



The
British School
of Monaco

POLICY SECTION: Section 3 - PASTORAL

POLICY NUMBER: 5.07

WHOLE SCHOOL ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

EFFECTIVE FROM: 05/VIII/2022

UPDATED: 18/I/24

REVIEW DATE: Summer 2024

The British School of Monaco

Whole School Anti-Bullying Policy

INTRODUCTION

The entire British School of Monaco community values positive relationships, which create and sustain a harmonious learning environment, underpinned by our core values. These values support the development of students as successful, reflective and resilient learners within a calm, caring, happy and purposeful atmosphere.

All staff, students and families should be made aware of the negative effects of bullying and should work in partnership to ensure that everyone can work in an environment free from fear or prejudice. The British School of Monaco recognises its duty of care towards our staff and students in order to protect them from those who would seek to deliberately harm them physically or emotionally. The British School of Monaco has a zero-tolerance approach to bullying in all its forms, this being contrary to our values of personal integrity and respect for others.

We will take cognisance of the views of our students to hear their views and opinions as we acknowledge and support Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on The Rights of The Child: children should be encouraged to form and to express views and opinions on matters affecting them.

AIMS

- To ensure that students learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment, without fear of being bullied;
- To promote positive attitudes in students and to foster their respect for self and others;
- To demonstrate to all that the safety and happiness of students and staff is paramount;
- To develop their rights and responsibilities to create a safe and secure for environment;
- To have in place established systems that will deal with incidents of bullying;
- To develop confident students who will notify staff of any incident of bullying;
- To inform everyone connected with the school of the school's anti-bullying policy;
- To ensure that all staff are aware of their duty of care and the need to be alert to signs of bullying;

- To ensure staff receive appropriate training to identify and respond to all forms of bullying, including racism, homophobia, transphobia and xenophobia.

DEFINITION OF BULLYING

Bullying can be defined as *“behaviour by an individual or a group, repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally”*.

(English Department for Education: “Preventing and Tackling Bullying”, July 2017)

TYPES OF BULLYING

Bullying can happen to anyone. This policy covers all types and forms of bullying:

- Bullying related to physical appearance ;
- Bullying related to physical/mental health conditions;
- Physical bullying;
- Emotional bullying;
- Bullying via technology, known as online or cyberbullying;
- Prejudicial bullying:
 - bullying related to race;
 - bullying related to religion, faith and belief and for those without faith;
 - bullying related to ethnicity, nationality or culture;
 - bullying related to Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND);
 - gender-based bullying;
 - bullying related to home circumstances;
 - bullying related to sexual orientation.

Roles within bullying can include the following:

- Those relying on social power, dominating others, often with groups (ring leader);
- Others joining in and, therefore, afraid of the ring leader (associates);
- The awareness of a silent majority that bullying is taking place, but feeling unable to do anything about it (bystanders);
- Those who try to stop bullying (defenders).

POSSIBLE SIGNS OF BULLYING

A student may indicate signs or behaviour that he/she is being bullied. Adults should be aware of these possible signs and they should investigate student displays the following behaviours:

- Is unwilling to go to school;
- Becomes withdrawn, anxious or lacking in confidence
- Starts stuttering;
- Attempts or threatens self-harm;
- Cries herself/himself to sleep at night or has nightmares/ bedwetting;
- Regularly feels ill in the morning;
- Change of pattern in school work or achievement;
- Comes home with clothes torn or books/equipment damaged;
- Has possessions go missing;
- Has unexplained cuts and bruises;
- Stops eating or displays changes in eating habits/routines;
- Is frightened to say what is wrong;
- Changes his/her usual routine.

All staff should be aware of these possibilities and report promptly any suspicions of bullying to the appropriate person. It is important to note that if a student presents with any/many or some of the symptoms listed above, it does not necessarily mean that they are being bullied.

CYBERBULLYING

The British School of Monaco is committed to helping all members of the school community to benefit from information and communication technology, whilst understanding its risks, and to equip children with the knowledge and skills to be able to use it safely and responsibly.

Please refer to The British School of Monaco Anti-Cyber Bullying Policy.

‘Bullying Hotline’

In January 2024 the Monégasque government introduced a ‘Bullying Hotline’ which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to enable the reporting of bullying. The number is **98989696**.

“The implementation of the hotline complements the numerous tools already implemented to deal with and put an end to situations of harassment at school, in accordance with the provisions of the Law No. 1.513 of December 3, 2021, relating to the fight against harassment and violence in school.”

For further information:

The reference law:

<https://journaldemonaco.gouv.mc/Journaux/2021/Journal-8569/Loi-n-1.513-du-3-decembre-2021-relative-a-la-lutte-contre-le-harcelement-et-la-violence-en-milieu-scolaire>

- Government websites on bullying:

- <https://www.gouv.mc/Action-Gouvernementale/La-Jeunesse/Lutte-contre-le-harcelement-et-la-violence-en-milieu-scolaire>

- <https://monservicpublic.gouv.mc/thematiques/education/vie-scolaire/le-harcelement-en-milieu-scolaire>

Local officials at the Direction de l’Education Nationale, de la Jeunesse et des Sports who may be contacted should you have any questions over the new government procedures are Mme. Delphine Constantini and M. Nicolas Rodier at denjsviolence@gouv.mc

An English translation of the new law may be found in Staffshare at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1c49EhQ8dpXpWx64X6hJvUKwxfmLLtpMn/edit?usp=drive_web&ouid=105803963144183501548&rtpof=true

Monitoring the Effectiveness of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed according to the school’s policy review schedule or when the need arises by relevant staff, the Principal and the Governing Body, taking account of students’ opinions and concerns, and parental views, where appropriate.

The British School of Monaco is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff, volunteers and other third parties to share this commitment.