



**A School Climate Approach to Bullying Prevention**

**Information for School Staff**

Issue 1

### **Welcome to Imagine!**

This staff newsletter, developed by the Region of Waterloo Public Health's Bullying Prevention Project, has been e-mailed quarterly to schools participating in the **"Imagine....a school without bullying"** initiative. It includes information updates and resources on bullying prevention. It can be e-mailed to staff or posted in the staff room. There is a separate version on the same or related topic written for parents that also can be copied "as is" or cut and pasted into your school newsletter. That way parents can be kept informed and motivated to address bullying behaviour at home and get involved with your school initiative.

**Feeling safe can positively impact a child's academic performance.**

### **Did You Know?**

- Fifteen percent of Canadian children in grades 1 to 8 report they have been bullied.
- Bullying is a learned behaviour and can be unlearned. If left unchecked, this pattern of behaviour can escalate.
- Eighty-five percent of bullying takes place in front of others.
- When bystanders intervene, they are usually effective in stopping bullying.
- Social bullying and cyber bullying are often difficult to detect and often go unnoticed.
- Adults are generally unaware of the extent of bullying among children.

### **Ask Yourself.....**

**"Would I like to spend less time dealing with behaviour problems and more time teaching?"**

If you answered **"YES!"** you'll be happy to know that your school will be implementing the **"Imagine School Climate Approach to Bullying Prevention"** framework this year. Your school will receive training and support to help with this process.

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For more information, contact Region of Waterloo Public Health 519-883-2003 ext. 5356

[www.region.waterloo.on.ca/bullying](http://www.region.waterloo.on.ca/bullying)



# Imagine Newsletter

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## The Imagine Framework...

- combines the latest research on bullying prevention
- assists schools in developing and implementing an action plan to reduce bullying
- is based on the core social values of justice, respect, compassion, inclusion, and equity
- includes a resource manual and CD-ROM created in 2003 by Waterloo Region District School Board, Waterloo Region Catholic District School Board and Region of Waterloo Public Health
- is one of the programs recommended by the Ontario Ministry of Education's "Provincial Bullying Prevention Strategy"

**KEY: Involve your students and parents early in the process to see the best results!**

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS IN YOUR SCHOOL'S COPY OF THE "IMAGINE" MANUAL,  
for example:**

**Getting staff on board - See Step 1**

**Getting a school climate committee going - See Step 2**

**Involving students and parents - See Steps 3 & 4**

**Developing a school-wide supervision and response plan - See Steps 6 & 8 plus Section 4**

**Grade-specific lesson plans - See Section 5**

**Also, look at the back of the manual for the essential TEACHER'S HANDBOOK.  
Each staff person should be given a copy.**

**FIND OUT WHERE YOUR SCHOOL'S IMAGINE MANUAL IS KEPT!**

The "Imagine" resource manual, fact sheets and newsletters are available online at  
[www.region.waterloo.on.ca/bullying](http://www.region.waterloo.on.ca/bullying)



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