

The paper "Policy of Discipline" is a good example of an education essay. Good student behavior is an important factor that contributes to a good learning atmosphere. In lieu of this, the NSW Public Schools have drawn up a new discipline policy in collaboration with the staff, parents, and students. The School Discipline Policy

4 Salient features

1. The code of discipline (rules)
2. Strategies to promote positive and respectful behavior of students.
3. Practices for recognizing students talents and reinforcing them.
4. Strategies for managing inappropriate behavior of students.

The rules and regulations of the NSW have to be incorporated into the school code for the benefit of the students and staff in the organization. These codes of conduct helped to define the responsibility of each and every person on the school campus while ensuring a systematic discipline policy for the welfare of its members. Strength of this Policy Mutual respect and dignity between staff and students form a strong basis for this policy. Both teachers and students have the right to a peaceful environment that is associated with learning and the atmosphere on the school campus should be not only happy but also safe and free from any kind of violence. Every student and teacher should enjoy the right of being treated with dignity and respect, while the whole school community should not only understand but recognize their social responsibilities towards each other, the school and the community. The weakness of this policy Cultural miscommunication could act as a stumbling block for students who do not have proper knowledge of the rules and regulations of the school. Students who come from the minority sector are more likely to be penalized for lack of understanding and miscommunication between teachers and students. Theyre also more likely to receive punishment such as suspension for the fact that theyre not clear about the rules of the classroom. Quite often preventive programs fail to get implemented because the focus lies on only the punitive aspect of the discipline. Prohibited Behaviour In order that the school environment should be a safe and happy one, certain codes of conduct need to be implemented in order to bring about discipline and harmony on the campus. Improper behavior such as violence, bullying, illegal possession of drugs and offensive weapons, behavior directed towards crime and constant disrespect and disobedience towards the staff and other students are not permitted. Students who break these codes of conduct would be severely warned and in extreme cases of offense, they could be suspended or even expelled from school. Bullying Bullying is very common misbehavior and can be defined as intentional harm, pain or distress or undue pressure caused by an individual or a group of individuals and directed towards individuals who most often are weaker than themselves. Bullying could be of many kinds which include different forms of harassment, humiliation, and domination in addition to constant intimidation and victimization of those that are quiet, shy or weak. Bullying Behaviour includes Verbal calling out abusive names, taunting, insulting, and teasing with threats or sarcasm. Physical Beating, kicking, punching, spitting, knocking over and tripping come under physical abuse. Social Behaviour that projects alienating, ostracizing or excluding other members are socially inappropriate. Psychological - Harming people by spreading unhealthy rumors, misuse of camera phones, SMS and email messages and maliciously damaging the property of others come under psychological bullying. Methods of Dealing with Bullying Schools that desire to have a safe and happy environment never endorse bullying and should take quick and immediate action if an incident takes place. An Anti-bullying plan should be closely incorporated into the Discipline Policy of the School and strategies for managing the concept of bullying should be clearly explained to the staff and students. Strict warning that unacceptable behavior would be dealt with through suspension or expulsion should be clearly explained to the students. Different interventions should be kept in place and action is taken immediately for repeated bad behavior. A good communication network between students, parents, and staff should be in place for reporting and solving the problems that they come across. Useful Interventions and Strategies

1. Reality Therapy (RT) According to William Glasser, Reality Therapy helps to prevent bad behavior by helping the student to make positive choices. This approach has been found to be very useful because it clearly communicates the dos and don'ts of the school rules and regulations and the consequences of bad behavior explained through class meetings.
2. Positive Approach to Discipline (PAD) This approach is also based on Reality Therapy by Glasser and it instills in the students a sense of responsibility and respect. Through this program, children are provided a platform for sharing the rules and understanding the consequences for noncompliance.
3. Teacher- Effectiveness Training (TET) This program differentiates the problems of the teacher and of the student separately and each of them is dealt with by making use of problem-solving techniques and strategies. This approach uses negotiation techniques to solve problems. A good example of this is counseling.
4. Assertive Discipline (AD) In this approach, the teacher has the right to define the goals and expectations and place a penalty system in place while enforcing the standard of behavior that has to be maintained.
5. Student Team Learning (STL) This approach is instructional in nature and not so much a disciplinary strategy. Through learning in teams students learn to cooperate in a better manner and thereby classroom misbehavior is very minimal. Useful Recommen

dations Every individual is unique and therefore are flexible policy would be much more appropriate than a rigid one. Teachers should be role models for children by showing deep understanding and concern for their problems. The rules of the classroom should be kept simple and students should be well informed of the high standard of discipline expected from them. Defining problems is a great step toward solving it and hence flexibility is a better way of understanding and dealing with them. Two-Way communication and a strong network between the student, teacher, and community would help to solve many problems in a peaceful manner. A good support system should be kept in place and teachers should always be easily available and accessible to the students. Teachers should encourage strong partnerships of students with their community by involving them in various programs for the betterment of the community. Conclusion The Policy of Discipline is crucially important and absolutely necessary in order to bring about a conducive, happy, safe and peaceful atmosphere for learning. There are many strategies from which we could choose to suit the situation however there is no clear-cut strategy to use in any particular situation because there are many factors that contribute towards it. The teacher has to use discretion when choosing the best strategy for particular behavior patterns. The first step towards good discipline is to see that the staff and students are well aware of the existing rules and regulations of the school to ensure appropriate behavior and respect.