

## WORKSHEET

# Cooperating with the School and Other Parents

How should you react to cases of bullying? All the acts of aggression among children should be met with a quick and strong reaction. The key to stopping it at a very early stage (right after we make sure that the victim is looked after in any possible way) is to understand the motives of the aggressor and try to help him/her. The cooperation between parents of all the parties involved in the incident and the school is absolutely essential here. It is hard yet you should always try to develop this kind of model of cooperation.

## A conversation with the student – the culprit of violence and his/her behavior:

**1**

Establish sufficient facts about the incident together and consider its consequences

**2**

Convey a clear and sharp message for the culprit: students' families and the school community will not accept any forms of aggression

**3**

Together with the child discuss the effects of his/her behavior and inform him/her about the consequences that will be drawn for him – both by the parents and the school

**4**

Ask him/her to stop his activities and in case of cyberbullying insist on removing any harmful content from the web

**5**

Determine any possible ways of compensating the victim

**6**

If there were more people involved in the incident, one should talk with each of them separately, starting with the group's leader

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## A conversation with the parents of the aggressor:

**1**

Inform the culprit's parents about the incident. Make them familiar with the potential evidence of violence, and if any decisions on disciplinary measures were already taken, tell the parents about them

**2**

If it is possible, try to make the parents cooperate with you and establish the principles of this cooperation that will be applicable for all the parties involved

**3**

Together with the parents, develop an informal contract with the child that will describe mutual obligations and the consequences in the event the contract is broken

## Taking the culprit into psychological and pedagogical care:

**1**

Try to cooperate with the aggressor in order to understand his intentions and reasons behind his/her aggressive actions as well as the change of his further behavior (acting towards other students, means of using new technologies)

**2**

At the same time work on solving the problems of the culprit that were a direct cause of his assault

**3**

Depending on the conditions the school has, determine if psychological help may be provided there or if an external institution shall be involved

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## Disciplinary measures application:



Disciplinary measures may include sanctions determined by the caretakers, as well as the penalties described in school's internal rules of procedure, for instance, a temporary ban on using the school computer lab in students' free time, prohibition against bringing any electronic devices to school etc.

## The purpose of implementing sanctions towards the culprit is:

- 1**  
to stop the acts of violence and to provide the victim with a sense of security
- 2**  
to stimulate the aggressor's thoughts on his behavior, understand the harm he/she had caused and stop him/her from a similar behavior in the future
- 3**  
to show the local community that bullying and cyberbullying shall never be tolerated and that the school is able to react to such situations effectively



## REMEMBER!

**After implementing all the sanctions, it is necessary to monitor the culprit's behavior as well as his/her relations with the victim.**

No matter what form the aggressor's punishment has taken, the victim deserves compensation, which means getting specific help. The penalty may cause the culprit to feel mistreated ("I only pushed him and they tell me to stay at home") and it could end up glorifying the aggressor with the witnesses seeing the effects of the consequences and thinking: "He caused trouble, got punished, and yet it did not change him!" **That is the kind of reaction that we would like to avoid.**

*Compensating means that the aggressor helps the victim, works for/with him/her – together very often or under his/her supervision. Thanks to that, he/she not only renders the damage, but he/she also has a chance to get to know the victim and to understand the harm he/she has caused. It is necessary for the culprit to understand the damage he has caused and to make sure any work with the victim is supervised by adults – so as it does not give rise to some further harassment!*