

Principled

community of learners.

To prevent and manage potential bullying in the learning community it is important to follow the steps outlined in this document:

1. Review the suggested definition of bullying below. Discuss what bullying could look like in your community. Engage in open and honest dialogue. Remind students that bullies are not 'bad' people and that everyone can be a bully at some point. Discuss empathy and what it means to be empathetic. Co-construct a definition of bullying for your learning community.

Bullying is repeated behavior and may include:

- unwarranted criticism or insults
- spreading malicious rumors
- deliberately withholding information or resources
- influencing others to exclude or isolate the targeted person or group
- unreasonable behavior (victimizing, humiliating, undermining or threatening)
- a risk to health and safety

2. Using your co-constructed definition of bullying, draft an Essential Agreement for the expectations regarding Principled behavior within your learning community. Construct the agreement in positives rather than negatives. "Don't shout", becomes, "We agree to use respectful voices". Include all stakeholders in the agreement, students, faculty, parents and staff.
3. Promote the Essential Agreement. Post the document in your classroom.
4. Encourage reporting of bully behaviors. Always remind students that bullying should be reported.
5. Have a clear procedure for how to deal with bullying in the class and reinforce this procedure with consistency and non-negotiable expectations (no physical violence).
6. Take time to promote, celebrate and give thanks for awesome behaviors in the learning community. This will aid in the prevention of bullying and builds a positive community of learners!

Did you know?

Bullying can happen in any learning community. Under certain conditions, **anyone** can be capable of bullying behavior.



Creating a

Principled

community of learners.

Our Essential Agreement

As part of our learning community we commit to:

**act with integrity and honesty,
with a strong sense of fairness and justice,
and with respect for the dignity and rights of people everywhere.
We will take responsibility for our actions and their
consequences.**