

STAND UP TO BULLIES

If you are bullied...

- ...Tell the person who is bullying you to STOP!
- ...Tell your parents, teacher, counselor or principal. Reporting is not tattling or snitching.
- ...Do not fight back physically.
- ...Be strong. Do not show anger or fear. Students that bully like to see that they have upset you.
- ...Keep safe. Avoid situations where there are no adults.
- ...Never share your personal information or give your password to friends.

SPEAK UP IF YOU WITNESS BULLYING

Speak Up. Stand Up. It takes just one person to start a movement; together we can make a difference. If you see bullying, you can say, "Stop, don't bother him" or redirect the situation by saying, "Let's go! The teacher's coming."

Don't Join In. If you see someone being bullied, don't join in. If the bully wants your help, say no, and walk away.

Tell an Adult. Don't be a bystander and watch someone being hurt. Tell an adult about the situation. It's not tattling or snitching to keep someone safe. You can ask the adult to keep your identity confidential.

Stop Rumors. You don't want anyone talking about you, so don't do it to someone else! Let the gossip end with you—don't pass it on to others. Tell them you're not interested in gossip.

Be a Friend. Help the person who was bullied. Make sure he or she is okay. Encourage him or her to talk to an adult. You can also invite that person to join you for lunch or other things.



Lafayette Sunnyside
Intermediate School

TOGETHER
WE STAND
AGAINST
BULLYING



"Mission Statement: The Lafayette School Corporation (LSC) believes that bullying can be prevented with the proper education and implementation of strategies.

Purpose: LSC will provide a safe learning environment to learn and achieve. LSC has found that bullying causes physical and emotional harm to students, which interferes with the learning process. It's the LSC objective to create an environment free of bullying so students feel safe and supported to succeed academically, emotionally, and physically."

Lafayette Sunnyside Intermediate School Student
Handbook Policy

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P: (765) 771.6100 F: (765) 771.6113
<https://sis.lsc.k12.in.us>

Bullying Prevention
& Intervention

WHAT IS BULLYING?

BULLYING IS ANY DELIBERATE ACTION THAT INVOLVES (PER IN CODE 20-33-8-0.2)*:

IMBALANCE OF POWER people who bully use their power to control or harm the people being bullied.

INTENT TO CAUSE HARM actions done by accident are not bullying; instead the person bullying has a goal to cause harm.

REPETITION incidents of bullying happen to the same person over and over by the same person or group.

TO BE CONSIDERED BULLYING ALL THREE OF THESE CHARACTERISTICS MUST BE PRESENT.

BULLYING IS NOT...

MUTUAL CONFLICT where there is an argument or disagreement but not an imbalance of power, i.e. students are upset and usually want a resolution to the problem.

SOCIAL REJECTION OR DISLIKE unless the social rejection is directed towards someone specific and involves deliberate and repeated attempts to cause distress, exclude or create dislike by others, it is not bullying.

SINGLE EPISODES OF NASTINESS OR MEANNESS, OR RANDOM ACTS OF AGGRESSION OR INTIMIDATION these are not the same as bullying though certainly undesirable. If a student is verbally abused or pushed on one occasion, they are not being bullied.

TYPES OF BULLYING

BULLYING CAN TAKE MANY FORMS. EXAMPLES INCLUDE:

VERBAL name-calling, teasing

SOCIAL spreading rumors, leaving people out on purpose, telling other children not to be friends with someone

PHYSICAL hitting, punching, shoving

CYBERBULLYING using the internet, cell phone to harm others

IS IT BULLYING?

CONSIDERATIONS IN DETERMINING IF THE BEHAVIOR MEETS THE DEFINITION OF BULLYING:

HISTORY BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUALS Have there been past conflicts? Have these individuals been in a dating relationship? (This may not be considered bullying.)

POWER DIFFERENTIAL Is there an imbalance of power? (Power imbalance is not limited to physical strength.)

REPETITION Has this or a similar incident happened before? Is the individual worried that it may happen again?

WHAT CAN I DO IF MY CHILD IS BEING BULLIED?

STEP 1: Listen carefully to your child and show concern and support.

STEP 2: Don't encourage your child to fight back; this will most likely increase the bullying. Do not reply to online bullying.

STEP 3: Assist your child to develop positive strategies:

- Firmly saying 'Leave me alone!' and calmly walking away
- Avoiding situations that might expose them to further bullying
- Making new friends
- Monitor online activities

STEP 4: Ask your child the following questions to understand if there is a repeated pattern:

- What, where and when did the incident happen?
- Who was involved on each occasion?
- Did anybody else see it and if so, who?
- What solutions have you tried so far?
- The names of any teachers who are aware of the problem.
- For cyberbullying keep evidence if possible.

STEP 5: Contact your child's school and arrange a meeting to find out what the school will do to assist you in addressing the situation.

WHAT WILL THE SCHOOL DO?

PREVENTION AT SCHOOL

The school adopted the positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS) called *Bronchos Have Heart*. This approach strongly emphasizes the teaching of appropriate behaviors and provides systems to bring about these positive behaviors.

The school adopted the social emotional learning program *Positive Action*. The program is based on the philosophy that positive thoughts lead to positive actions and feelings.

All staff receive annual Bullying Prevention SafeSchools training.

All students participate in annual research-based instruction focused on Bullying Prevention.

Students, who demonstrate bullying behaviors, are required to participate in one-on-one Bullying Prevention lessons with a guidance counselor.

REPORTED INCIDENTS

All incidents of bullying, which are reported to the school, will be investigated. The school will need time to investigate. This involves getting all the facts by listening to all parties including bystanders.

IF BULLYING IS VALIDATED –

- Contact/Meet with Parents
- Assist students to develop more appropriate social skills.
- Implement a behavior management plan.
- Explicitly teach about conflict and bullying.
- Conduct mediation sessions.
- Apply disciplinary interventions.

INTERVENTIONS MAY INCLUDE:

- Office Time Out
- Parent Meeting & Behavior Plan Signed
- Counselling
- Community-based services
- School Court
- Suspension
- Expulsion

IF BULLYING IS NOT VALIDATED –

- The issues are addressed with those involved.
- The behaviors are named for what they are.
- Parents are involved if a pattern is identified.

*School Safety and Wellness. Indiana Department of Education, www.in.gov/doi/students/school-safety-and-wellness/. 2021.