John Therry Catholic High School

Anti-Bullying Student Agreement

WHAT IS BULLYING?

A bully is someone who has the wilful, conscious desire to hurt another and involves the deliberate psychological, emotional and/or physical harassment of one person by another person or group of people. There is usually a power imbalance with the bully being more powerful than the victim, and it is usually ongoing. It hurts people and diminishes the John Therry Catholic High School community.

Bullying may take many forms and can include:

- making hurtful, sexist or racist comments which includes using offensive names, teasing or spreading rumours about others or their family continuing smutty jokes or comments, using put-downs, belittling others’ abilities and achievements.
- unwelcome and uninvited conduct such as rude gestures, ogling, displaying pictures, posters or graffiti that may cause offence.
- any form of physical violence such as hitting, pushing or spitting.
- making suggestive comments or other forms of sexual abuse/harassment.
- forcing others to act against their will.
- verbal threats of aggression against property or possessions.
- acts of vandalism.
- deliberately excluding a student from School activities or other friends.
- use of email, text messages, internet, mobile phones and other technological devices to transmit offensive messages or to harass another student.

CONSEQUENCES

There are consequences for bullying. If a student is found to be bullying then he or she will expect some of the following responses or sanctions depending on the severity of the incident:

- Incident Report
- Afternoon detention
- Letter home
- an interview with Year co-ordinator and/or members of the Executive and written records being kept on the student’s file.
- warnings accompanied by a formal letter to the parents of the student concerned.
- detentions.
- counselling and behaviour modification programs.
- exclusion from privileges.
- suspension from school, resuming only on the condition that a formal contract is signed undertaking to cease all bullying behaviour.
- Referral to DOCS or Police (particularly in cases of cyberbullying)
- Suspension contract.
- Case management
- expulsion.
Anti-Bullying Agreement

Everyone has a right to feel physically and emotionally safe at John Therry Catholic High School.

I will do everything I can personally, as a member of my school’s community, to create and preserve a physically and emotionally safe environment.

I agree that I will not bully my peers. This includes physical and verbal bullying, intimidation and teasing, sexual harassment, cyber bullying or intentionally ignoring or excluding my peers.

When I witness bullying, I will ask the bully to stop or report it to a teacher.

Student Name: ____________________  Date:_____________________

Student Signature: __________________________

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Teacher Signature