



Chairo Christian School

Say No to Bullying

Love your neighbour as yourself. Matthew 22:39



WHAT IS BULLYING?

Bullying is repeated behaviour that's intended to harm, threaten, embarrass, abuse, harass, intimidate or frighten another person ... or cause them to feel hurt, uncomfortable, distressed or inferior ... or that damages their property, reputation or social acceptance.

Bullying usually involves an abuse of power and can include negative actions that are physical, verbal, visual, written, emotional, racial, sexual, etc.

Cyber bullying is also a type of bullying and involves someone targeting someone using digital technology, mobile communication, internet, etc.

BULLYING IS NOT:

Bullying is not just an argument or disagreement where there is no abuse of power. It is not social rejection or dislike (unless this results from deliberate and repeated behaviour), and it's not 'one off' or random acts.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

For more information about Chairó's attitude and stand against bullying, you can read through our *Bullying (Students) Policy*. Chairó's *Electronic Communication & Information Technology Policy* also talks about how not to misuse cyber technology.

Sometimes unacceptable behaviour may not technically be bullying but it will still be covered by the *Student Discipline & Behaviour Policy*, and the *Student Code of Conduct* and other related procedures.

There are also some helpful government and other organisations such as 'Bullying. No Way!' (bullyingnoway.com.au).



BULLYING IS NOT ON!

Chairo aims for excellence by providing an environment in which students and staff are encouraged to reach their full God-given potential. Excellence is unlikely to be achieved when students work in an environment where they feel vulnerable and unsafe.

Bullying of any description is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated at Chairo. All students have the right to feel safe and to be kept safe at school.

Everyone at Chairo is valued as an individual created in the image of God. Therefore, it is important and expected that each student seeks the best for others.

WHAT DOES OUR POLICY SAY?

'Bullying of any description is totally unacceptable at Chairo and will not be tolerated. All Chairo students have a right to feel safe and to be kept safe ... The School is committed to providing a caring and friendly environment for all students ...'

'Victims of bullying have the right to expect that bullying will be treated seriously and dealt with promptly and effectively. The health and well-being of victims of bullying will be a priority and all reasonable measures will be taken to provide support.'

Importantly, the policy doesn't just relate to bullying that happens at school. It also relates to:

'... incidents of bullying involving Chairo students occurring outside school hours and/or away from school premises where such incidents have adverse implications for an individual's welfare and/or for relationships within the School.'



WHAT IF BULLYING HAPPENS?

Students: If you see bullying happen ...

- Make sure you understand the situation first. If it's possible and safe to do so, you could intervene by simply saying 'cut it out', 'leave him/her alone', etc. Either way, any bullying should be reported.
- If you can't intervene or the bullying continues, it's important that you report it to a teacher or to another member of staff ... or perhaps to your parents.
- Offer support and friendship to the victim. Encourage him or her to seek help through teachers, chaplain, family members or church.

Students: If you are being bullied ...

- Try not to retaliate by becoming physical or verbal.
- Try to ignore the bullying and it might just stop.
- Tell the bully to 'cut it out' or 'leave me alone'!
- Don't be afraid to talk about it with family or friends.
- Leave the area and go quickly to a staff member.
- Always report bullying to an adult.

Parents: If you believe your child is being bullied ...

- Talk with your child about strategies to deal with bullying (including the points above).
- Encourage your child to report bullying to teachers.
- Contact the School to report the bullying so we can work together to fix the problem.

CODE OF RESPECT

As a member of the Chairó Community, I agree to:

- Respect others
- Respect myself
- Respect authority
- Respect property
- Respect the privilege to teach and learn
- Respect Chairó and its Christian foundations

BULLYING IS NOT OKAY

For more information about Chairó's attitude to and stand against bullying, refer to our *Bullying (Students) Policy*.