



Mound Street Academies' Bullying Policy

At Mound Street Academies, we take bullying very seriously. We believe in working with parents and guardians to address and combat bullying both at school and outside of school.

Bullying is:

- When an individual or group **repeatedly** uses power with the intent of hurting or humiliating others physically, verbally or emotionally.
- Any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).
- Bullying can include, but not limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, gossiping, name-calling, taunting, making threats and hazing.

Definition of a bully:

- Any person engaged in the activities described above.

Definition of a victim:

- Any person who is upset or troubled by someone who is deliberately, repeatedly harming him or her physically, verbally or emotionally.

Definition of a witness:

- Any person seeing or hearing any form of bullying directed at someone else. Witnesses have the responsibility to report to a member of the school staff or a parent as soon as possible.

Bullying is not:

- A single episode of social rejection or dislike.
- Single episode acts of nastiness or spite.
- Random acts of aggression or intimidation.
- Mutual arguments, disagreements or fights.

Policy:

- Bullying is considered to be a serious matter and is not acceptable in any form at Mound Street Academies. No individual should be subjected to deliberate mistreatment by another.
- It is the responsibility of the victim and/or witness of bullying to tell the bully that the behavior is unwanted and should stop.
- It is also the responsibility of the victim and/or witness to immediately notify a member of the school staff and/or their parents.

Reporting Bullying:

- Mound Street Academies utilizes the CyberBully Hotline which allows bullying incidents and claims to be reported anonymously.
- Students and/or parents text or call in reports anonymously.

**To anonymously report bullying, call or text:
(937) 306-7309**

Consequences:

- Possible punishments for those found to be engaging in either bullying or false reporting of bullying may include parent notification, police contact, suspension and/or expulsion.
- The policy also provides for protection from retaliation for those who report bullying. *

****Note: The false reporting of bullying is also considered to be a serious offense and subject to disciplinary action.***