

# Guidelines for Prevention of Bullying and Ragging in School



Recent research in school education indicates that a major issue and cause for concern among students in schools is bullying. The right attitude is formed only during the formative period of schooling. Thus it is necessary that students are sensitized about human rights, democratic values, respect for diversity and equality, and respect for privacy and dignity of others. School takes initiative to conduct activities to educate and develop the understanding of students, staff and parents about the problem and effects of bullying.

## **Bullying is of different kinds and can be broadly categorized into the following types:**

- **Bullying can be directly from the bully to the victim** (e.g., through physical intimidation or attacks, verbal abuse, unwanted attention and advances or damaging property).
- **It can be indirect** (e.g., through spreading malicious rumours).
- It can also include **cyber-bullying** (e.g. sending unpleasant SMS messages, photographs or emails to the victim or to others).

An Anti- Bullying Committee has been constituted by the school which takes appropriate counseling measures and sanctions punishment to curb bullying in the school.

School Management, as per observation and understanding the gravity of the misconduct, may take various actions & practices. Some of the recommended actions include:

- (i) Oral/written warning
- (ii) Suspension from attending classes/school for a specified period.
- (iii) Withholding or cancelling the results.
- (iv) Imposition of fine up to a specified amount.
- (v) Expulsion/rustication from school in rarest of rare cases.

**“Bullying is strictly prohibited inside the school premises and no such act will go unnoticed or unpunished”.**

## **Awareness about POCSO Act**

1. Challenges like gender inequality, verbal assault, and sexual abuse in school calls for increased awareness and creating synergy among Parents, Teachers, Students and School.
2. The School initiatives are not limited to CCTV Camera Surveillance; Complaint / Suggestion Boxes and Counselling Facilities. For achieving harmonious school / classroom environment, regular Adolescent Education Programmes are conducted that promote gender equality and sensitivity.
3. The school also creates awareness about sexual offence among school children through Counsellor Talks, Workshops, Seminars, Plays and Movies.

**Parents are thus requested to extend their support to the school to create awareness about the Protection of Child from Sexual Offence (POCSO) Act of 2012.**

## **Grievance Redressal**

The School has a well laid down policy on Grievance Redressal. The parents, students and staff of the school may put forth their concerns to the school authorities by contacting members of different committees. The person approaching the Grievance Cell is required to provide his / her identity fully in clear terms.