



Bullying and Physical Fighting Policy

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Bullying and Physical Fighting Policy

1. Purpose:

Soneike Private School is committed to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. This policy aims to prevent and address bullying and physical fighting behavior, promoting a culture of kindness, respect, and inclusivity.

2. Definitions:

2.1 Bullying

Any behavior intended to harm, intimidate, or threaten someone, including physical, verbal, and cyberbullying.

2.2 Physical Fighting

Any physical altercation or violence between students, including hitting, punching, kicking, or other physical aggression.

3 Policy

3.1 Zero Tolerance

Bullying and physical fighting will not be tolerated in any form at Soneike Private School.

3.2 Reporting

Students, parents, and staff are encouraged to report any bullying or physical fighting incidents to a trusted teacher or administrator.

3.3 Investigation

Reports of bullying or physical fighting will be investigated promptly and thoroughly.

4. Consequences:

Bullying

4.1 First Offense

Verbal warning and parent contact.

4.2 Second Offense:

Detention and suspension (1-3 days).

4.3 Third Offense:

Suspension (3-5 days) and parent meeting with administration.

4.5 Fourth Offense:

Expulsion (permanent or temporary, depending on severity and circumstances)

5 Physical Fighting:

- Minor Altercation: Suspension (1-3 days).
- Moderate Altercation: Suspension (3-5 days).
- Severe Altercation: Expulsion (permanent).

6 Expulsion Criteria:

- The student who initiates a physical fight or bullying behavior may face expulsion, depending on the severity of the incident and their disciplinary history.
- The student who does not initiate the physical fight or bullying behavior, but engages in retaliatory behavior, may face suspension or other disciplinary actions, but expulsion may not be automatic. However, if the student who fights back does so with excessive force or severity, causing harm to the other student, they may also face expulsion.

7. Mitigating Factors:

7.1 Self-defense:

If a student is found to have acted in self-defense, with reasonable force, they may not face expulsion, unless they have a prior history of physical fighting or bullying behavior.

7.2 Provocation:

If a student is found to have been severely provoked, and their response was not disproportionate, they may not face expulsion, unless they have a prior history of physical fighting or bullying behavior.

- **Support:** Victims of bullying or physical fighting will receive support and assistance from teachers and administrators to ensure their well-being and safety.
- **Education:** Students will participate in anti-bullying programs and workshops to promote empathy, respect, and inclusivity.
- **Parent Involvement:** Parents will be informed and involved in the disciplinary process, and may be required to attend meetings with administration.

Commitment:

Soneike Private School is committed to creating a safe and supportive environment for all students. We will work together to prevent bullying and physical fighting and promote a culture of kindness and respect. While this policy is in place, school staff have a responsibility to protect all children, and we recognize that parents may sometimes underestimate the severity of bullying behavior. However, we assure you that we take all incidents seriously and will investigate and address them promptly and thoroughly to ensure the well-being and safety of all students.

Review and Revision:

This policy will be reviewed and revised annually, or as needed, to ensure its effectiveness and relevance.