

Discipline Policy

Introduction

The school's discipline policies center around this School-wide Learning Expectation: Students are Active Christians who, "Respect God, Church, others, self, and property." Any action that goes against this goal will result in intervention by the school staff.

Discipline Philosophy

The discipline policies at Saint Vincent de Paul School are established to create a safe and fair environment for our students. Saint Vincent de Paul School has high expectations and standards for its students. The challenges the school presents are deliberate and intended to help students become mature, responsible, and conscientious individuals who exemplify the values and ideals of the school's patron, Saint Vincent. We believe that learning, experiencing, and accepting consequences for inappropriate behavior are essential for the formation of a student's social, moral, and spiritual character. Anyone interfering with the rights of another must accept the consequences of his/her behavior. Guiding and correcting children is an integral part of our discipline procedure. Families have the right to expect a quality education within a setting of Christian values.

Bullying/Harassment by Students

Bullying or harassment by a student is defined as a pattern of habitual abuse toward another student or students. Saint Vincent School recognizes that bullying/harassment of any kind has a negative effect on school climate. Students who are isolated, intimidated, and fearful cannot give their education the single-minded attention they need for success. Bullying/harassment can also lead to more serious violence. Every student has the right to an education and to be safe around school.

Because of the Christian climate and Catholic culture in Saint Vincent School, harassment of any kind will not be tolerated. Occurrence can be on or off campus, within or outside the school day, during a school activity, or on free time. Immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken whenever it is determined that a violation of this policy has taken place. The intervention and consequences will be according to the nature and severity of the incident(s) or situation(s). However, in every case, the following actions are taken:

1. If the bullying/harassment is unknown to the parents, they are notified by the teacher or administration.
2. The teacher or administration interviews the main students involved individually.
3. The teacher or administration interviews the main students involved together.

4. The teacher, administration, and possibly the Student Support Director discuss the appropriate actions and consequences.

5. The teacher or administration informs the parents of the victim(s) and the parents of the person(s) doing the bullying/harassing of the actions and consequences.

6. The teacher or administration provides appropriate follow-up.

Parents/guardians are asked to notify the teacher or administration **immediately** if they suspect a student is being bullied or harassed, or is bullying or harassing others. Parents/guardians can do this via email, phone, or by using this Problem Solving Form ([click here](#))

(A more detailed explanation of the school's discipline policies is available in the Parent Handbook.)