



Bullying & Harassment

Thorntown Elementary School does not condone bullying. Action will be taken if bullying occurs, which may include counseling, parental involvement, reporting to authorities, suspension and possible expulsion. Our involvement includes appropriate interventions, restoration of a positive climate, and support for victims and others impacted by the violation. In bullying situations, the following actions will be taken (levels may be skipped at the discretion of the building administrator based on the seriousness of the offense):

First Offense: Educate the person initiating the bullying (perpetrator) and the target (and supporters, if identified). The perpetrator will meet with a building administrator and receive a verbal warning. The parent/guardian may also be notified.

Second Offense: A discipline referral, resulting in loss of privileges and a telephone conference with parents/guardian.

Third Offense: A discipline referral resulting in an in-school suspension. Again, the parent/guardian and local law enforcement may be notified.

Fourth Offense: A discipline referral, up to five days of Out-Of-School suspension, and notification of the parent/guardian and local law enforcement.

Fifth Offense: A discipline referral for five or more days of Out-Of-School suspension, and/or possible recommendation for expulsion. The parent/guardian and local law enforcement will be involved.

*** REPORT BULLYING ***
To a Staff Member

Help Us *STOP* Bullying!

To learn how you can help, visit the following websites:

Stop Bullying Now www.stopbullyingnow.com

Safe Child Program – Bullies
www.safechild.org/bullies.htm#TAKEASTAND

Bully B-Ware www.bullybeware.com

Bullying.Org www.bullying.org

The following books may also be helpful: For Adults

Before It's Too Late: Why Some Kids Get Into Trouble and What Parents Can do About It by S. Samenow, Random House

Safe Passage: Making it Through Adolescence In a Risky Society by Joy G. Dryfoos, Oxford

Bullying at School: What We Know and What We Can Do by Dan Olweus, Oxford

Schools Where Everyone Belongs by Stan Davis, Research Press

Bullying in American Schools by Anne Garrett, McFarland & Co.

Weakfish by Michael Dorn

For Students

The Bully Blockers Club by Teresa Bateman

Simon's Hook by Karen Burnett

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell

My Secret Bully by Trudy Ludwig

The Recess Queen by Alexis O'Neill

Thank You, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco

Bullies are a Pain in the Brain by Trevor Romain

Thorntown Elementary School

Bullying Prevention!

What is Bullying?

Bullying occurs when one or more individuals, repeatedly, intentionally hurts, threatens, intimidates, inappropriately touches, or attempts to put down another person. It is difficult for the person being targeted to avoid the person bullying and to defend him or herself. In many instances the bullying behavior continues and has the potential to escalate into violence. Please refer to our student handbook for additional information. Some examples of bullying include:

- Punching, shoving, tripping, kicking, slapping, hiding others personal property, and other physical acts
- Spreading rumors
- Exclusion
- Teasing
- "Ganging up" on others
- Making inappropriate sexual comments and gestures

Bullying can also happen electronically:

- Sending a mean or inappropriate text or e-mail
- Posting inappropriate pictures /messages about others
- Using someone else's username to spread rumors or lies
- Forwarding photos, videos and texts that are inappropriate



**When you speak up for yourself
and tell someone – it is NOT
snitching, it is your right!**

Stop bullying by reporting it when it happens. Students are encouraged to complete the form below. The form may be turned into the office or it can be anonymously placed in the bullying report box located in the lobby.

BULLYING REPORT FORM

Name of person Reporting: _____
(helpful but not necessary)

Date reporting: _____

Target: _____

Person(s) initiating the bullying: _____

Witnesses to the incident: _____

Date(s) occurred: _____

Where occurred: _____

Type of bullying (circle all that apply):

Verbal Physical Social/ Relational Electronic

Brief explanation of the incident:

STUDENT BEHAVIORS



Everyone has a role. In many cases, you can choose your role. Which one are you?

The Bully (Perpetrator): One who engages in behaviors that are intended to devalue someone, assert power, or hurt another either physically or emotionally.

The Target: One who is a target of bullying behavior. You may feel anger, fear, and often times, isolation. This is not a role of choice.

The Ally: One who engages in an act of support on behalf of someone who is being targeted. Ally behavior can be demonstrated through words, emotional support or direct action. If you are not an ally, you can choose to become one.

The Bystander: Anyone who observes an act of bullying and doesn't take any action to stop the behavior or to stand up as support to the targeted victim. **YOU ARE INDIRECTLY SUPPORTING THE BULLYING AND HARASSING BEHAVIOR.**

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To a Staff Member

What can YOU do?

Here are some suggestions for when you in find yourself in one of these roles.

The Bully (Perpetrator): Person or persons who engages in bullying or demeaning behavior

- This is a choice
- Put yourself in the other person's shoes
- Think of the consequences
- Find a positive way to express yourself

The Target

- GET HELP! Speak with a counselor, social worker, SRO, teacher, or administrator. We cannot help if we are not aware of the problem!
- Stay in a group
- If it feels safe, stand up to the person who is bullying you – tell them to “STOP”
- Use humor to “blow off” the bullying behavior
- Use the bullying report form

The Ally

- You are making a difference
- Stand up for the Target
- Give the Target emotional support
- Report the bullying to an adult
- Use the bullying report form

The Bystander

- This is a choice
- Walk away from the situation
- Report the situation to an adult
- Use the bullying report form (use it anonymously if you don't want to get involved)
- Become an ally!

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