RATIONALE

Mullauna College prides itself on providing a safe and supportive learning environment to ensure optimum personal development and educational excellence for all students. Behaviours, such as bullying and harassment, which in any way prevent another person from enjoying these rights, are not tolerated at this College.

Bullying and Harassment include:

- teasing or ridiculing others;
- making rude and unwanted personal comments;
- offensive body language;
- pushing, hitting, kicking or pinching;
- making rude gestures;
- malicious gossip;
- mischievous complaints;
- racist or sexist comments;
- exclusion;
- supporting the bullying or harassment of others;
- telephone or internet abuse;
- writing abusive notes or letters;
- writing graffiti about someone or their family;
- sexual harassment;
- damaging another person’s personal property;
- cyberbullying

PURPOSE

To provide a safe supporting learning environment by implementing measures which will prevent harassment or bullying.

GUIDELINES

Responsibilities of staff

- To inform students as to what constitutes bullying and harassment.
- To implement a Bullying Survey and provide counselling to students who are identified in the survey.
- To model positive behaviours towards all members of the College community.
- To deal with all reported and observed incidences of bullying or harassment.

Responsibilities of students

- To treat other members of the College community with respect.
- To help someone who is being bullied or harassed.
- To approach a staff member or an appropriate peer if they, or someone else, is being bullied or harassed – either at school or on the way to or from school.
- To actively disapprove of bullying.

Responsibilities of parents

- To monitor their child(ren) for signs of bullying. These signs can include:

  - uncharacteristic aggressiveness at home;
  - reluctance to go to school;
  - nightmares;
  - lowered self-esteem and negative statements about self;
  - tearfulness;
  - loneliness.

- To actively support the College in preventing bullying by:

  - discussing bullying with their children and assuring them that something can be done about it;
  - encouraging their children to approach a member of staff if they are being bullied or harassed or see others being bullied or harassed;
  - contacting the College if they believe that any student might be being bullied or harassed.