

Anti-Bullying Policy

The U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen and AFNORTH schools are committed to making our community and school safe, caring, and welcoming places for all our children and youth. We will treat each other with respect, and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form in our community or at our school.

Our community and school define respect as follows: Treat others with the dignity and regard you would want to be treated with.

Our community and school define bullying as follows: Bullying is a mean and one-sided activity intended to harm where those doing the bullying get pleasure from a targeted child's pain and/or misery. Bullying can be verbal, physical, and/or relational; have as its overlay race, ethnicity, religion, gender (including sexual orientation), physical, or mental ability; includes all forms of hazing and cyberbullying. It can be and often is continuous and repeated over time, however, once is enough to constitute bullying.

Bullying that happens off of school grounds, including all forms of cyberbullying can impact the feeling of safety the targeted child has upon returning to school with the perpetrator(s) and can create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment for all students. The school and the Civilian Misconduct Action Authority (CMAA) will address these actions when necessary for the well-being and safety of the community and all students involved. All suspension and expulsion documents, if forwarded to the CMAA, may be used as aggravating factors when considering administrative action in juvenile civilian misconduct under Army Europe Regulation 27-9.

Examples of bullying include but are not limited to:

- Taunting
- Using put-downs, such as insulting or making fun of someone's race, religion, physical ability or disability, mental ability or disability, gender—including perceived or actual sexual orientation
- Threatening or ganging up on someone
- Stealing or damaging another person's things (stealing or damaging can also be considered a criminal offense)
- Spreading rumors about someone
- Physically hurting a targeted child, including, but not limited to hitting, kicking, tripping, pushing, shoving
- Unwanted touching, patting, grabbing, hugging, kissing, cornering, blocking passage, bumping (can be considered a form of assault which is a criminal offense)
- Shunning or purposefully excluding a targeted student or trying to get other students not to play with targeted child
- Using a cell phone, gaming device, the Internet, or other social media to threaten, stalk, ridicule, humiliate, taunt, spread rumors, lock out of a game, or hack into a targeted child's account
- Hazing, i.e. "any intentional, knowing, or reckless act by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical

Anti-Bullying Policy

health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, or holding office in an organization”

Adults in our community and staff at our school will do the following to prevent bullying and help children feel safe:

- Closely supervise children and youth in all areas of the Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services and school (to include the school and playground)
- Watch for signs of bullying behavior and stop it when it happens
- Teach the Steps to Respect program and/or other supplemental Social Skills lessons to increase awareness and empowerment in all children and youth in our school and CYS Services (It is the school culture and social environment that these policies, procedures, and programs create as well as reflect)
- Provide training opportunities for students and families regarding awareness and prevention of bullying
- Take seriously families’ concerns about bullying and create a procedure for reporting
- Look into all reported bullying incidents and respond quickly and appropriately
- Assign consequences for bullying based on the school discipline code.
- Maintain open communication between CYS Services staff and school staff for optimal support of all children involved in a bullying incident
- Provide immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying

Children and Youth in our Community will do the following to prevent bullying:

- Treat each other respectfully
- Refuse to bully others
- Refuse to let others be bullied
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied
- Report bullying to an adult
- Try to include everyone in play and social interaction, especially those who are often left out

Discipline Procedures for Bullying in School

Consequences for bullying will always include a procedure for holding accountable for their actions the perpetrator(s) and any bystanders who played an active supporting role in the bullying. Other procedures can range from positive behavioral interventions to expulsion from school. These consequences are dependent on the nature and severity of the behavior, the age of the student and the student’s past behavior. The purpose of these procedures is for holding student(s) accountable for the bullying, preventing another occurrence, and protecting the targeted child.

Consequences for bullying may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Notify parents/guardian of the incident and consequences
- Assisting the perpetrator(s) to find more appropriate ways to relate to peers
- Conference with teacher, principal, and/or parent

Anti-Bullying Policy

- Referral to school counselor
- Corrective instruction
- Behavior management plan
- Temporary removal from the classroom
- Loss of school privileges
- Classroom or administration detention
- In-school suspension
- Out of school suspension
- Legal action
- Expulsion

Note: If the school can handle the behavior problem internally, it is within their right to do so. Should the behavior escalate, or present a danger to the order, discipline, and safety of the Garrison, the individual should be referred to the Assistant Civilian Misconduct Action Authority (ACMAA). Any behavior that constitutes a criminal act or breaks the law *must* be reported to the military Police with a notification to the ACMAA.

Discipline Procedure for Bullying in CYS Services

Consequences for bullying will always include a procedure for holding accountable for their actions the perpetrator(s) and any bystanders who played an active supporting role in the bullying. Other procedures can range from positive behavioral interventions to removal from the program. These consequences are dependent on the nature and severity of the behavior, the age of the youth and the youth's past behavior. The purpose of these procedures is for holding perpetrator(s) accountable for the bullying, preventing another occurrence, and protecting the targeted youth.

