

ANTI-AGGRESSION

WHY DO WE HAVE THIS POLICY?

“... to develop a believing Christian community which recognises and respects the value of every individual”

Notre Dame Catholic College is a caring and Christian community that actively seeks to support and care for the needs of others. We understand disputes occur between pupils and view these episodes as part of the education process. These are opportunities for pupils to develop the skills and confidence that they will need in later life to become positive and productive members of the wider community. In particular we stress that violence, aggression and intimidation have no place in our school. This policy applies to any form of aggression between pupils in the school building, on the school grounds, on public streets, via social media whilst travelling to or from school events, before or after school. This may also include incidents that occur during weekends or school holidays. This may also apply to acts of aggression during weekends or holidays.

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL RESPOND?

School's Responsibility

- ❖ If a member of staff becomes aware that an act of aggression or a fight is likely to occur they must inform a member of the Leadership Team immediately
- ❖ if staff see an act of aggression or fight taking place they must follow the school guidance outlined in the Care and Control policy
- ❖ The Leadership Team (or delegated person) will attempt to resolve any disputes as soon as is practical through discussion and support of those involved and through discussion with the parents of the pupils involved.

Pupils' Responsibility

- ❖ Whenever a pupil feels threatened, is aware of another pupil feeling threatened or is aware that an act of aggression or a fight is likely to occur, that pupil must report the circumstances to a member of staff before anything happens. This is a pupil obligation;
- ❖ if an act of aggression or a fight breaks out pupils must go and inform a member of staff immediately. This is a pupil obligation;
- ❖ all pupils must move away from the area. This is a pupil obligation;
- ❖ pupils must not linger around, watch, encourage or join in any dispute between other pupils. This is a pupil obligation.

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Parents' Responsibility

- ❖ Parents will support the school fully in implementing this policy;
- ❖ parents will not condone or support any violence or aggressive behaviour from their child. In particular they will not encourage "***If they hit you then you hit them back***" mentality;
- ❖ if parents think an act of aggression or a fight is likely to break out they should report it to the school before anything happens;
- ❖ parents are obliged to attend any meetings requested by the school relating to the resolution of the incident.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This policy will be monitored annually with the governing body and through staff and pupil representatives.

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