

Policy against Bullying, Hazing, Discrimination, and Harassment

Para Los Niños is committed to providing a safe and civil learning and working environment that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX (sex), Title VI (race, color, or national origin), and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA. The School prohibits sexual harassment and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, re race, religion, creed, color, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. The School does not condone or tolerate harassment of any type, including bullying, discrimination, or intimidation, by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the Charter School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. Intimidation, bullying, cyber-bullying, and/or hazing toward any member of the school community, whether by or against any student, staff, or other third parties, is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

The Para Los Niños bullying and hazing policy, written in accordance with Federal, State and California Education Code, requires that all schools and all personnel promote mutual respect, tolerance, and acceptance among students and staff. All students and staff have the inalienable right to attend campuses which are safe, secure and peaceful [Article 1, Section 28(c) of the California State Constitution]. The School Administration and Charter School Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which (i) cause, or threaten to cause, or an objective and reasoned third-party would determine was intended to cause, bodily harm or personal degradation, or (ii) creates, or an objective and reasoned third-party would determine was intended to create, an intimidating, threatening, or abusive environment for any student, staff member, member of the administration, parent or guardian, or other third-party.

This policy applies to all school-related activities and/or engagements, including, but not limited to classroom activities, recess or lunch activities, participation in clubs and activities, email messages, text messages, discussions, telephonic communications, or online forums related to school activities, field trips, open houses, school performances, school athletic competitions, and any other in-person school-related activities on school property. This policy also applies to those activities or engagements which occur off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved, or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, where an employee is engaged in school business, or where the prohibited behavior is facilitated through the use of any school property or resources.

Bullying is the deliberate antagonistic action or creation of a situation with the intent of inflicting emotional, physical, or psychological distress. The behavior may be a single or repeated act and may be electronic, indirect, non-verbal, psychological, sexual, social, physical or verbal.

Cyber-bullying is bullying (see above) conducted via electronic communication technology (e.g., texts, e-mails, blogs, and postings). A person who engages in cyber-bullying at school or school-related activities and events is subject to disciplinary action even if the bullying occurred on a personal electronic device. Cyber-bullying that occurs off-campus but impacts the educational environment or compromises the safety of the school may fall under Para Los Niños jurisdiction.

Hazing is any method of initiation, pre-initiation, or rite of passage associated with actual or desired membership in a student organization or student body, whether or not it is officially recognized by the educational institution.

Parents and students are encouraged to immediately report any acts of bullying or cyber-bullying to the school and to work with their local school site administration to address any problems or concerns. Annual training will be provided to all staff who work with students, to prevent bullying and cyberbullying. You may find a list of education web pages describing the staff training at: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/se/bullyres.asp>. If you or your child should experience any bullying on campus, at school events, or on the way to or from school, please contact the school principal.

Sexual Harassment

Para Los Niños is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from sexual harassment. Any student who engages in sexual harassment of anyone in or from the district may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Any employee who permits, engages in, or fails to report sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. For a copy of the district's sexual harassment policy or to report incidences of sexual harassment, please contact the school principal.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Para Los Niños is committed to providing a safe work and school environment where all individuals in education are afforded equal access and opportunities. The school's academic and other educational support programs, services and activities shall be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying of any individual based on the person's actual nationality, race, color, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification, age, religion, religious affiliation, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code; the perception of one or more of such characteristics; or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Specifically, state law prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender in enrollment, counseling, and the availability of physical education, athletic activities, and sports. Transgender students shall be permitted to participate in gender segregated school programs and activities (e.g., athletic teams, sports competitions, and field trips) and to use facilities consistent with their gender identity. The District assures that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission or participation in District programs.

PLN adheres to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 ("IDEA"). PLN is further committed to providing a work and educational atmosphere that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex); Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, or national origin); The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; The Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the IDEIA; and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA (mental or physical disability). PLN also prohibits sexual harassment, including cyber sexual bullying, and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, religious affiliation, creed, color, immigration status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. PLN does not condone or tolerate harassment of any type, including discrimination, intimidation, or bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which PLN does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This applies to all employees, students, or volunteers and relationships, regardless of position or gender.

Complaints of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying are investigated through the Uniform Complaint Process (UCP). Such complaints must be filed no later than six months after knowledge of the alleged discrimination was first obtained. For a complaint form or additional information, contact the school principal or UCP compliance officer.