

December 2015

Information for parents: Bullying and Conflict



A bully is someone who...HURTS PEOPLE

Hurting another person can take many forms. The Ministry of Education's definition of bullying includes causing "hurt, harm, fear, distress to another individual" in any of the following ways:

- Physical
- Psychological
- Social
- Academic
- Harm to a person's reputation
- Harm to a person's property
- Creating a negative environment at school for another individual.

Sometimes, bullies claim they are "just teasing". Teasing can be fun between people who genuinely care for each other. However, teasing becomes harmful when it causes distress, sadness or pain in the person being teased. The measure of the harm is not whether someone meant to be mean or hurtful. Harm is measured in the effect or impact it has on the person who was hurt. Teasing about someone's appearance is almost always harmful. Repeated teasing that upsets another person becomes bullying. When the person doing the teasing has more social power than the person being teased, it becomes bullying.

If you have concerns that your child or teen is being bullied, please tell us, as soon as possible. Please speak with the teacher, principal or vice-principal, or use our online Report Bullying weblink to let us know, at <http://www.kprschools.ca/students/reportbullying.html>

From the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board