Consequences for bullying may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Notify parents/guardian of the incident and consequences
- Assisting the perpetrator(s) to find more appropriate ways to relate to peers.
- Conference with youth and/or parent
- Referral to Social Work Services, such as Social Work Services, Garrison Chaplain and Military Family Life Counselors
- Corrective instruction
- Behavior management plan
- Community Service—as determined by the CMAA
- Temporary loss of CYS Services program privileges as determined by Program Director and CYS Services Coordinator
- Loss of logistical support as determined by the CMAA
- Legal action
- Removal from all CYS Services programs

Note: If CYS Services can handle the behavior problem internally, it is within their right to do so. Should the behavior escalate, or present a danger to the order, discipline, and safety of the Garrison, the individual should be referred to the ACMAA. Any behavior that constitutes

Anti-Bullying Policy

a criminal act or breaks the law *must* be reported to the Military Police with a notification to the ACMAA.

Support for a Target of Bullying

The effects of bullying on the targeted youth cannot be over emphasized. Isolation, lack of friends and/or support, and a feeling of helplessness that targets of bullying experience can be devastating. The Garrison and School will ensure that targeted youth receive all support necessary. Actions may include but are not limited to:

- Notify parents/guardians immediately of the incident. Give them the method to use to report any further targeting of their child.
- Take effective measures to keep the targeted youth safe at school and at CYS Services; give him/her tools to stand up to the perpetrator(s), and support to keep the targeted youth from succumbing to the bullying.
- Identify a person or persons to whom the targeted youth can safely report any further bullying incidents.
- Should the targeted youth appear to be in immediate danger of hurting himself/herself; parents will be notified without delay. If parents are not available, the Military Police will be contacted and asked for an immediate and emergency referral to Social Work Services.
- Should the behavior be a concern to the well-being and safety of the community, the ACMAA will be contacted.
- Provide referrals to counseling services, such as Social Work Services, Garrison Chaplain and Military Family Life Counselors.
- Maintain open communication between CYSS staff and school staff for optimal support of the targeted youth.

Important note on Discipline vs. Punishment:

Punishment is adult oriented, imposes power from without, arouses anger and resentment, invites more conflict, exacerbates wounds rather than heals them; is preoccupied with blame and pain; does not consider reasons or look for solutions; does something to a student; involves a strong element of judgment; and demonstrates a teacher's ability to control a student.

Discipline is not judgmental, arbitrary, confusing, or coercive. It is not something we do to students. It is working with them. It is a process that gives life to a student's learning. It is restorative, and invites reconciliation. Its goal is to instruct, guide, and help students develop self-discipline—an ordering of the self from the inside, not an imposition from the outside.

The process of discipline does four things the act of punishment cannot do:

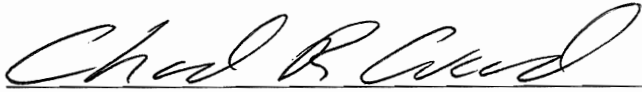
1. Shows students what they have done.
2. Gives them as much ownership of the problem that they can handle.
3. Gives them options for solving the problem.
4. Leaves their dignity intact.

Anti-Bullying Policy

For mistakes, mischief, and mayhem that unintentionally or intentionally create serious problems of great consequence, the **Three R's**—restitution, resolution, and reconciliation—are incorporated into the four steps of discipline.

R.S.V.P.--Consequences need to be Reasonable, Simple, Valuable, and Practical.

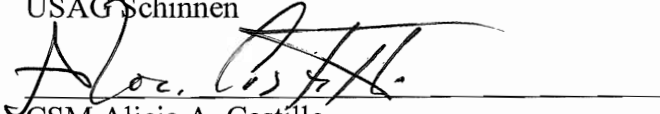
Signed on 27 February 2012



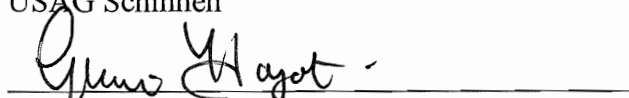
LTC Chad R. Arcand
Garrison Commander
USAG Schinnen



LTC Kevin M. Virts
Commanding, 470th ABS
USAF, Geilenkirchen



CSM Alicia A. Castillo
Garrison Command Sergeant Major
USAG Schinnen



Dr. Gloria M. Hajat
Principal
AFNORTH American School



Dr. Doris Brodie
Assistant Principal
AFNORTH American School

Note of explanation:

Civilian Misconduct Action Authority=Garrison Commander

Assistant Civilian Misconduct Action Advisor=staff member that serves as action advisor to the Garrison