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Anti – Bullying Policy Summary for Parents

Policy Objective: Hlanganani Preparatory School (HPS) has developed an Anti-bullying policy for Parents to give direction to them in what to do if their child is bullied at school.

At Hlanganani Preparatory School we believe that our learners have the right to learn in a supportive, caring and safe environment.

Bullying is behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either verbally, physically or emotionally/psychologically.

Bullying can be; Physical (hitting, kicking, theft), Verbal (name calling, racist / sexist / homophobic remarks), Indirect (spreading rumours, excluding someone from social groups), Cyber bullying (e.g. text message, internet)

Hlanganani focuses on preventing bullying by educating staff and learners through assemblies and in class and encouraging children to report any concerns.

Abuse is abuse and should never be tolerated or passed off as “banter” or “part of growing up”.

Where bullying occurs the following procedures will apply:

- The complaint is listened to and investigated as soon as possible
- The alleged victim is reassured that action will be taken
- Appropriate action is taken by Class Teacher, HOD or Head. The school does not tolerate any breaking of its agreed rules and will apply sanctions in line with the Code of Conduct.
- The alleged victim and bully are brought together at an appropriate time to find a resolution
- The victim and bully may be referred to the Genesis Team to help to develop strategies of assertiveness to help build self-confidence
- Parent/Carers are kept informed of incidents by the class teacher and sometimes the HOD
- In more serious cases parents/carers may be called in by the HOD / Head
- It will be made very clear that no act of bullying is acceptable at Hlanganani. A way forward will be discussed and agreed
- The family of the victim will be reassured that the situation is being dealt with and the appropriate support given
- Regular LO sessions are included within the classes each week to prevent or address bullying
- Detailed records will be kept of the incident and all steps taken
- If the offender(s) persist after the above steps have been taken, the child(ren) will be excluded. The Chair of the Board will be informed

If you suspect your child may be being bullied please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

January 2023

