

Do's and Don'ts for Managing Bully-like Behaviors and/or Social Inappropriateness

Externalizing behaviors typically observed in the classroom include the following:

Bully-like Behaviors: *Initiates physical aggression, mean/disrespectful to peers (not all bullies suffer from an externalizing condition, but many with externalizing conditions engage in bully-like behaviors, at least from time-to-time).*

Social Inappropriateness: *Lack of awareness or struggles to follow social norms (rules of behavior that are considered acceptable in a group), in other people's personal space/belongings, struggles to read others, lack of awareness or care as to how behavior impacts others (including inappropriate ways to gain peer or staff attention).*

Please consider following these do's and don'ts when managing a student who is exhibiting Bully-like Behaviors and/or Social Inappropriateness:

DO

- Move student to a space that does not entice negative interactions. Consider proximity in room to peers and surroundings.
- Stop inappropriate behavior immediately (Don't ignore).
- If behavior begins to occur, move by student's desk to stop behavior.
- When student makes a mistake, help them to learn from those mistakes.
- Role model methods or ways to address or handle different situations.
- Use frequent and more immediate positive reinforcements, recognition

DO NOT

- Demean the student for their actions, especially in front of other peers.
- Ignore issues that are brought to your attention. Address them appropriately based on the specific situation.
- Discuss or address situation in front of other students or in public.
- Laugh at the student or situation.
- Take comments or actions personally.

