



St. Aloysius' College

Carrigtwohill, Co Cork

In St. Aloysius' College, one of our aims is for our students to grow as learners “through respectful interactions and experiences that are challenging and supportive” (Standard - Domain 2, LAOS 2016). In keeping with the LAOS document, we foster positive student interactions between students and their peer group and between students and the teaching faculty in order to “create and sustain a co-operative, affirming and productive learning environment.” (*Statements of Highly Effective Practice*, LAOS 2016, p.15).

Our [anti-bullying policy](#) helps us to follow these *Statements of Highly Effective Practice*. We follow a “Resolve, No Blame” approach based on Seán Fallon’s [anti-bullying campaign](#).

Students can report bullying anonymously on the [College website](#) using the [ISPCC Anti-Bullying toolkit](#) or periodically Year Heads / Class Tutors will [survey](#) students anonymously and report to the Anti-Bullying Officer. Student(s) are given an opportunity to say what is going on, listened to and supported. They are asked to stop bullying and once they promise to stop it goes no further i.e. parents or the principal are not told. They get one chance. If it reoccurs the Code of Conduct is implemented. This approach means students are more likely to report bullying behaviour and it is more likely to stop.

Every year through our anti-bullying awareness campaign students, teachers, year heads and parents are told about the approach through year group assemblies, staff meetings, parents’ evening and social media posts. As well as through formal classes i.e. CSPE, SPHE, PE etc. This year we had a “drop everything and present” whole school class and launched the FUSE programme in 2nd Year.

Our annual campaign focuses on a particular theme. After consultation with the Student Council, Female Lead Society and Care Team this year, the theme chosen was “Stand Up - Speak Up. The aim was to make the week fun and interactive and to get students standing up and speaking up through different initiatives.

- Competitions: poster, poem, presentation, slogan, short story, tik tok videos etc
- Whole School Assemblies where Year Heads presented on bullying and the “Resolve, No Blame” approach
- Community Involvement: ELO Guard visited and spoke about online safety
- Students and staff wore different or odd socks to highlight we are all individual and should be treated the same
- Students with a black belt in Tae Kwon do held a teacher self defence class during lunchtime and students came to support
- Celebrated International day against violence and bullying at school including cyberbullying
- Lunchtime Live: Every Friday students sing and perform for one another and during anti-bullying week students dressed as their teachers and performed in front of the school.



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School Self Evaluation: To measure the impact of our campaign we held a poll on Instagram and 473 people replied. Although we cannot guarantee that all were current students the results indicate:

- ❖ 100% said they were more likely to report bullying now
- ❖ 93% said they were more likely to “Stand Up and Speak Up” if someone was not being treated with respect
- ❖ 97% said they knew how to report bullying in the College.

But more important were the following suggestions for improvements which will help us to build on our next campaign.