Methodist Girls' School

Secondary Section

Anti-Bullying Policy

Our Commitment

At Methodist Girls' School, we believe every child deserves to feel safe, valued, competent and empowered in their learning journey. We are committed to creating a caring and enabling school environment where all students can flourish and develop positive relationships with their peers.

Our approach focuses on teaching kindness, empathy, and respect whilst addressing any hurtful behaviour that may arise. We work together as a school community – staff, students, and parents – to ensure everyone feels they belong.

What are hurtful behaviours and bullying?

Hurtful behaviours are unkind and hurtful acts such as once-off insensitive comments, actions and physical fights, while bullying involves persistent and intentional hurtful acts.

Hurtful behaviours and bullying can take various forms, including verbal, social, physical and cyber:

- Verbal: Name-calling, spreading rumours, or making threats
- Social exclusion: Deliberately leaving someone out, or encouraging others to ignore someone
- Physical actions: Pushing, hitting, or damaging someone's belongings
- Cyber bullying: Using online technology like phones, computers, or social media to hurt or embarrass others on purpose and repeatedly

The school's firm stance against hurtful behaviours

The school takes a firm stance against all forms of hurtful behaviours, from once-off, insensitive comments to persistent intentional acts of bullying and physical violence. This stance guides our school in managing different forms of hurtful behaviours.

We recognise that children may have disagreements or say things they do not mean. We help students understand the difference between occasional conflicts (which are normal)

and persistent bullying behaviour, addressing each situation with care and appropriate support.

How We Prevent Incidents

- **Take a firm stance against** hurtful behaviours and bullying
- **Foster a caring and enabling school environment**, with positive teacher-student relationships and strong peer support structure with trained student leaders
- **Strengthen students' skills in** empathy, conflict management, resilience and cyber wellness through GEL lessons and school-wide platforms.
- **Have regular communications** with staff and students

How to Report Concerns

We want parents and students to feel comfortable coming to us with any concerns. You can reach out to us in several ways:

- Direct reporting to any staff member
- Online reporting form
- Parent contact with teachers/school leaders

How We Respond

- **Immediate physical and psychological safety** measures for all students involved.
- **Case investigation** and appropriate updates, subject to case complexity.
- **Follow-up support** for affected students, including both victims and offenders, with opportunities to develop prosocial skills.
- **Restorative support** including school counselling, external referrals, community resources and reconciliation of relationships.
- **Consequences**, which may include disciplinary action, adjustments to conduct grades, and ineligibility for awards, scholarships, school representation, and leadership positions.
- **Partnership with parents** including early communication and continued engagement.

How Parents Can Support

- **Talk regularly** with your child about their school experiences and friendships.
- **Teach respectful behaviour** and reinforce healthy digital habits at home

- **Guide and monitor** your child's online and offline interactions and activities.
- **Address concerns promptly** with the school so that issues can be addressed early.
- **Work collaboratively** with school on agreed interventions
- **Model calm, respectful and constructive behaviour.**
- **Use "teachable moments"** in everyday interactions to help your child understand why certain behaviours or choices may be inappropriate and how they can respond differently.
- **Create a safe space for your child to share openly** and listen objectively and seek to understand the situation from different perspectives

Get in Touch

We are here to listen and help. If you would like to bring an incident to our attention, you can reach out to us via any of the following methods:

- Inform Form Teacher, Year Head, HOD/ Student Management or School Leaders
- Call: 6469 4800
- Email:(SEC) mgss@moe.edu.sg
- [Non-urgent cases only] Online reporting form: https://go.gov.sg/mgssecir

We review this policy regularly to make sure it continues to serve our school community well. Together, as a school community, we shape our students' character, strengthen relationships, and build caring communities.