber bullying through

**education,
prevention and
intervention.**

Our approach is pro-social and developmental; it focuses on

**respect,
resiliency,
empathy and
personal responsibility**

What is bullying?

Bullying occurs when one or more student(s) repeatedly hurts, threatens or torments another student intentionally. Although most bullying behavior is repeated, one act may be considered bullying if it is likely to be repeated. Another important component of bullying behavior is that there is a marked imbalance of power between the bully and the victim. Negative actions include physical, verbal or indirect actions that may include, but are not limited to: name calling, teasing, threatening looks, gestures, note writing, electronic communication, extortion, physical, social or emotional intimidation, threats and assault.

What bullying is not?

Bullying is distinct from the normal conflicts of childhood. It is not bullying when two children of approximately equal strength or power have a fight, disagreement or argument. Students need to develop the problem solving and conflict resolution skills to deal with normal conflict. Bullying behavior is different and our responses are also different.

What is an imbalance of power?

Power imbalances can be characterized by physical differences between children, such as age, size and strength. They need not be physical. Power can also be characterized by popularity, social status, physical abilities and access to resources.



What parents can do to help with prevention?

- Monitor your child's social activities.
- Encourage your child to develop positive friendships.
- Talk openly about respect to increase tolerance of others.
- Teach and model respect as well as effective conflict resolution skills.
- Teach your child about the importance of being a friend.

What students can do if they are bullied or witness bullying?

- Report bullying to an adult at school or home.
- Avoid the bully when possible.
- Stay calm and walk away.
- Use humor.
- Tell a friend.
- Help the victim get away from the bully.
- Create a distraction.
- Encourage the victim and spend time with him or her.

What parents can do if they suspect their child is involved in a bullying situation?

- Notify school personnel.
- Listen to your child and calmly gather pertinent information.
- Encourage your child to report bullying incidents to an adult.
- Encourage positive responses rather than retaliation.
- Reinforce to your child that what is happening is not his/her fault.