

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Smart's Mill Middle School is committed to creating an inviting, supportive, and safe environment that is free from bullying and harassment. The school staff will respond quickly and decisively to reported incidents of bullying.

Specific information about bullying and harassment is found on pages 9 and 10 of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook



Smart's Mill Middle School
850 North King Street
Leesburg, VA 20176

Phone: 571-252-2030
Fax: 571-252-2043

Ways for Students and Parents to Report Bullying

Talk to:

- Teacher
- School Counselor
- Dean, Assistant Principal, or Principal
- School Nurse
- Parent Liaison
- Complete a Bullying Complaint Form (located on the library counter and in each house office)

For more information, please contact your child's grade level dean or counselor:

6th Grade

Dean: Ms. Splendore
Counselor: Mrs. O'Brien

7th Grade

Dean: Mrs. Lockett
Counselor: Mr. Laycock

8th Grade

Dean: Mrs. O'Connell
Counselor: Mrs. Kolcum

*Smart's Mill
Middle School*

Bullying

A Guide for Parents and Students

Phone: 571-252-2030

What is Bullying?

Bullying is repeated exposure over time to intentional negative actions or aggressive behavior, to include verbal or written communications transmitted, on the part of one or more other students that adversely affects a student's ability to participate in and benefit from the school's educational program or activities.

Examples of Bullying:

- Name calling
- Teasing
- Taunting
- Spreading rumors
- Putting down others
- Starting lies about another
- Expressing sarcasm, subtle negative comments
- Excluding specific persons
- Hitting
- Pushing
- Tripping
- Ridiculing
- Threatening
- Racial taunting
- Intimidating
- Making sexual comments or innuendos
- Cyber bullying



Cyber Bullying

Cyber bullying is rapidly becoming one of the most popular ways to bully. Instant messaging, text messaging, web pages, and e-mails via computers and cellular phones are ways students are using technology to harass, bully, threaten, and intimidate peers. Students who encounter a bully online should follow these guidelines:

- Do not respond
- Do not delete the offending message
- Preserve the evidence and tell an adult

How can Parents Help to Prevent Bullying?

No child deserves to be bullied and no child should bully another. If your child shares a bullying situation with you or you see a situation you believe is bullying:

- Report the situation immediately to the teacher, counselor, dean, or principal if your child is not comfortable reporting the incident
- Monitor your child's social relationships
- Be observant and/or available at bus stops, extra-curricular activities, or places in the community where these situations may occur



What Can Victims Do?

- Report bullying at school to teachers, school counselors, deans, the principal and talk to your parents
- Ignore the bully or don't react
- Walk away
- Be assertive, but do not get into a physical or verbal fight
- Hold your head up, show confidence in yourself
- Use humor
- Stick with a friend when going to and from school, during class changes and lunch time
- Avoid the bully when necessary

What Resources are in Place at Smart's Mill to Aid in Preventing Bullying?

- Guidance Counselors
- Bullying Prevention Lessons
- Character Education
- Student Behavior Handbook
- Discipline Procedures
- Peer Mediation Programs
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- Health Curriculum
- Focus Groups
- Pre and Post surveys
- Classroom/Resource Presentations
- Trained and Caring Adult Staff