

The college places the utmost importance on its responsibility to create and promote a safe, caring and happy environment in which effective learning may take place.

What is bullying?

- Bullying is behaviour which deliberately makes another person feel uncomfortable, distressed or threatened.
- Bullying is repeated over time.
- Bullying makes those being bullied feel powerless to defend themselves.

Why are we against bullying?

- everyone has the right to feel welcome, secure and happy
- we should treat everyone with consideration
- bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our college.

What types of bullying are there?

- Emotional (being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening behaviour)
- Verbal (name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing)
- Physical (pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence)
- Extortion (demanding money/goods with threats)
- Cyber (all areas of internet, email and social network misuse. Mobile threats by text messaging and calls. Misuse of associated technology i.e.: camera and video facilities including those on mobile phones)
- Racist (racial taunts, graffiti, gestures)
- Sexual (unwanted physical contact, sexually abusive comments)
- Homophobic (because of, or focussing on the issue of sexuality)

Why is it important to respond to bullying?

Bullying Hurts!

Everybody has the right to be treated with respect.

Everybody has the right to feel happy and safe.

No-one deserves to be a target of bullying.

Bullies need to learn different ways of behaving.

How can we prevent bullying?

At **Springwell Community College**, we foster a clear understanding that bullying, in any form, is not acceptable. This can be done by:

- Developing an effective anti-bullying policy and practice. The college will then become a safer and happier environment, with consequent improvements in attitudes, behaviour, and relationships and with a positive impact on learning and achievement.
- Regular praise of positive and supportive behaviour by all staff.
- Work in school which develops empathy and emotional intelligence (SEAL).
- Treating bullying incidents seriously and dealing with them immediately.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1 To be a caring college that has a safe and supportive environment for all members of the college community, where students can learn without fear by:**
 - Promoting the development of values, attitudes and social skills through the curriculum.
 - Emphasising student's collective responsibility to help others.
 - Ensuring good models of behaviour are set by adults throughout the college.

- 2 To create an atmosphere/ethos where bullying and anti-social behaviour is not tolerated by any member of the college community, so that effective teaching and learning can take place by:**
 - Encouraging students to be open and honest regarding bullying incidents.
 - Pursuing themes through assemblies and staff meetings/training.
 - Empowering the student voice to raise/voice issues around bullying.
 - Work covered in relevant curriculum areas, such as ID, Drama, English, ICT, RE where relationships are explored.
 - Issuing appropriate Anti-bullying advice booklets to all students, parents and staff when they join the college and signposting towards relevant advice.
 - Having accepted and sound procedures to deal with acts of bullying that are common knowledge among staff, students and parents.

- 3 To establish and maintain clear procedures within the whole college community when dealing with bullying incidents by:**
 - Taking any reported incidents of bullying seriously.
 - Taking immediate action to stop the bullying.
 - Taking action to give support to people who are bullied and to help bullies improve their behaviour.
 - Working with parents via the home-college agreement.
 - Regularly monitoring and evaluating strategies to ensure they are implemented consistently and effectively and updated as necessary

