

Effective Intervention: The School's Response

Investigation & Reporting

The first response of the adults who become aware of the situation is to make sure the children involved are safe. Afterwards, the school will begin to investigate and pull together as many facts about the situation as possible.

A teacher or the school counselor will talk with the children directly involved. The recipient and the aggressor are interviewed individually. If there is a discrepancy in their stories, the teacher and school counselor will turn to others in the area who might have seen the incident. A report of the incident is then recorded.

It is always the responsibility of the teacher to report an incident to the children's parents. This is usually done after the investigation, except when a child has been physically hurt. In this instance, a preliminary report is made informing the parents of the child's injury, the action the school has taken to provide for the child's safety, and the impending investigation.

In the rare instance that the investigation does not finish by the end of the day, the teacher must inform the parents why the investigation is incomplete and when it will reasonably be completed.

Remediation

In the Early childhood, a plan for remediation is worked out by the teacher with the parents. In the Lower School and High School, a plan is worked out with the aggressor and sometimes the class, student body, or parents.

In the Lower School the process and activities of remediation will vary depending on the age of the children involved, and the nature of the incident.

The High School follows a model of Restorative Justice. This is a form of conflict resolution and seeks to make it clear to the offender that the behaviour is not condoned, at the same time as being supportive and respectful of the individual.