

276 GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY

The presence of gangs and gang activities can cause a substantial disruption of or material interferences with school and school activities. A "gang" as defined in this policy is any group of two or more persons whose purposes include the commission of illegal acts.

Any gang-related clothing, apparel, attire, jewelry, insignias, colors, paraphernalia, and materials may vary from school to school and may change from year to year. The school shall consult with local law enforcement agencies and other agencies to ascertain the changes in gang appearances and activities no less than two times per year.

No student on or about school property or at any school activity:

1. Shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, tattoo, sign, or other things that are indicators of membership in or affiliation with any gang;
2. Shall commit any act or omission, or use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc.) showing membership in or affiliation with a gang;
3. Shall place graffiti on or otherwise deface property on school grounds. For purposes of this regulation, the term "graffiti" means any unauthorized inscription, word, figure, or design that is marked, etched, scratched, drawn, painted on or affixed to the public or private property, real or personal, of another that defaces the property; or
4. Shall use any speech or commit any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang or gang activity, including but not limited to:
 - a. Soliciting others for membership in any gangs;
 - b. Requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;
 - c. Committing any other illegal act or other violation of Oasis Academy rules, regulations, or policies; or
 - a. Inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

In implementing and enforcing this regulation, the following procedures shall be followed:

1. If a student is suspected of violating this regulation, the violation should be reported to the administrator or his/her designee.
2. The administrator, or his/her designee, shall observe the student and/or talk with the student or others in order to make an initial determination whether the student may be violating this regulation.
3. If a violation is observed, the administrator, or his/her designee, shall call the student to his/her office for a conference or otherwise contact the student.

4. During the conference or other contact with the student, the administrator, or his/her designee, shall attempt to resolve the problem informally. The student shall have the opportunity to rebut the contention that this regulation has been violated.
5. If required by circumstances, the administrator, or his/her designee, may make a reasonable effort to contact the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and inform them of the suspected violation of this regulation and/or initiate more extreme disciplinary action under any part of the Behavior & Discipline section of this manual depending on the nature and severity of the suspected violations.