



TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

1. RATIONALE

Trinity High School, per its mission, challenges young women to seek faith, knowledge and truth, guiding them in developing skills for lifelong learning, an ethic of care and the desire for excellence. Each student is recognized as unique. In a nurturing, Catholic, college preparatory environment, she is encouraged to become self-directed toward responsible participation in the Global community in order to impact society, Church and family in the twenty-first century. By addressing all forms of bullying, Trinity High School works to sustain a positive, empowering and faith-centered learning environment which respects the uniqueness of each individual student.

2. BULLYING DEFINITIONS

Trinity High School defines “Bullying” as repeated intimidation to cause psychological, emotional, or physical harm. There are various forms of bullying, which include:

- **Physical;** unwanted physical contact such as shoving, punching, tripping, hitting or threatening with an object or weapon
- **Verbal;** name calling, using insults or making homophobic, racist or slanderous remarks
- **Social;** spreading malicious rumours, making allegations, hurtful gestures or spreading rumors
- **Cyber;** using email, social networking sites or mobile phone messaging to troll, intimidate, humiliate

3. AIMS

Through this anti-bullying policy, Trinity High School aims to create a positive learning environment for all members of our community. In order to **prevent bullying** we will promote a common anti-bullying approach through:

- communicating a **commitment** to our shared mission with all stakeholders
- providing an anti-bullying program to all students during retreats and classes
- providing daily reminders of behavior through prayer
- providing monthly opportunities for both students and adults in our community to get to know one another through Vision Group meetings.
- providing each student with two adult advocates: a counselor and a homeroom teacher
- providing positive role models in the school community through Campus Ministry and student clubs and organizations such as SAFEE (Student Alliance for Education and Equality), SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), Shades of Us (Student empowerment and celebration of diversity) and Blazers Seeking Justice
- publishing Trinity High School’s Anti-Bullying Policy on school website

All members of the school community are expected to report incidents of bullying.

All teachers and support staff have a vital role to play in preventing bullying at Trinity High School. Adults in our community share the responsibility for the prevention of bullying and for



responding to incidents of bullying. Relationships involving mutual trust and respect should be built up so that all students, parents/guardian and school staff

- will feel confident that Trinity High School is a safe and secure environment
- will feel supported in reporting incidents of bullying
- will be reassured that all incidences of bullying will be thoroughly investigated

4. RECORDING OF INCIDENTS

All incidents, either in or out of class will be recorded by a staff member of the school, who will take responsibility for ensuring that the incident is properly recorded and that the record is updated as necessary throughout an investigation.

Parents/guardians of students involved will be informed that the incident will be thoroughly investigated.

5. RESPONSES TO BULLYING

Whenever a bullying incident is discovered, the school will go through a number of steps that may include:

- Conversation with the Principal, Dean or Counselor
- Meeting with staff, parent and bullied student(s) to discuss incident
- Meeting with staff, parent and student(s) who bullied to discuss incident
- Discussing strategies for taking responsibility, making amends; restorative practice
- Continued monitoring of all involved students individually
- Referral to external agencies e.g. mental health care professionals
- Detention or Suspension
- Contacting authorities
- Expulsion from Trinity High School