

# FAMILY CONTRACT TEMPLATE



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*The following is a contract that can be revised based on the specifics of any bullying situation. It can be implemented by the school, attorney or other neutral parties for those families involved*

## I. Acknowledgement and Purpose

1. Bullying is defined by state law [**and school policy**] as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct (including written and electronic communications) directed toward a student or students, that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following: placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to their person or property; causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health; substantially interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
2. Bullying includes: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying.
3. [**Offender**] and [**Offender's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**] acknowledge that [**Offender**] has engaged in inappropriate conduct toward [**Victim**] that rises to the level of bullying, as defined above.
4. [**Offender's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**] and [**Victim's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**] wish to avoid further incidents of bullying, as well as further disciplinary or legal action due to [**Offender's**] bullying and therefore have come together to commit to take immediate action to stop any and all bullying of [**Victim**], or any other students.
5. [**Offender's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**] and [**Victim's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)**] further commit to taking all steps necessary to create a positive environment for their children's personal growth and development and to ensure that all students feel safe and respected at school.

## II. [**Offender's**] Commitment and Agreement

6. [**Offender**] acknowledges and understands that if he/she engages in further acts of bullying, he/she will be subject to further disciplinary action, including

suspension or expulsion from school, and could face criminal charges or a civil lawsuit.

7. **[Offender]** agrees and commits to (a) stop all bullying activity immediately and permanently, including online, in-person, or other media or electronic-based bullying; (b) only communicate with **[Victim]** if it is directly related to a school assignment, program, or activity; (c) never talk about **[Victim]** with other students; (d) treat all students with respect; (e) review and comply with the school's policies with regard to bullying, including reporting any acts of bullying committed by other students; and (f) keep this agreement and the discussions regarding this agreement confidential.

### **III. [Victim's] Commitment and Agreement**

8. **[Victim]** agrees to (a) never talk about the Offender with other students; (b) treat all students with respect; (c) review and comply with the school's policies and support system with regard to bullying, including reporting any acts of bullying committed by other students; and (d) keep this agreement and the discussions regarding this agreement confidential.

### **IV. [Offender's Parent(s)/Guardian(s)] Commitment and Agreement**

9. **[Name(s)]** agree to (a) encourage **[Offender]** to always respect others; (b) instruct **[Offender]** to immediately and permanently stop engaging in any acts of bullying and to take all necessary steps to ensure **[Offender]** does not engage in bullying toward **[Victim]** or anyone else; (c) instruct **[Offender]** to report any bullying to the school; (d) to report any bullying to the school; and (e) keep this contract and the discussions regarding this contract confidential, except as necessary to communicate with the school regarding the limitations on communications between **[Offender]** and **[Victim]**.

### **V. The Victim's Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Commitment and Agreement**

10. **[Names]** agree to (a) encourage **[Victim]** to always respect others; (b) to instruct **[Victim]** not to bully; and (c) instruct **[Victim]** to report and/or assist **[Victim]** in promptly reporting any bullying to the school; (c) keep this contract and the discussions regarding this contract confidential, except as necessary to communicate with the school regarding the limitations on communications between **[Offender]** and **[Victim]**.

