



## Texoma Christian School's Bullying Prevention Policy

Texoma Christian School believes that all students have a right to a respectful, safe and healthy school environment. TCS has an obligation to promote mutual respect and acceptance for all students. TCS believes that love and respect are foundations for our relationships with God and others. We believe scripture is the standard regarding how we can accomplish kindness and respect toward all students. The following verses are examples of how students are to practice and live out treating others:

- *Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:3-4*
- *He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27*
- *So in everything, do to others as you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Matthew 7:12*
- *If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Romans 12:18*
- *My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12*
- *Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:13*
- *Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. I Thessalonians 5:11*

Texoma Christian School will not tolerate behavior that infringes on the safety of any student. A student shall not intimidate or harass another student through words or actions. Such behavior includes: direct physical contact, such as hitting or shoving; verbal assaults, such as teasing or name-calling; and social isolation or manipulation.

Texoma Christian School recognizes the threat posed by the use of technology as a means of bullying students. Cyberbullying occurs when technology such as computers or cell phones are used to systematically intimidate, frighten, exclude or hurt others. TCS accepts that cyberbullying most often occurs outside of school hours and not on school equipment. When cyberbullying impacts upon relationships in the school setting, the school will partner with parents to resolve issues created through cyberbullying. The school's position is that parents are responsible to ensure online and electronic communications at home are monitored and to deal with issues outside the school context where there is no impact in the school setting.

Texoma Christian School expects students and/or faculty and staff to immediately report incidents of bullying to the principal or Head of School. The faculty and staff are expected to immediately intervene when they see a bullying incident occur. Each complaint of bullying should be promptly investigated. This policy applies to students on school grounds, while traveling to and from school or a school-sponsored activity, during the lunch period and during a school-sponsored activity.

To help ensure bullying does not occur on our school campus, the TCS Administration will provide staff development training in bullying prevention which will include the importance to cultivate and maintain a safe and healthy learning environment.

Teachers should discuss this policy with their students in age-appropriate ways and should assure them that they need not endure any form of bullying. Students who bully are in violation of this policy and are subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

As part of our initiative to recognize and report bullying and/or suicidal behaviors, we have implemented a See Something Say Something campaign.

All TCS students will be expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct while on school grounds, when traveling to and from school or a school-sponsored activity, during lunch period and during a school sponsored activity.

The Student Code of Conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Any student who engages in bullying may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.
- Students are expected to immediately report incidents of bullying to the Principal or Head of School. Additionally, students can leave an anonymous note in the locked box at the front door of the administration building.
- Students can rely on faculty and staff to promptly investigate each complaint of bullying in a thorough and confidential manner.
- If the complainant student or the parent of the student feels that appropriate resolution of the investigation or complaint has not been reached, the student or the parent of the student should contact the principal or Head of School. TCS prohibits retaliatory behavior against any complainant or any participant in the complaint process.

The procedures for intervening in bullying behavior include, but are not limited, to the following:

- All staff, students and their parents will receive a summary of this policy prohibiting bullying as part of a new school year's class orientation and have online access on the school website.
- The school will make reasonable efforts to keep a report of bullying and the results of investigation confidential.
- Faculty and staff are expected to immediately intervene when they see a bullying incident occur.
- Parents are notified by the next school day if a student has been the victim of bullying.
- People witnessing or experiencing bullying are encouraged to report the incident; such reporting will not reflect on the victim or witnesses in any way.

Revised August 24, 2017~adapted from: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/samplepolicy.asp>



## *“No Bullying” Pledge*

### *Texoma Christian School*

We agree to do our part in preventing bullying at Texoma Christian School. We believe everyone deserves the right to enjoy school and to have confidence that it is a place where we all feel safe, secure, and accepted regardless of color, race, gender, religion, popularity, athletic ability, intelligence and nationality.

We understand that bullying can be pushing, shoving, hitting and spitting, as well as name calling, picking on, making fun of, laughing at, gossiping and excluding someone. Bullying causes pain and stress to victims and is never justified or excusable as “kids being kids,” “just teasing” or any other rationalization. The victim is not responsible for being a target of bullying.

As **parents/guardians**, we pledge to:

1. Keep ourselves and our children informed and aware of the school's No Bullying Policies and Procedures.
2. Partner with the school to encourage biblical principles regarding respecting others, valuing differences, and showing Christ's love to all students.
3. Inform the faculty of changes in our children's behavior or circumstances at home that may affect a child's behavior at school.
4. Alert teachers and/or administration if any incidents of bullying have occurred.

As a **student**, I pledge to:

1. Learn about the school's No Bullying Policies and Procedures
2. Treat others better than myself (Philippians 2:3-4)
3. Love my neighbor as myself (Luke 10:27)
4. Tell my parents or teachers if any bullying has occurred.

By signing below, we, the parents and student, agree to stand by the above pledge and to do our part in preventing bullying at Texoma Christian School.

_____ Parent Signature	_____ Parent Printed Name	_____ Date
_____ Student Signature	_____ Student Printed Name	_____ Date

~adapted from Logan Christian School Bullying Policy

Revised Aug. 2017