

Conflict vs. Mean / Rude Behaviour vs. Bullying

| CONFLICT | RUDE | MEAN | BULLYING |
|---|--|--|---|
| Occasional | Occasional | Once or Twice | Is REPEATED |
| Not planned; in the heat of the moment | Spontaneous: unintentional | Intentional | Is planned and done on purpose |
| All parties are upset | Can cause hurt feelings; upset | Can hurt others deeply | The target of the bullying is upset |
| All parties want to work things out | Based in thoughtlessness, poor manners or narcissism | Based in anger; impulsive cruelty | The bully is trying to gain control over the target |
| All parties will accept responsibility | Rude person accepts responsibility | Behavior often regretted; | The bully blames the target |
| An effort is made by all parties to solve the problem | | | The target wants to stop the bully's behavior; the bully does not |
| Can be resolved through mediation | Social skill building could be of benefit | Needs to be addressed/ should NOT be ignored | CANNOT be resolved through mediation |

Source: Jennifer Astles, DASA Newsletter, January 2014, TST BOCES